Draft
Environmental Assessment

Logan State Park
Volunteer Host Site Project

August 20, 2008

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Draft Environmental Assessment
MEPA, NEPA, MCA 23-1-110 CHECKLIST

PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. **Proposed state action:** Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks proposes to establish an additional campground host pad at Logan State Park. This new host pad would provide electrical, sewer, and water hook-ups, and a gravel parking surface for summer campground staff on which to park their RV.

2. **Agency authority for the proposed action:** FWP has the authority to develop outdoor recreational resources in the state per 23-2-101 MCA.

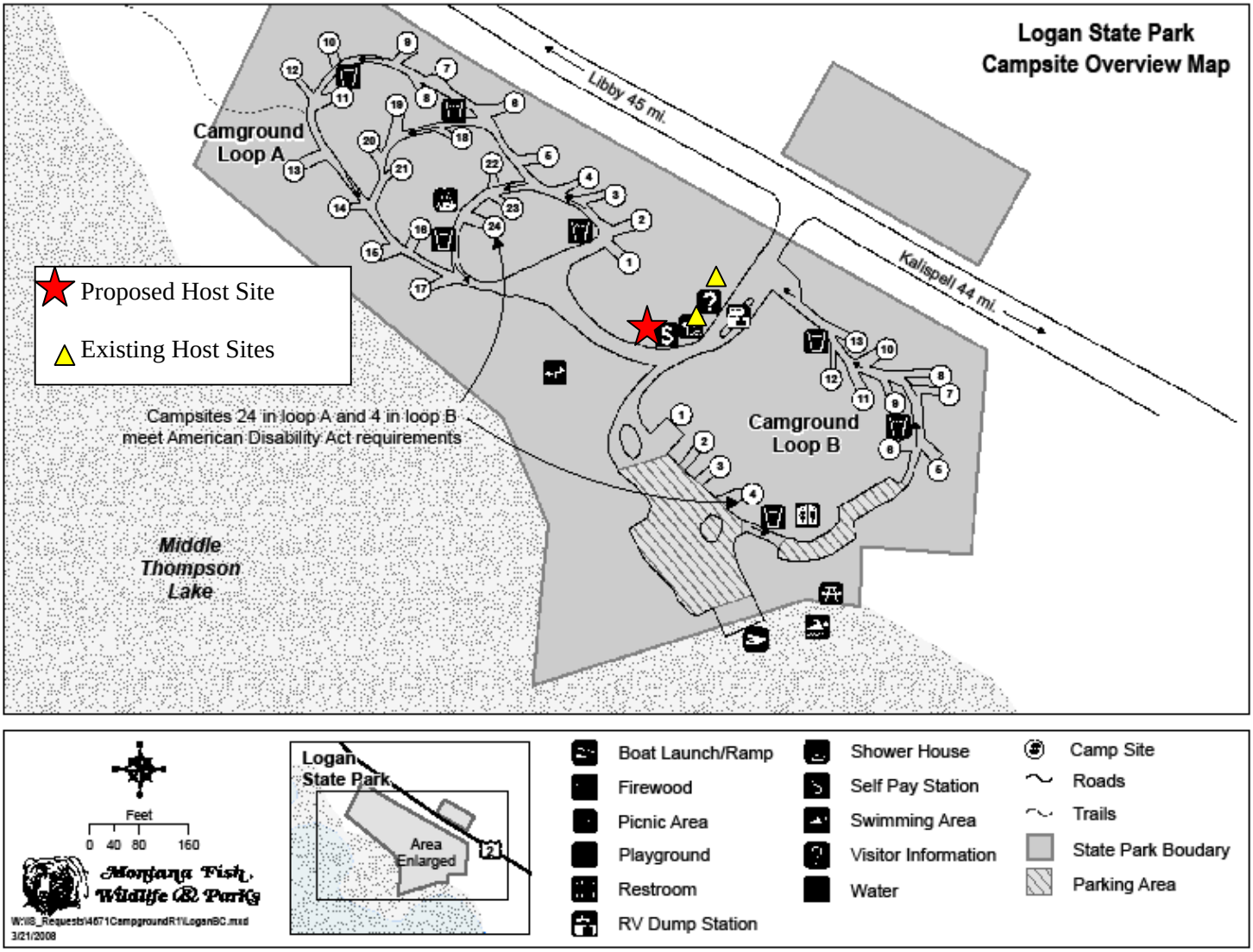
   Furthermore, state statute 23-1-110 MCA and ARM 12.6.601-606 guide public involvement and comment for the improvements at state parks and fishing access sites, which this document provides.

3. **Name of project:** Logan State Park Volunteer Host Site Project

4. **Project sponsor:**
   Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
   490 N. Meridian Road
   Kalispell, MT 59901

5. **Anticipated Schedule:**
   Estimated construction commencement date: Early September 2008.
   Estimated completion date: Mid September 2008.
   Current status of project design (% complete): 10%.

6. **Location affected by proposed action:**
   Logan State Park in located 45 miles west of Kalispell on U.S. Hwy 2. The park is located on Middle Thompson Lake. Middle Thompson Lake is a tributary of the Thompson River. The park's legal location description is Lincoln County, Section 3, T26W, R27W.



7. Project size:

	Acres		Acres
(a) Developed:		(d) Floodplain/Riparian	0
Residential	0		
Industrial	0	(e) Productive:	
(existing shop area)		Irrigated cropland	0
(b) Open Space/	0	Dry cropland	0
Woodlands/Recreation		Forestry	0.5
(c) Wetlands	0	Rangeland	0
		Other	0

8. Overlapping or additional jurisdiction by a local, state or federal agency.

(a) Permits: Permits will be filed at least 2 weeks prior to project start.

Agency Name	Permits
Lincoln County Sanitarian	Sewer - no permit needed

(b) Funding:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks	$ 3,000

(c) Other overlapping or additional jurisdictional responsibilities:

Agency Name	Type of Responsibility
State Historic Preservation Office	Cultural and historic resources

9. Proposed action:

The proposed project is to develop a volunteer host site at Logan State Park. The park currently houses two host sites, which are utilized by paid park attendants. Each paid attendant works a total of forty hours per week from mid-May through mid-September; however, their time is split between Logan State Park and Thompson Chain of Lakes (TCL) Fishing Access Site (FAS). In one week a total of fifty hours are dedicated to Logan State Park, while the other thirty hours are dedicated to TCL FAS. This leaves approximately one and a half days at Logan State Park with no attendant on duty. The volunteer host housed in the proposed host site would cover this shortfall and assist in the maintenance and upkeep of the park grounds and facilities.

The proposed volunteer host site would be located southwest of the current host sites, just east of the A-loop gate (see map on previous page). This proposed site would have electrical, water, and sewer RV hook-ups that are standard for host sites throughout Montana state parks. The hook-ups would connect to the existing utility lines and would be buried underground. A narrow 6-12" trench would be dug to bury these utility lines. The proposed site footprint would be a maximum of 60' long by 30' wide. Very little, if any, excavation would occur, as the proposed site is fairly level. A vegetation barrier ground cloth would be placed below the gravel. Pit run and finish gravel would be used to bring the site above grade in order to adequately drain the site of rain and winter snowmelt. The site surface would be gravel, although if future funding permitted, the site could be paved to match existing host sites and campsites.

Approximately 2 Douglas fir trees, measuring 8-10" in diameter, and 7-8 western larch trees, ranging from 4-8" in diameter would need to be removed for the proposed site. There are a few mature, large-diameter trees bordering the site. These trees would not be removed. There are also some wild rose bushes in the proposed site that would be removed as well.

The benefit of this proposed host site is that the current staff would gain much needed assistance in covering and maintaining Logan State Park, especially while all other staff were not on site. With visitation on the rise throughout northwest Montana, and a 55% increase in visitation to Logan State Park from 2003 to 2007, the current staff is struggling to fulfill their entire job duties in their time allotted within the park. Ultimately the park's grounds, facilities, and customer service may start to falter if assistance is not rendered. The addition of this volunteer host site would gain an additional 24 hours of work with no need for additional wages. The only cost to the park would be for the electrical use and propane of one RV unit from May through September.

There is a volunteer host couple currently on site at Logan State Park; however, they are utilizing a regular campsite that has been modified with water and electrical hook-ups. There is not a sewer hook-up at the site, and therefore the hosts must routinely transport the contents of their gray and black holding tanks to the dump station in the park. It is highly unlikely that FWP will be

able to retain volunteer hosts in this fashion without a sewer hook-up, as has been expressed by the current volunteer hosts. In addition, this situation utilizes a visitor campsite; therefore reducing the number of available campsites. The current transformed volunteer host site is also in very close proximity to the adjacent site, which results in the reduced usage of the adjacent site by campers. It is evident that the current situation is not acceptable nor a long-term solution.

10. Alternatives:

Alternative A - No Action Alternative: No volunteer site would be developed. The current staff would continue to work both at Logan State Park and Thompson Chain of Lakes Fishing Access Site. The current volunteer hosts, currently utilizing a regular campsite, would likely leave the park and not return next year. Future attempts to house volunteers at the park would likely fail with the substandard accommodations. The park attendants' workload would stay the same or increase with the loss of the current volunteers and lack of volunteers in the future. With visitation rising at Logan State Park and throughout northwest Montana, this could have a grave impact on park grounds, facilities, and customer service; thus possibly negatively affecting revenue generated at the park and visitor satisfaction.

Alternative B - Development of Additional Host Site: This is the preferred alternative. A volunteer site would be developed at Logan State Park southwest of the current paid attendant sites. The site would offer water, sewer, and electrical hook-ups and a level gravel surface. With these accommodations the Parks staff could easily retain a volunteer host at the park. This volunteer host would assist park paid staff in conducting general grounds and facility maintenance and customer service. The volunteer hosts would also be the only staff on site in Logan State Park while paid staff are fulfilling maintenance requirements at TCL FAS. The addition of this volunteer host site would also open up the campsite currently being utilized by the volunteers, thus creating another campsite availability for park visitors.

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CHECKLIST

3. Evaluation of the impacts of the Proposed Action including secondary and cumulative impacts on the Physical and Human Environment.

A. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. LAND RESOURCES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. **Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?			X		Yes	1a
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil, which would reduce productivity or fertility?			X		Yes	1b
c. **Destruction, covering, or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		X				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition, or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		X				

1a & 1b. There will be minor changes and disruption to the soil in the immediate area of the host site because of the cleaning of the pad location and trenching for the installation of the utility lines. This impact would be minor and temporary, as once the site was completed, the soil around the proposed host site would be rehabilitated to prevent new erosion patterns from becoming established and reseeded with native grasses.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

2. AIR Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. **Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (Also see 13 (c).)			X		Yes	2a
b. Creation of objectionable odors?			X		Yes	2b
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns, or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		X				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		X				
e. ***For P-R/D-J projects, will the project result in any discharge, which will conflict with federal or state air quality regs? (Also see 2a.)		X				

2a & 2b. There will be exhaust fumes emitted from construction equipment during the work period. Conducting construction during weekdays when park visitation is lowest would mitigate this issue. There are no visitor campsites in the immediate area; therefore disruption to park visitors will be minor and only for a short period. The paid attendant host site is in close proximity to the proposed site and thus would be impacted by the construction; however by limiting the construction to weekdays, this impact would be reduced. The closest neighbors are on the east boundary of the park and should have minimal impact from this project. Ambient air quality should return to normal after the installation of the improvements is completed.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

3. **WATER** **Will the proposed action result in:**	**IMPACT ∗**					
	Unknown	**None**	**Minor**	**Potentially Significant**	**Can Impact Be Mitigated**	**Comment Index**
a. ∗Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality, including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen, or turbidity?		X				
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?		X				
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of floodwater or other flows?		X				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		X				
e. Exposure of people or property to water-related hazards such as flooding?		X				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		X				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		X				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		X				
i. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		X				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		X				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		X				
l. ∗∗∗∗For P-R/D-J, will the project affect a designated floodplain? (Also see 3c.)		X				
m. ∗∗∗For P-R/D-J, will the project result in any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations? (Also see 3a.)		X				

The proposed improvements are expected to pose no threat to existing resources near to the park. The installation of the sewer line will be completed to standards. The Lincoln County Sanitarian was consulted, and a permit is not needed to complete this project.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

4. VEGETATION Will the proposed action result in?	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity, or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?			X		Yes	4a
b. Alteration of a plant community?		X				
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				4c
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		X				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?			X		Yes	4e
f. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project affect wetlands or prime and unique farmland?		X				

4a. With the addition of this host site, 2 Douglas fir trees, measuring 8-10" in diameter and 7 western larch trees, ranging from 4-8" in diameter, will be removed. The understory, primarily including grasses and wild rose bushes, will be removed. The construction equipment may cause some minor damage to the areas around the proposed site, including the trench where the sewer, power, and water lines will be buried. Wherever possible this impact will be limited and avoided. The impact to surrounding vegetation will be mitigated by raking, smoothing, and reseeding affected areas with native seeds. The removal of the limited number of trees and shrubbery will not diminish the overall diversity of vegetation within Logan State Park.

4c. A search of the Montana Natural Heritage Program's (MNHP) species of concern database found no vascular or nonvascular plants within the boundaries of Logan State Park.

4e. The construction equipment will cause some disturbance to the soil, seed bed, and vegetation. There are noxious weeds in the area and within Logan State Park, and it is possible that noxious weed seeds will be carried in on the equipment from other areas. The proposed site will have a vegetation barrier ground cloth placed beneath the gravel to prevent noxious weed growth in the site itself. With the soil disruption, it is likely that weeds will easily grow in the surrounding disturbed area. Mitigation for this occurs through proper reseeding of the disturbed area, along with noxious weed monitoring and control measures as outlined in the 2002 Region One Noxious Weed and Exotic Vegetation Management Plan and the 2008 FWP Statewide Noxious Weed Management Plan.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

** 5. FISH/WILDLIFE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		X				
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		X				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		X				5c
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		X				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		X				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		X				5f
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest, or other human activity)?		X				
h. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project be performed in any area in which T&E species are present, and will the project affect any T&E species or their habitat? (Also see 5f.)		X				5h
i. ***For P-R/D-J, will the project introduce or export any species not presently or historically occurring in the receiving location? (Also see 5d.)		X				

5c. Since this location is already receiving recreational use, the impact to game (black bear, elk, deer species) and nongame species (small mammals, birds) would be minimal during the construction period. White-tailed deer are known to use the state park for winter habitat and elk seasonally move through the area. During the trenching activities, some species will likely move from the vicinity of the campground for a limited period of time. The reseeding of unstable areas will return the overall plant community to close to the pre-installation habitat, so it is likely there will be minimal impacts to wildlife visiting the campground area.

5f & 5h. A search of the Montana Natural Heritage database revealed 4 species of concern in the vicinity of Logan State Park. Those species are Canadian lynx, wolverine, fisher, and gray wolf. Because the park is open year round for camping and water-based recreation, the species of concern likely move through the park and will avoid the area when it is in use by the public. FWP does not expect those species to be affected by the proposed host pad improvements.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

B. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

6. NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Increases in existing noise levels?			X		Yes	6a
b. Exposure of people to severe or nuisance noise levels?			X		Yes	6b
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		X				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		X				

6a & 6b. There will be temporary increases in noise levels associated with the construction equipment. Limiting construction to weekdays when visitation in the park is lowest and adjacent homes are less likely to be occupied will mitigate this impact.

7. LAND USE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		X				
b. Conflict with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		X				
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		X				
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		X				

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** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

8. RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?		X				
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan, or create a need for a new plan?		X				
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?		X				
d. ***For P-R/D-J, will any chemical toxicants be used? (Also see 8a)			X		Yes	8d

8d. Herbicides may be used on the surface of the host site and surrounding areas to prevent the growth and spread of noxious weeds. Safe practices will be used, including following all label instructions, when the herbicide is applied. The 2002 Region One Noxious Weed and Exotic Vegetation Management Plan will be followed during this process. If restricted-use herbicides are used, the application will be supervised by an applicator licensed in the state of Montana, and all required safety procedures would be followed.

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		X				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		X				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		X				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		X				
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		X				

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify:		X				
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenues?		X				
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		X				10c
d. Will the proposed action result in increased use of any energy source?		X				10d
e. **Define projected revenue sources.		X				
f. **Define projected maintenance costs.		X				10f

10c. The addition of sewer, power and water lines will branch off of the existing facilities at Logan State Park. Substantial alterations or upgrades will not be needed.

10d. There will be no increases in the amount of energy used, as the volunteer hosts are currently hooked up to power and water on-site.

10f. FWP anticipates no increases maintenance costs within the park for upkeep of the new volunteer host pad.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

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** 11. AESTHETICS/RECREATION Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?			X		Yes	11a
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		X				
c. **Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report.)		X				11c.
d. ***For P-R/D-J, will any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails, or wilderness areas be impacted? (Also see 11a, 11c.)		X				

11a. With the addition of a host site, the natural vegetation will be removed in the immediate area; however, with reseeding the effect will be mitigated. The overall characteristic or aesthetics of the park will not be adversely affected.

11c. The proposed improvements are not expected to alter the quantity of recreational opportunities at Logan State Park. The new volunteer host pad is likely to improve customer service and ensure campground maintenance provided to park visitors because of the additional staff presence.

12. CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT *					
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant	Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
a. **Destruction or alteration of any site, structure, or object of prehistoric, historic, or paleontological importance?		X				12a.
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		X				12b.
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		X				12c.
d. ****For P-R/D-J, will the project affect historic or cultural resources? Attach SHPO letter of clearance. (Also see 12.a.)		X				12d.

12a – 12d. The FWP heritage resources specialist determined that because the project is very small in scale, will occur in a previously developed area, and contains no previously identified sites, a heritage survey of the project is not required.

* Include a narrative explanation under Part III describing the scope and level of impact. If the impact is unknown, explain why the unknown impact has not or cannot be evaluated.

** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

**** Include a discussion about the issue in the EA narrative and include documentation if it will be useful.

SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

13. SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE **Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:**	**IMPACT ***					
	Unknown	**None**	**Minor**	**Potentially Significant**	**Can Impact Be Mitigated**	**Comment Index**
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources that create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		X				
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects, which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		X				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard, or formal plan?		X				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		X				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		X				
f. ***For P-R/D-J, is the project expected to have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy? (Also see 13e.)		X				
g. ****For P-R/D-J, list any federal or state permits required.		X				

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** Include a narrative description addressing the items identified in 12.8.604-1a (ARM).

*** Determine whether the described impact may result and respond on the checklist. Describe any minor or potentially significant impacts.

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PART III. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT

PART IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The public will be notified in the following manners to comment on this current EA, the proposed action, and alternatives:

- Two public notices in each of these papers: *Daily Inter Lake and The Western News;*
- One statewide press release;
- Public notice on the Fish, Wildlife & Parks web page: *http://fwp.mt.gov.*

Copies of this environmental assessment will be distributed to the neighboring landowners and interested parties to ensure their knowledge of the proposed project.

This level of public notice and participation is appropriate for a project of this scope, having limited impacts, many of which can be mitigated.

2. Duration of comment period, if any.

The public comment period will extend for (14) fourteen days following the publication of the second legal notice in area newspapers. Written comments will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., September 2, 2008, and can be mailed to the address below:

Logan State Park Volunteer Host Site Project
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
490 N. Meridian Road
Kalispell, MT 59901

Or e-mail comments to: agrout@mt.gov

PART V. EA PREPARATION

1. Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? (YES/NO)? No
If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action.

An EIS is not required, as there are no cumulative effects with this project.

2. Person responsible for preparing the EA:

Amy Grout
Parks Management Specialist
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Kalispell, Montana

3. List of agencies consulted during preparation of the EA:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
- Parks Division
- Wildlife Division
- Legal Bureau

Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
Montana Department of Commerce – Tourism
Montana Natural Heritage Program – Natural Resources Information System (NRIS)

APPENDICES

A. MCA 23-1-110 Qualification Checklist
B. Tourism Report – Department of Commerce

APPENDIX A
23-1-110 MCA
PROJECT QUALIFICATION CHECKLIST

Date: July 31, 2008 **Person Reviewing:** Amy Grout

Project Location: Logan State Park, Lincoln County, Montana

Description of Proposed Work: Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks propose to establish an additional campground host pad at Logan State Park. This new host pad would provide electrical, sewer, and water hook-ups, and a gravel parking surface for summer campground staff on which to park their RV.

The following checklist is intended to be a guide for determining whether a proposed development or improvement is of enough significance to fall under 23-1-110 rules. (Please check ✓ all that apply and comment as necessary.)

[ ] A. New roadway or trail built over undisturbed land?
Comments*: The new volunteer host pad will be installed in a previously undisturbed area; however, it will be of a very limited size and, where practical, disturbed areas will be rehabilitated.*

[ ] B. New building construction (buildings <100 sf and vault latrines exempt)?
Comments*:*

[ ] C. Any excavation of 20 c.y. or greater?
Comments*:*

[ ] D. New parking lots built over undisturbed land or expansion of existing lot that increases parking capacity by 25% or more?
Comments*:*

[ ] E. Any new shoreline alteration that exceeds a doublewide boat ramp or handicapped fishing station?
Comments*:*

[ ] F. Any new construction into lakes, reservoirs, or streams?
Comments*:*

[ ] G. Any new construction in an area with National Registry quality cultural artifacts (as determined by State Historical Preservation Office)?
Comments*:*

[ ] H. Any new above ground utility lines?
Comments*: All new utility lines will be below ground.*

[ ] I. Any increase or decrease in campsites of 25% or more of an existing number of campsites?
Comments*:*

[ ] J. Proposed project significantly changes the existing features or use pattern; including effects of a series of individual projects?
Comments*:*

If any of the above are checked, 23-1-110 MCA rules apply to this proposed work and should be documented on the MEPA/HB495 CHECKLIST. Refer to MEPA/HB495 Cross Reference Summary for further assistance.

TOURISM REPORT

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA) & MCA 23-1-110

The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks has initiated the review process as mandated by MCA 23-1-110 and the Montana Environmental Policy Act in its consideration of the project described below. As part of the review process, input and comments are being solicited. Please complete the project name and project description portions and submit this form to:

Carol Crockett, Visitor Services Manager
Travel Montana-Department of Commerce
301 S. Park Ave.
Helena, MT 59620

Project Name: Logan State Park Volunteer Host Site Project

Project Description: Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks propose to establish an additional campground host pad at Logan State Park. This new host pad would provide electrical, sewer, and water hook-ups and a graveled parking surface for summer campground staff to park their RV on.

1. Would this site development project have an impact on the tourism economy?
   NO **YES** If YES, briefly describe:

Yes, as described, the project has the potential to positively impact the tourism and recreation industry economy.

2. Does this impending improvement alter the quality or quantity of recreation/tourism opportunities and settings?
   NO **YES** If YES, briefly describe:

Yes, as described, the project has the potential to improve the quality and quantity of tourism and recreational opportunities.

Signature Carol Crockett Date 8/4/08

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