

APPENDIX C – EXISTING MANAGEMENT PLANS

PEND OREILLE RIVER WATER TRAIL CONCEPT PLAN

Non-federal dams including Box Canyon and Boundary Dams need licenses from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to operate their hydroelectric facilities. The recreation resource management plan (RRMP) provides a framework for improving and managing public access in the project areas. These plan overlap with the project area of the water trail. Below is a description of the Box Canyon and Boundary Dam RRMPs.

Box Canyon Dam – Recreation Resource Management Plan

The Pend Oreille Public Utility District (PUD) renewed its 50-year license for Box Canyon in 2005. The PUD is working under a number of plans to improve and manage fish, wildlife, water quality, recreation, and aesthetic resources. The following outlines relevant sections of their RRMP:

Oldtown Park and Boat Launch (RM 88). The plan identified improving and expanding this existing park and boat launch by 1.8 acres for an RV park. The PUD is providing funding for improvements and annual maintenance to the Town of Oldtown and the Rotary Club.

Gregg's Addition (RM 79). This primitive boat launch site is being further developed to include a vault toilet, car/trailer parking area, picnic tables, signage, and landscaping.

Cusick Boat Launch (RM 70). The PUD is providing funds to the town of Cusick for upgrades and maintenance of this water access site.

Box Canyon Dam/Campbell Park (RM 34.5). The plan calls for additional picnic tables and continued maintenance by the PUD of this campground, picnic area, and boat launch.

lone City Park (RM 38). The PUD contributes annual funding to the Town of lone for continued operation and maintenance of this park and boat launch.

USFS Campgrounds: Edgewater (RM 36.5), Panhandle (RM 57), and Pioneer Park (RM 86). The PUD is contributing funding to the USFS for management, maintenance, and operation of these existing campgrounds and boat launches.

Kalispel Tribe. Provide funding to the Tribe for improvements and management of their access sites.

Signage. The PUD is coordinating with the Pend Oreille Water Trail Group and PORTA to provide signs along Highway 31 and 20 and LeClerc Road. Currently 11 of 28 recreation sites need road signs. Future sites maybe identified during updates to the plan. The PUD has also provided funding for signs at boat launches educating the public about invasive species and steps users can take to reduce spreading them.

Boundary Dam - Draft Recreation Resource Management Plan

Seattle City Light (SCL) expects to receive their new license from FERC to continue operation of Boundary Dam in 2011. As part of its license application and settlement agreement, SCL has developed

a draft RRMP. This plan outlines a comprehensive approach to recreation development on the Boundary reservoir. The majority of these improvements are scheduled to be completed by 2021. Relevant sections are described below.

Metaline Waterfront Park (RM 28-29). The RRMP identifies improving this park owned by the Town of Metaline by replacing the existing boat launch and extending the boat ramp lane to facilitate access when reservoir levels are fluctuating, providing accessible facilities, and developing a new double-vault restroom or upgrading the existing facility.

Forebay Recreation Area (RM 17). Upgrades to this existing SCL campground and day-use site include increasing the number of camp sites, improving the day-use sites, providing signage, extending a boat ramp lane, and providing accessible facilities.

Metaline Falls Portage Trail and Access Site (RM 27). This is a proposed new portage trail that would provide boaters a way around Metaline Falls rapids. The proposal also includes developing a new non-motorized boat access site with parking, signage, and restrooms.

Dispersed Recreation Sites. Sixteen existing dispersed sites along Boundary Reservoir will be maintained and monitored over the license period. Six of these sites will be enhanced, minimally, in keeping with the rustic character of the sites. The improvements might include picnic tables, tent pads, fire-rings, watercraft landing/tie-up areas, trail access, and primitive sanitation facilities or other appropriate systems. The three eastern sites are owned by the USFS and include: Wolf Creek (RM 30), Monument Bar (RM 21), and Lime Creek (RM 19.5). The three western sites are owned by BLM and include: Deadman's Eddy (RM 26), Ledbetter Cove (RM 22), and BLM Recreation Area (RM 19.5). BLM is currently evaluating the Deadman's Eddy site; it is a former mining site and is not open for public use.

In addition to developing and enhancing the water access sites described above, there are also several other measures that will add to the experience of the water trail.

River Ranger. A seasonal river ranger will monitor and maintain the dispersed recreation and cultural sites. The river ranger will also help with visitor education and interpretation.

Interpretation and Education (I&E) Program. A new I&E program will be developed within three years of the new license being issued. The intent of the program is to inform visitors about the area and promote stewardship to help protect resources. The water trail will be one of many possible themes of this program. The media could include electronic/web-based, brochures, and signage. As part of the I&E program, SCL will develop and/or fund the development of printed or web-based materials to address the Boundary reach of the water trail in coordination with the Pend Oreille Water Trail Group.

East-side Trail. A new trail will be constructed connecting a view point of Pee Wee Falls and a viewpoint of the canyon will be constructed. This trail will provide users of the area another opportunity to experience this area.