

Letter O-7, Continued

Comments

Responses

O-7-35 | who come to recreate at New Melones. Accordingly, in this programmatic document, it is important for the final decision to limit development tied to Recreation with constraints that ensure that basic essential resources, including wildlife habitat, water quality, watershed values, and quiet recreation, are all sustainably protected.

CSERC makes these recommendations for the following actions and urges the Bureau to include them in the final Resource Management Plan:

O-7-36 | • In Action R16, any proposed relocation of the Glory Hole marina should be tied to language that describes how the new location will be selected in regards to the potential for impacts water quality and aquatic habitat. For example, at this programmatic level, the final plan could include language such as: "Any relocation of the Glory Hole marina shall fully evaluate the new development's potential impacts not only on environmental resources (air quality, water quality, wildlife, plants), but also on dispersed recreation, potential intrusion into presently wild areas, and the ability for the new site to sustain administrative functions."

O-7-37 | Additionally, in the current document, there is no mention of any new roads that would need to be built in order to access the new marina -- and a major road extension or construction would have both direct and indirect consequences. If one or more new roads may be needed to reach a new marina location, language should be included in the action that spells out programmatic constraints that would be feasible and reasonable to mitigate for and reduce road impacts. (Again, an example might be: "Any new road or roads tied to the relocation of the marina will only be approved if road construction or the extension of an existing road can be designed and sited in such fashion that no significant resource impacts occur.")

O-7-38 | • In Action R 16D, the proposed expansion of marina services in Tuttletown and Glory Hole is tied to the potential addition of motorized boats rentals that would be available for visitor use. Any approval of such services (motorized boat rentals) should be tied to language that ensures appropriate mitigation for the increased pollution and increased GHG emissions that a higher number of motorized boats on the water would create within the management area.

O-7-39 | • In action R17 D, the proposed action is to build seasonally operated marina services in various locations in Rural Natural Management Areas for rental of non-motorized boats. As with the comment provided above, CSERC again emphasizes the need to include language in any approval of this programmatic plan that assures mitigation for impacts. For example, any approval of this concept should include condition language requiring that any new boat rental facility shall only be allowed in location where the facility can be assured to create no more than a minimal impact on sensitive habitats and water quality and the surrounding environment.

• Action R 20D proposes the construction of floating campsites with yurts and restrooms. CSERC points out that despite the best intentions of the Bureau, it is almost certain that the Bureau will not have the fully desirable level of staffing and

O-7-35: Comment noted. Through the preferred alternative, Reclamation aims to achieve a balance between public use and conservation.

O-7-36: As stated on pages 1-5 and 6-2, subsequent documents tied to the RMP for activity- and project-level plans would be subject to NEPA analysis and compliance, containing greater detail as necessary. By stating this in the introduction to the RMP/EIS (Chapter 1) as well as in the introduction to the environmental consequences chapter (Chapter 6), Reclamation conveys that further environmental review will be conducted prior to activity or project implementation without including repetitive and redundant language for each applicable case throughout Chapter 6.

O-7-37: Environmental impacts associated with the development of commercial services and concessions, including new or additional marina facilities, will be addressed in further detail in a subsequent Commercial Service Plan being prepared by Reclamation (see pages 2-25 through 2-26, which also indicates criteria that will be considered in planning such facilities).

O-7-38: Impacts on air quality would be further assessed during NEPA review at the implementation level, and appropriate mitigation measures would be proposed, as warranted.

O-7-39: Environmental impacts associated with the development of commercial services and concessions will be addressed in further detail in a subsequent Commercial Service Plan being prepared by Reclamation (see pages 2-25 through 2-26, which also indicates criteria that will be considered in planning such facilities).

Letter O-7, Continued	Comments	Responses
O-7-40	<p>funds to fully monitor and ensure that floating campsites are not causing resource impacts -- in particular to water quality. Approving the concept of encouraging this type of service without assurance that strict monitoring is mandated will likely to end up affecting water quality and increase the contamination of New Melones Lake. With the strong likelihood of such incidences of pollution occurring, <u>CSERC supports Alternative C - no similar action, unless language can be added that ensures that floating campsites will not be allowed to be used unless fully sufficient staffing to monitor and maintain the floating campsites is assured.</u></p>	<p>O-7-40: Comment noted. Monitoring and maintenance needs for protection of the environment associated with the development of commercial services and concessions will be addressed in further detail in a subsequent Commercial Service Plan being prepared by Reclamation.</p>
O-7-41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The addition of scenic cruises at New Melones Lake in Action R 21 is included in all of the Alternatives except A. CSERC notes that throughout the new proposed action, there is already a significant increase in the amount of motorized boats that would be provided and/or allowed onto New Melones. The addition of even more large vessels creates the potential for not only direct impacts through increased pollution, disturbance of wildlife, noise, etc., but the cumulative impacts of all of this increased level of use needs to be appropriately evaluated and mitigated for in the final plan. <u>CSERC suggests adding language in the final Resource Management Plan that requires there to be feasible, effective mitigation for the polluting effects that such cruise vessels would have on water and air quality as well as the impacts generated by increased greenhouse gases.</u> 	<p>O-7-41: Impacts would be further assessed during NEPA review at the implementation level, and appropriate mitigation measures would be proposed, as warranted.</p>
O-7-42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions R 22, R 24, R 25, R 26, R 27, R 33, and R 34 in Alternatives B and D all propose construction of new facilities that will ultimately increase the Bureau's footprint on the land. These actions include the construction of full hook-up RV parks, new lodging facilities, new campgrounds, new amphitheaters, new restaurants, new camp stores, and new facilities for adventure guide businesses. When reading through the list of proposed expansions and developments, it is clear that if approved they will have combine to create a significant, cumulative unavoidable impact on the surrounding water, habitats, and wildlife. This will be caused through the conversion of natural habitat, the higher frequency of disturbances to wildlife by increased volumes of people recreating, erosion created by runoff from more impervious surfaces, pollution from more motorized vehicles within the New Melones area, and many other direct and cumulative impacts. 	<p>O-7-42: The referenced actions are intended to cover the range of commercial services and concessions that may be considered by Reclamation; assumption of a significant cumulative impact is speculative at this time. The Commercial Services Plan being prepared by Reclamation will determine the number, type, and duration of concessions necessary to meet the public demand for services and quality recreation opportunities, in accordance with Reclamation management objectives, including natural resources protection.</p>
O-7-42 (Continued)	<p>CSERC does not oppose the programmatic approval of a plan to allow numerous new facilities. However, due to the minimal regulatory language used to describe the way that these new developments will avoid or reduce impacts to sensitive habitats and water quality, CSERC at this time supports Alternative C for all of the above listed actions. However CSERC understands the desire of the Bureau to provide long-term opportunities for facility expansion and new development where appropriate. <u>Thus, CSERC urges the Bureau to include restrictive conditions for the selection of the site or construction of any new development</u> -- such as the new facilities for an outdoor school described under Action R 33C.</p>	<p>O-7-43: Environmental impacts associated with the development of commercial services and concessions will be addressed in further detail in a subsequent Commercial Service Plan being prepared by Reclamation (see pages 2-25 through 2-26, which also indicates criteria that will be considered in planning such facilities).</p>
O-7-43	<p>CSERC does not oppose the programmatic approval of a plan to allow numerous new facilities. However, due to the minimal regulatory language used to describe the way that these new developments will avoid or reduce impacts to sensitive habitats and water quality, CSERC at this time supports Alternative C for all of the above listed actions. However CSERC understands the desire of the Bureau to provide long-term opportunities for facility expansion and new development where appropriate. <u>Thus, CSERC urges the Bureau to include restrictive conditions for the selection of the site or construction of any new development</u> -- such as the new facilities for an outdoor school described under Action R 33C.</p>	

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- O-7-44 • CSERC supports horseback riding as a means of recreation within the New Melones Lake Area. However, CSERC does not support the construction of a new facility to support an equestrian trail riding business as proposed in Action R 32, due to the many likely detrimental environmental impacts such a business would produce for the environment on slopes that drain down into the reservoir. Having a daytime or round-the-clock stable facility would result in highly concentrated manure, water quality run-off problems, flies, smells, and other impacts on the public lands. As has been shown on US Forest Service and National Park Service lands, having an on-site stable increases risk of spreading non-native invasive plants, increases water quality concerns, and results in concentrated equestrian use, rather than dispersed use that reduces environmental impacts. Accordingly, for these reasons, CSERC supports Alternative A for Action R 32 - the no action alternative.

O-7-44
(Continued)

For the remainder of the Actions under the General Recreation Category that are not listed above, CSERC supports the actions proposed under Alternative D.

Aquatic Recreation:

CSERC supports the actions proposed under Alternative D for the Aquatic Recreation category, with the exception of the Actions discussed below:

- O-7-45 • Noting that the wake from boats often results in additional shoreline erosion, CSERC supports the inclusion of additional no-wake zones in order to protect water quality in rural habitat areas. Therefore, CSERC supports Alternative C for Action AR 5, AR 15, and AR 24 because they have the most area included as a no-wake zone.
- O-7-46 • Motorized watercraft emissions are a known environmental impact, and although newer vessels have made significant improvements in reducing emissions, this type of pollution still affects air and water quality. Watercrafts are also responsible for disturbing sediments in shallow waters, reducing the available oxygen for aquatic habitat. The noise from watercraft also often disturbs wildlife to varying degrees, depending not only on the size of the motor, but also on the activity and the speed of the watercraft. The addition of more motorized boats will contribute to the disturbance of land and aquatic based wildlife, and ultimately this will contribute to some degree to a potential degradation of the existing ecosystems within the affected areas. Before allowing the level of watercraft to substantially increase at New Melones, CSERC urges the Bureau to quantify and mitigate for the environmental impact that the current level of allowed watercraft creates for air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and the rest of the affected environment. Due to the non-specific and non-environmental protocol established by the Bureau in determining the appropriate level of watercraft allowed at New Melones Lake,
- O-7-47 CSERC opposes the increase in level of water craft proposed in Alternative B and D in Action AR 22 and supports Alternative A (no increase in watercraft) or

- O-7-44: Comment noted.
- O-7-45: Comment noted.
- O-7-46: Comment noted. Reclamation will comply with the Executive Order and any future requirements for all future actions as required.
- O-7-47: Comment noted.

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- O-7-48 Alternative C (a decrease in watercraft). However, if appropriate programmatic conditioning of mitigation is spelled out in the plan, then planning for some level of increase in watercraft would not be as negative for the affected environment.
- CSERC emphasizes that fish are especially vulnerable during spawning and their reproductive success is reduced by disturbances during spawning, CSERC supports the Bureau adopting Alternative C for Action AR 16 and 17- maximizing protection for trout and warm water fish spawning areas.

Land Based Recreation

CSERC supports the actions proposed under Alternative D as well as the universal actions described for the Land Based Recreation category, with the exception of the Actions discussed below:

- For reasons listed under the General Recreation comments in this letter for Action R 32, CSERC supports Alternative C for Action LR 16 - continued operation and maintenance of the existing equestrian staging area.
- O-7-50 • Noting that Lower Natural Bridges is one of the caves designated as a significant cave by the Bureau, yet is difficult to restrict access to, CSERC urges the Bureau to take measures to protect the geologic and environmental values of this cave if Alternative D is accepted for Action LR 19. This could be done through increased education to the public at Natural Bridges with signs and increased patrols of the Natural Bridges Area by law enforcement, or it may necessitate a more assertive degree of fencing, penalties for trespass, etc.
- O-7-51 • Without specific details how locations are chosen for new trails and the overall level of new trails and trailheads that is envisioned, as well as for reasons stated for the actions proposed under the topic Westside and Bowie Flat Management Area, CSERC supports Alternative C for Actions LR 21 and LR 22 - optimizing trail connectivity in the listed Management Areas.
- O-7-52 • Actions LR 25 and LR 28 both propose the expansion of RV and campground facilities and services under Alternative D. As previously discussed in CSERC's comments on the proposed expansion and development of new facilities under the General Land Management category, without minimal regulatory language used to describe the way that these new developments will avoid or reduce impacting sensitive habitats and water quality, CSERC at this time supports Alternative C for both of the proposed actions.
- Repeating our Center's recommendation explained for Action SSS 5, CSERC urges the Bureau to adopt Alternative C- restricting access to climbing routes near sensitive bat species during bat habitation periods.

- O-7-48: Comment noted.
- O-7-49: Comment noted.
- O-7-50: Comment noted.
- O-7-51: Comment noted.
- O-7-52: Comment noted. Impacts would be further assessed during NEPA review at the implementation level, and appropriate mitigation measures would be proposed, as warranted.

Letter O-7, Continued

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- Repeating our Center’s recommendation stated for Action C 4, CSERC urges the Bureau to adopt Alternative C for Action LR43 - controlling access to caves, as the extreme vulnerability of the ecosystems of significant caves may be impossible to recover once damaged.

Interpretive Services and Visitor Information:

CSERC supports the actions proposed under Alternative D as well as the universal actions described for the Interpretive Services and Visitor Information category, with the exception of the Action discussed below:

- O-7-53 • In Action IS 7D, the potential development of an amphitheater in Tuttle town Management Area is proposed. Without regulatory language used to describe the way that this development will avoid or reduce impacts to sensitive wildlife areas and/or water quality, CSERC currently supports Alternative C for Action IS 7 - updating and modernizing the Glory Hole management Area outdoor amphitheater to ADA standards.

Political pressure to approve new road access from Copperopolis

As has been fully noted in local newspapers as well as observed by CSERC staff at Bureau meetings, it is apparent that real estate and development interests in Calaveras County as well as elsewhere are collaborating to pressure the Bureau to approve the concept of new road access into New Melones lands. Specifically, these pro-development interests are proposing a new road that would allow recreational and potential motorboat access from the Copperopolis area.

Such a new road has extremely high potential to create major new poaching, major new wildlife disturbance, major new sources of wildfire ignitions, major new sources of dumping, and a wide range of other negative resource impacts in an area that has long been identified as an important wildlife area within the New Melones management area. CSERC strongly, strongly advocates for the Bureau to remain firm in building upon the previous un-implemented management plan for New Melones, the current existing management direction, and the general objectives provided by Bureau staff at public meetings during this latest management plan process.

- O-7-54 CSERC urges the Bureau to continue to design management direction at New Melones so that development and road access is concentrated in areas with the least value for at-risk or reclusive wildlife species. CSERC urges the Bureau to consider the administrative

O-7-53: Prior to development, further site-specific review would be conducted to assist in determining the most suitable locations for such facilities that would consider minimization of environmental impacts.

O-7-54: Comment noted.

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- O-7-55 problems and potential increase of costs that would be associated with the need to have Bureau staff actively manage recreation and resource impacts on the west-southwestern block of lands in the management area if a new road was constructed -- in contrast to the current situation where motorized access is limited. For all of these and many additional management logistics reasons, CSERC urges the Bureau to reject the political pressures being brought to promote a new road from Copperopolis.
- O-7-56 CSERC also urges the Bureau to reject pressure from Tuolumne County to provide a higher level of road access along the southern portion of New Melones lands in that county.

- O-7-55: Comment noted.
- O-7-56: Comment noted.

Closing summary

In conclusion, CSERC asks that as the Bureau works towards the final decision, that Bureau interdisciplinary team members keep in mind that with a shifting climate combining with the changing population dynamics of California, our aquatic and natural resources are more valuable and more in need of protection now than they ever have been. We urge the Bureau to fully consider the need to prudently balance management at New Melones by limiting recreational expansion, development, or other environmentally-harmful actions that may be enthusiastically supported by commercial or pro-use interests, but that would diminish the overall ecosystem health and visitor satisfaction that is important to the far larger majority of Americans who own New Melones management lands. We encourage the Bureau to limit approval of new expansion and new development to levels that can be assured to sustain the affected environment so that people can continue to visit and value New Melones for the beautiful and diverse place that it is.

Thanks you for considering CSERC's comments. Our Center looks forward to learning what decisions the Bureau makes for the future of New Melones Lake.

John Buckley, executive director

Julia Stephens, staff associate

Appendix

1. The United States of America. The White House. Office of the Press Secretary. *EXECUTIVE ORDER: FEDERAL LEADERSHIP IN ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY, AND ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE*. 5 Oct. 2009. Web. 29 Dec. 2009.
2. Daniel, J. A., K. Potter, W. Altom, H. Aljoe, and R. Stevens. "Long-Term Grazing Density Impacts on Soil Compaction." *Transactions of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers* 45.6 (2002): 1911-915. Print.
3. "APPENDIX D: BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES." *Bureau of Land Management*. Web. 30 Dec. 2009.

Letter O-8

Comments

Responses

From: Zephyr Whitewater [zrafting@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2010 3:29 PM
To: Brockman, Melissa A
Subject: New Melones input

Dear Melissa,

O-8-1 | I would like to support alternative D. And I also would like to request that the Bureau consider multiple use for reserrecting the rafting industry if conditions permitted. As you know, the rafting industry was huge prior to the completion of New Melones dam, and this brought millions of dollars annually into the local economies of Calaveras and Tuolumne counties.

O-8-2 | Rafting recreation can exist with New Melones, as long as New Melones is kept moderately low until flood control was needed. The best way to guarantee flood control is to have a low reservoir so that if space is needed to store water, it is there. And a low reservoir would allow for whitewater recreation which would benefit the local economies far more than the erroneous estimated of the use of New Melones back when the powers that be were trying to sell the concept.

Multiple use is possible, and would be the best alternative for the local economies and for the general public. Both flat water and whitewater recreation can co-exist.

Bob Ferguson
 President
 Zephyr Whitewater Expeditions
www.zrafting.com
 1-800-431-3636

O-8-1: Comment noted.

O-8-2: While Reclamation may consider developing whitewater rafting opportunities, the RMP will be reactionary to Reclamation's operational needs regarding water levels; the RMP does not address management of water levels or flows.

Letter O-9

Comments

Responses

From: George Wendt [georgew@oars.com]
Sent: Monday, January 04, 2010 4:21 PM
To: Brockman, Melissa A
Cc: tylerw@oars.com
Subject: Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the New Melones Lake Area

Dear Mr. Vignau:

I understand that you need our input regarding the New Melones Resource Management Plan today. Accordingly, personally and on behalf of O.A.R.S., I would like to record this input for your consideration.

Overall, we are satisfied with the current level of access for motorized boats at Glory Hole and Tuttletown. Nevertheless, we are in favor of **Alternative B** – Increased Access – with the proviso that choosing this alternative does not mean that we are in favor of new reservoir access from the west or from the Copperopolis area. Visitation at the reservoir, apparently, has never exceeded 800,000 people per year. Angels Camp is very concerned that if you open up the western end of the reservoir, this will just cannibalize existing usage which would take the small existing reservoir usage and hurt the existing marina facilities economically.

O-9-1

We suggest that the Glory Hole Point area be made more accessible for people with physical disabilities. We are in favor of supporting the existing mountain biking areas and we encourage you to work with the City of Angels to facilitate a trail, likely following Angels Creek, from Angels Camp to New Melones. I understand that this trail would be roughly 4.5 miles long and it could help the economy of Angels Camp and all of Calaveras County and it would be a valuable resource for hikers, bicyclists, and possibly equestrians. This could help visitation to the reservoir at a modest cost and would help serve a more diverse population of outdoor visitors.

O-9-2

O-9-3

We also suggest, that – in view of the information that I read in your report regarding rivers and whitewater rafting:

7.1.1 Introduction

Lakes and rivers have always been a primary focus for outdoor recreation activities, and many outdoor recreational activities are considered water dependent or water enhanced.

7.2.1 Aquatic Recreation

Current Conditions

New Melones Lake Area is most popular with visitors for its aquatic recreation opportunities. There are approximately 12,500 surface acres of water (at full capacity) available for aquatic recreation. Activities such as fishing, boating, kayaking, whitewater rafting, houseboating, and water skiing all occur on the lake.

that it would be desirable to make rafting more accessible at the eastern end of your resource. Currently, with the Stanislaus River flowing over 3 miles from the Camp Nine Powerhouse to the point where it meets the reservoir just west of Rose Creek, it would be feasible for private or commercial rafters to float that section of river. As you may remember, the Bureau of Reclamation allowed commercial rafting companies to run that section of river from 1990 through 1995 when the reservoir receded because of drought and thousands of visitors per year took advantage of this opportunity. We don't know how this year's snowpack will impact reservoir level for 2010, but I do anticipate that within the next 10 years, we will see periods where the

O-9-4

O-9-1: Comment noted.

O-9-2: Comment noted.

O-9-3: Comment noted.

O-9-4: Comment noted. The permit process is described under 43 CFR 429. Further, this option is currently being analyzed in the development of the Commercial Services Plan.

Letter O-9, Continued

Comments


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O-9-4
(Continued)

Stanislaus River run extends beyond Rose Creek – and possibly as happened in the early 1990s - rafting might be possible all the way to Parrotts Ferry. Accordingly, we urge you to plan for how the road at Parrotts Ferry can be stabilized and reopened to some point along the existing roadway. Possibly there should be a provision for a parking area and picnic facility in the area just above a point which could be impacted by a full reservoir. Or, possibly, it might be appropriate to provide a temporary parking facility in the area that might be flooded again if the reservoir refills.

Assuming that the old Stanislaus River and New Melones will share the section of canyon between Camp Nine and Parrotts Ferry for many years – with a fluctuating boundary between the two - I think that it would be desirable to make provision to allow individuals and outfitters to raft as far down the river as possible before they switched either to sea kayaks or a motorized boat. Last year, my son and I paddled sea kayaks between Rose Creek and Parrotts Ferry where we had to carry the boats up the locked gate at the top of the paved road where it intersects Parrotts Ferry Road in Tuolumne County. This was very difficult! Although improving the access road, which has sustained some damage from mud and from subsidence, will likely require some significant construction dollars, I believe that this is essential as part of a long-term use plan for New Melones Recreation Area – which should be utilized for more than its reservoir recreation potential.

Thank you for considering our input and please let me know if you would like any further input from us about the potential for recreational rafting and sea kayaking at the eastern end of the New Melones Lake Area. We would like to talk with you about offering some trips there during the 2010 season as we help build a long-term asset for the benefit of visitors to Calaveras and Tuolumne counties.

Sincerely yours,
George Wendt
The O.A.R.S. Family of Companies
 PO Box 67 Angels Camp, CA 95222
 Phone: 209-736-4680
 Phone: 209-736-4677 ext. 714
 Fax: 209-736-2902
www.oars.com
Defining Adventure since 1969
 Please consider the natural environment before printing this email message .

O-9-4: Comment noted. The permit process is described under 43 CFR 429. Further, this option is currently being analyzed in the development of the Commercial Services Plan.

Letter O-10

Comments

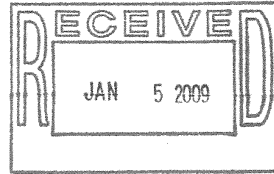
Responses



Water Resorts Inc.
New Melones Lake Marina
1110 W. Kettleman Lane, #20B, Lodi, CA 95240
phone: 209.333.8500
fax: 209.333.1753

January 4, 2010

Mrs. Melissa Vignau
c/o Central California Area Office
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
7794 Folsom Dam Rd
Folsom, CA 95630-6610



Dear Mrs. Vignau,

We operate the concession for New Melones Lake Marina and were recently made aware of the production of the **New Melones Lake Area Draft Resource Management Plan & Environmental Impact Statement** and its impending comment period deadline. We look forward to working with the BOR on the more specific plan for the concession at the resort, and at that time we will have input as to the operations on the lake.

O-10-1

So at this time, we would like comment that the BOR review and amend its limit as to the number of houseboats allowed on the lake as well as their size. There is demand for more houseboat and outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy the lake and bring their vessels to the lake if it were allowed to expand large vessel storage opportunities. Nearby Lakes McClure and Don Pedro both accommodate nearly twice the number of houseboats but are smaller reservoirs. In addition, there is demand by the public for larger vessels than the current 15' x 56' size limitation. Many houseboats are safely built to 16' x 70' and are popular on several lakes, not only in California but throughout the U.S. (including BOR operated Lake Berryessa).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the **Draft Resource Management Plan** for New Melones Lake.

Sincerely,

David M. Smith
President, Water Resorts Inc.
Shasta Lake Resorts, LP
New Melones Lake Marina

O-10-1: Comment noted. The current size limitation of 15' x 65' is based on many factors, including but not limited to entrance road size limitations, marina facilities and capacity studies. The 2002 Visitor Use Study established a capacity of 106 houseboats, in part based on current size limits. Increasing the maximum size of houseboats may have an impact on the overall capacity and range of recreation opportunities and visitor experiences on the lake. The preferred alternative seeks to maintain or enhance the existing capacity and range of recreation opportunities provided.

Letter O-11

Comments

Responses



RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Comment Sheet for the New Melones Draft RMP/EIS

Written comments may be submitted at the Comment Table or are due to the Bureau of Reclamation by close of business Monday, January 4, 2010.

Comments may also be mailed to the address on the back, or faxed to 916-989-7109, or e-mailed to mbrockman@usbr.gov. Thank you.

(Please print clearly)

Name WALTER S. WESTER BOA, SEAPLANE PILOTS ASSOC., EAD
 Organization and Address _____
22 BOARDWALK ONE
LARKSPUR CA 94939
 Phone (415) 927 2446 FAX () _____ E-mail WALTWESTER@EARTHLINK.NET

Comment here: December 20, 2009
Date

O-11-1 As a user of Bureau of Reclamation Recreational Resources, I would like to comment that I support continued seaplane access to New Melones Reservoir. Of the alternatives in the Draft RMP/EIS I prefer Alternative B and strongly oppose Alternative C. Seaplanes have safely used the waters of the BOR, where permitted, throughout the west for as long as the BOR has managed them. At New Melones, western seaplane pilots have long enjoyed access without conflict with the local boating community and are a popular attraction for the local tourism industry.

O-11-2 The operation of a seaplane school on New Melones would bring additional benefits to the local business community with minimal impact to the environment. Seaplanes do not use Reservoir waters for engine cooling, do not stir sediments with their propellers, do not carry invasive species in their bilges or bait buckets and produce far less noise than any ski or bass boat at full throttle. The local seaplane community is tightly knit and organized, ready to work closely with the local Resource Managers to address and mitigate any issues arising from seaplane operations on New Melones, or any other BOR resource in the West. Thank you for your consideration and acceptance of these comments.

All comments become part of the public record

O-11-1: Comment noted. Management actions within the RMP must be consistent with Reclamation's goals and objectives. Reclamation must consider resource use, resource protection, and public safety in managing the New Melones Lake Area. Reclamation's preferred alternative would continue to implement the current policy for non-commercial seaplane use of New Melones Lake.

O-11-2: Comment noted. Operation of a seaplane school is included under Alternative B (Action R 31B).

Letter O-12

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RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

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(Please print clearly)

Name Jessie Korbach
 Organization and Address Safe Seaplane LLC
101 Sun Shine Coast Ln
105 Nye NV 89149
 Phone (702) 234-4757 FAX () E-mail Korbach@sealiner.com

Comment here: December 20, 2009
 Date

O-12-1

As a user of Bureau of Reclamation Recreational Resources, I would like to comment that I support continued seaplane access to New Melones Reservoir. Of the alternatives in the Draft RMP/EIS I prefer Alternative B and strongly oppose Alternative C. Seaplanes have safely used the waters of the BOR, where permitted, throughout the west for as long as the BOR has managed them. At New Melones, western seaplane pilots have long enjoyed access without conflict with the local boating community and are a popular attraction for the local tourism industry.

O-12-2

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O-12-2: Comment noted. Operation of a seaplane school is included under Alternative B (Action R 31B).

INDIVIDUALS COMMENTS

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Letter I-1

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RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Comment Sheet for the New Melones Draft RMP/EIS

*Written comments may be submitted at the Comment Table
or are due to the Bureau of Reclamation by close of business
Monday, January 4, 2010.*

*Comments may also be mailed to the address on the back, or faxed
to 916-989-7109, or e-mailed to mbrockman@usbr.gov.
Thank you.*

(Please print clearly)

Name Paul Behee
 Organization and Address Box 1624
Twain Harte CA, 95383
 Phone (209) 770-1855 FAX () _____ E-mail paulbehee@gmail

Comment here: 12-2-09
Date

I-1-1

I support the Multiple Use Alternative for many reasons. Being a life long resident of Tuolumne county, this Alternative seems to both protect the lake's natural interests enough, and facilitates more Recreation. We are hoping to propose an 18 hole disc golf course, which goes along perfectly with the Multiple use Alternative.

All comments become part of the public record

I-1-1: Comment noted. Reclamation is developing a Commercial Services Plan for New Melones which will assess the feasibility of additional recreation facilities.

Letter I-1, Continued

Comments

Responses

Web site info on Hogan Res. Disc Golf Course from dgcoursereview.com

Misc. Info.:

▲Camping Nearby ● Pay to play \$4/day/vehicle

Description: On Army Corp of Engineers property. Fun layout with awesome views of reservoir. Huge campground, fishing, boating, etc. #17 is 700' downhill to lake's edge.

from 4 different users:

Pros: Well designed course. No crowd whatsoever. We were the only golfers on a Saturday afternoon! 17 is epic. Other than the valley heat, a great afternoon of disc golfing. Camping on the lake. Would be a great winter course. Picnic area on hole 7/8 is awesome.

Pros: Amazing use of the land with near optimal flow starting and finishing at the same spot and no long walks to the next tee. beautiful scenery with wild life and great views. signage was great, even indicating a notch in a rock formation to show where the pin would be located. 18 very diverse holes with no issue of being repetitive, every hole is different from the last. very obvious paths lead from pin to next tee which is also indicated on the tee sign at the start of the hole. satellite course map provided at 1st tee which is located right next to the huge parks sign at the end of the parking lot. tall grass off the beaten path will promote an accurate tee shot adding some difficulty. picnic tables, running water, on site bathrooms, and tons of parking. never an issue of being overcrowded here.

Pros: Very nice course with a great view of the lake. when I played it was just a 9 hole course. I did enjoy the time I spent there. Also has a camp site just a cross the lake

Pros: Bathrooms, Water, Tables, Garbage can, camping, boating. Satellite map of the course. Good mix of challenging and straight throws. A couple holes are blind but most have a rock or tree screen that if you throw your pathway you're golden. The rock rings are scary at first but once you get there the rocks are only waste high so you throw for bird or par no prob. The are 2x par four and 1x par five. The par five hole 17 is over 700ft. Wow down hill to the lake. At par five it's forgiving enough for newbies and old hand can throw birds.

Attachment to Letter I-1. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Letter I-2

Comments

Responses



RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Comment Sheet for the New Melones Draft RMP/EIS

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Thank you.

(Please print clearly)

Name LANCE KIMBALL

Organization and Address 17341 JAPANESE DR.
JAMESTOWN CA. 95327

Phone (709) 768 5096 FAX () _____ E-mail TABLETOP209@YAHOO

Comment here: 12/2/09
Date

I-2-1 I support the MULTIPLE USE ALTERNATIVE //

would like to comment on the possibility of putting in an 18 hole disc golf course in the TITTLE TOWN REC AREA.

I-2-2 There are many spots that would offer a great course for the public to enjoy. The cost of a course is low, and

the maintenance would be from local users.

There are no courses in TITLUMNE.

Disc Golf is a low impact recreation.

The course would generate money from day use fees.

All comments become part of the public record.

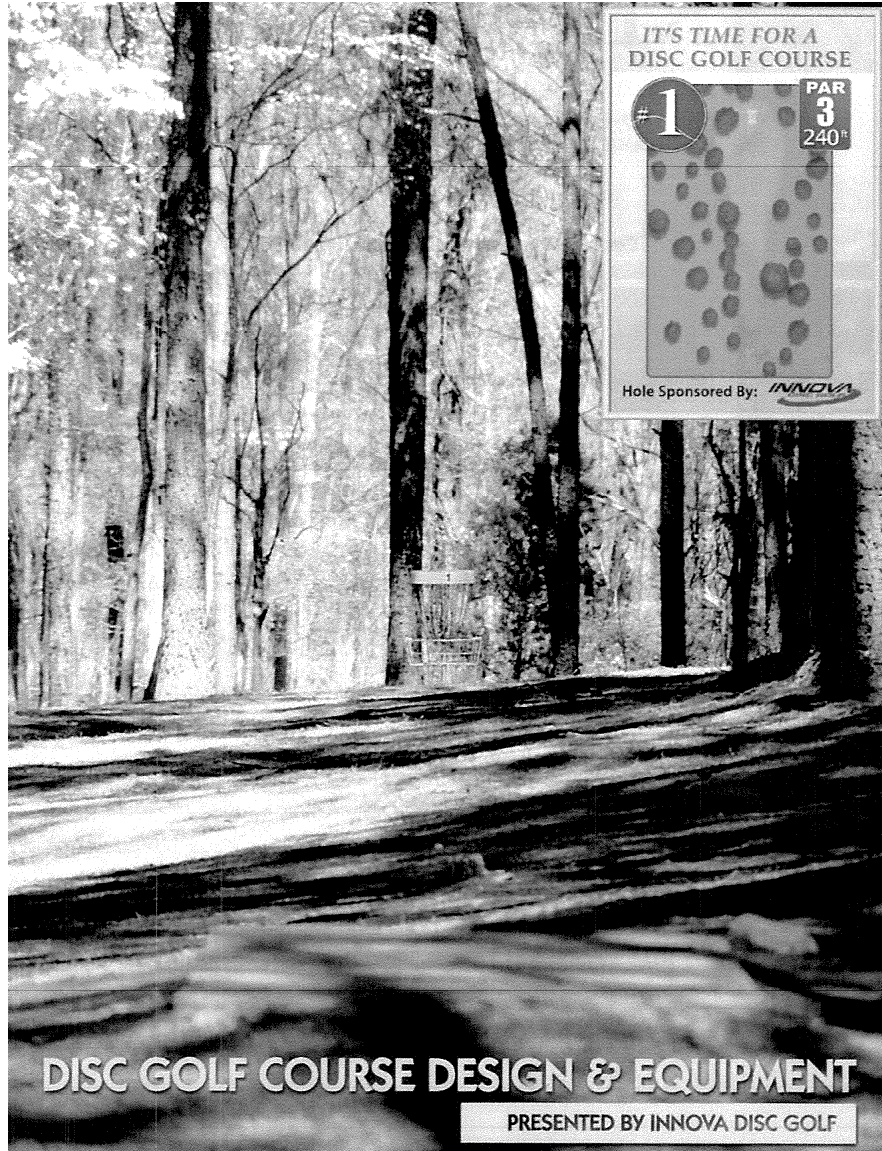
I-2-1: Comment noted.

I-2-2: Comment noted. Reclamation is developing a Commercial Services Plan for New Melones which will assess the feasibility of additional recreation facilities.

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses



Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

A minute to learn. A lifetime to enjoy.



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Easy as 1, 2, 3!

Disc Golf is easy to understand, and fun to play. Discs approach, punt, with a good drive, you can skip the approach, and putt the disc into the hole. A hole-in-one! A hole-in-one is when you hit the hole.



Dive

The disc is your throw from the tee. Choose one disc, throw it towards the target, lay up as that.



Approach

Finish at the hole with a putt. Getting some extra points for the hole-in-one will go to the next hole. Easy as that!



Putt

Low cost, high value. Disc Golf is a winner.



Built a course!

Getting your course in the ground will take a few simple steps. Very little skilled labor is needed to install a course. Little to no heavy equipment is used, reducing installation costs. In fact, most courses are installed by volunteers. Many courses are done with hand tools and simple tools.



Design

Installing where your course will be and how the hole is installed is a key to planning. Safety, fun, and variety are key.



Install

Cutting fairways through the woods, if necessary, installing targets, and creating trees is the gruntwork of the process. Teamwork will speed the process along.



Play!

Once the course is installed, you'll have years of inexpensive, low maintenance fun for all!

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

obj: Just the Facts.

What is Disc Golf

Disc Golf is a fast growing outdoor activity that anyone can enjoy. Similar to golf, the object of Disc Golf is to throw a disc into a hole. Disc Golf is a low-impact, low-cost, and easy-to-learn sport. Instead of using golf clubs and a golf ball, disc golfers use a flying disc to traverse the hole. Each hole starts with a teeing area and is completed once the disc lands in the "hole", which is a disc-catching target. While Disc Golf can be played with just one golf disc, golf discs are designed to fly with different characteristics. Different discs can be used to hook and curve around obstacles, roll on the ground, or fly over trees.

Who plays Disc Golf?

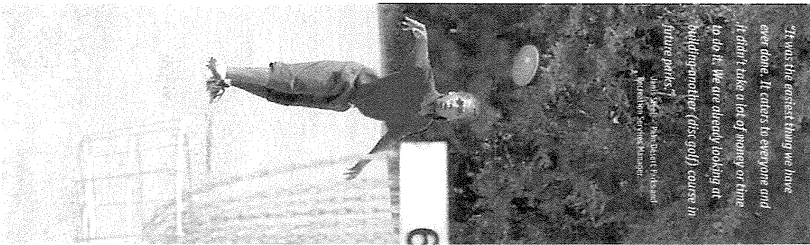
Disc Golf is an economical sport for all to enjoy. It can be played from school age to golden age, making it a terrific lifetime sport. It is not uncommon to hear that someone has been "blown by the Disc Golf bug". Additionally, Disc Golf is an affordable sport in which to get started. Golf discs can be purchased for around \$10, and most courses are free or cost little to play. Disc Golf is accessible to practically everyone.

Why should I install a Disc Golf course?

Disc Golf is an inexpensive, traffic generating recreational activity. For a fraction of the cost of other activities (i.e., tennis courts or playgrounds) you can have an 18 hole Disc Golf course that will serve up to 72 people at a time from dawn to dusk. This translates to hundreds of patrons visiting to play Disc Golf on any given day.

Disc Golf also has the ability to utilize spaces that are typically not used for other activities. Disc Golf can be installed in unused areas such as parking areas or wooded areas. Disc Golf courses are truly endless. If you have an area that you wish you could do more with, a Disc Golf course may be the perfect solution.

Some isolated areas attract unwanted and unwanted activities. Adding a Disc Golf course will increase foot traffic, thus helping to reduce unwanted behaviors in the area.



"It was the easiest thing we have ever done. It caters to everyone and I don't take a lot of money or time to do it. We are already looking at building another disc golf course in future parks."
 - Matt Galt, Park District Board Member, Nevada, Missouri

How much space do I need to dedicate to the Disc Golf course?

Disc Golf has been installed on as few as 1 acre or as many as 100 acres. The amount of space needed depends on the size and location of your property, the terrain, other park uses as well as your target demographic. Wooded courses can be installed on fewer acres than a wide open course, as the trees contain the holes and allow closer placement of fairways without interference.

Do I need a specialist to design the Disc Golf course?

You do not need a specialist to design the course, but an experienced designer will be able to design a course that is challenging enough for players of all abilities. Local players can design Disc Golf courses, but for the best results, look for a professional Disc Golf course designer. INNOVA can work with you to locate a course designer in your region.

Who installs the courses?

Installing targets is very easy and can easily be done by the maintenance crew. Often, local disc golfers are more than willing to assist in course installation.

Sound a great, but how much is it going to cost?

For a complete breakdown of the course costs, please refer to page 15.

Land Considerations

How much land will you need for your Disc Golf course? For starters, it depends on who will be using it. If your target audience is school children who need to complete the course during gym class, you will need a lot more acreage than a course that is used by adults. If you are hoping to host a major championship, you may need 30 - 40 acres to hold a course that's 7,000 to 10,000 feet or longer.

Disc Golf courses work in all kinds of settings: there are courses in the flood plains of the Mississippi River and on the flat slopes of Colorado. One of Disc Golf's most attractive qualities is that courses can be installed on almost any size plot, in virtually every type of terrain, and with any kind of foliage.

Disc Golf Courses: Just the Facts

Where can you install a Disc Golf course?

- Schools, parks, city parks
- Neighborhoods
- Retirement homes
- Private property
- Corporate campuses
- Senior centers (to help right communities)
- RV parks & Campgrounds
- Churches, camps, and retreats
- Military bases

What type of land do I need?

- Open fields with trees or wooded areas
- Open fields with trees, shrubs and field
- Private property
- Wooded land
- Idle, unproductive land
- Poorly maintained land
- Multiple uses
- Redeveloped and underdeveloped
- Empty spaces
- Underutilized areas
- Pastures

As a rule of thumb, an acre per hole is a good estimate, but the more land you have available, the better your course can be. If you have a chance to enhance a course, rather than create a new one, you can enhance a course: mature trees, changes in elevation, creeks and ponds. Whenever possible, put your course in an area away from other activities and structures.

A qualified professional designer can help you pick the best place to put your course. Using the best features of your property, the designer will then create a playing experience that is challenging, fun, safe, and fun.

Letter I-2, Continued

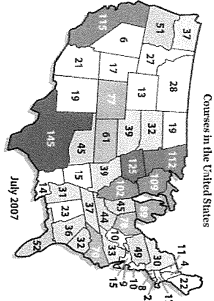
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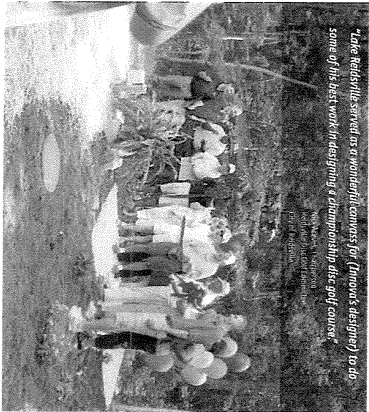
Where is Disc Golf Played?

Disc Golf Course Growth.
Disc Golf has grown dramatically in the past 10 years. Permanent Disc Golf courses have been built over a period from 1997 to 2007. More players will continue to be added to the game than ever before. As you going to be any place that has Golf this year, right?



Top 20 states for Disc Golf

1. Texas 148
2. California 115
3. Wisconsin 109
4. Illinois 108
5. Ohio 81
6. Colorado 77
7. Pennsylvania 61
8. Florida 52
9. Kentucky 44
10. Missouri 39
11. Minnesota 37
12. Nevada 37
13. Kansas 36
14. Pennsylvania 36
15. Oklahoma 35
16. Michigan 34
17. Kentucky 34
18. Missouri 33
19. Minnesota 33
20. Tennessee 27



- Top 15 Reasons to Install a Disc Golf Course**
1. Disc Golf is a low impact, added to most parks in as little as a week.
 2. A Disc Golf course can be designed into under-utilized areas of your facility.
 3. The process of organizing and installing a Disc Golf course is a lot of fun.
 4. Disc Golf tends to decrease undesirable activity in under-utilized areas of a park.
 5. Disc Golf is a sport that everyone can play, regardless of age, ability, or gender.
 6. A single Disc Golf course can be installed in less than 90 minutes.
 7. Disc Golf is great for those not interested in team sports, yet are driven to compete.
 8. Disc Golf is a great lifetime sport.
 9. Disc Golf is so much fun, you won't even realize you are peckishly surprised at the volunteer spirit of disc golfers.
 10. Disc Golf is easy to learn but provides a lifetime of challenge.
 11. Park departments are peculiarly surprised at the volunteer spirit of disc golfers.
 12. Disc Golf is easy to learn but provides a lifetime of challenge.
 13. Disc Golf is inexpensive to play. You can start playing with a single disc for less than \$10.
 14. Disc Golf can be a source of revenue for a park department or a pop-to-play facility.
 15. You'll find a number-one resource to build a Disc Golf course...
 16. If you build it, they will come.



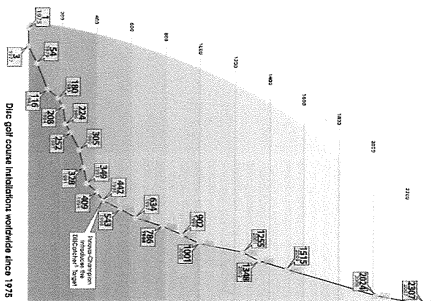
Disc Golf Around the World
The sport of Disc Golf has spread to many countries. A long history of enjoying the sport, both Europe and Asia should see more people experience the sport. Sweden has been a hotbed of Disc Golf activity for nearly 30 years. The future of Disc Golf around the world is promising. With many countries just discovering the sport, Disc Golf is truly becoming an international game.

Top Countries for Disc Golf

1. USA 212
2. Sweden 90
3. Canada 75
4. Finland 24
5. Scotland 21
6. Germany 18
7. Norway 15
8. Australia 11
9. Netherlands 6
10. Australia 1



Manabu Kojima from Japan
Disc Golf courses have been installed in Montreal, Quebec, Paris, France, Japan. Disc Golf is recognized at the 2001 World Games in Aizu, Japan. Despite the challenges of fair shortages and limited days off to play, people continue to enjoy and discover Disc Golf in Japan.



Rapid Growth in Courses
Innovo DiscGolf Target in 1995. New Disc Golf course growth got a shot in the arm. Within 4 years permanent Disc Golf courses have been installed by 2005. It would be just as promising. When in the past the majority of people who played Disc Golf courses were the hobbyists that have been starting to see a shift. Part managers are seeing Disc Golf as an inexpensive and popular addition to parks and recreation areas. Some are planning disc golf into their future phases. Disc Golf is being built at a great addition to almost any park.

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

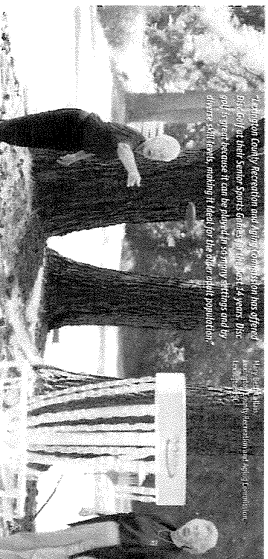
Responses

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Disc Golf is For Everyone

Disc Golf offers fun and challenge for players across a wide spectrum.

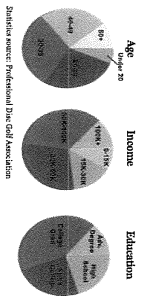
- Inexpensive activity for the entire family.
- Easy to learn, yet takes a lifetime to master.
- Can be played and enjoyed by people of all ages from school years to the golden years.
- Provides opportunity for the specially-challenged and disabled to participate in a mainstream activity.
- A low impact activity that involves a good amount of walking.
- Offers both upper and lower body conditioning.
- Allows players of limited fitness levels to start slowly and increase level of play as fitness improves.
- An outdoor activity that can be played year round in all weather conditions from rain and snow to hot sun and humidity.
- Schools, the fastest growing demographic, are taking to disc golf in record numbers.
- EDGE program (see following page) introduces the sport to school age children.



Edgewise Daily Recreation and Fitness Center has introduced Disc Golf in their Summer Camp for the 10-14 year old youth. Disc Golf's simplicity can be picked up by anyone starting and by others will enjoy, making it ideal for the after school population.

Disc Golf Demographics

Disc Golf is one of the few sports that can appeal to players as young as 3 up into their 80s. Disc Golf provides low impact exercise with the challenge of golf. The low cost makes it accessible to many people.



The first youth tournament in the state was held in 2003. Help to add the youth disc golf program to your area. Here are some activities to get you started. I would highly recommend the EDGE program to be modified with additional physical education program.

Educational Disc Golf Experience (EDGE)

Introducing Disc Golf To Our Youth
Use your Disc Golf course to introduce the sport to the youth in your community.

EDGE – The Educational Disc Golf Experience – provides outdoor physical education programs, camps, schools and other youth programs with a sound curriculum for teaching the basics of Disc Golf and allied skills. EDGE is designed to give teachers and youth physical education programs a sound lesson plan, student worksheets, and related materials are provided for copying/grades levels. Please visit our website for more information on how you can become an EDGE Partner School or Youth Organization. For more information please contact EDGE at 800.422.2943 or call 916.455.6515, regardless.

Even if your school or youth program is not near a government owned disc golf course, you can still bring Disc Golf to the youth in your community. Equipment and curriculum packages designed to meet the needs of various program and budgets are available. The program is simple to implement, easy to approve, and will ensure that your youth participants have a top-notch experience.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the leading cause of death among children and adolescents is heart disease. In the last 30 years, heart incidences that 18.8% of children 6 to 11 years of age and 17-4% of children 12 to 19 years old are overweight. In youth children fitness activities that they will enjoy. We believe that Disc Golf is an activity that will help in the battle against obesity.



Learn about Disc Golf from our new DVD!



Want to teach the basics of Disc Golf to a group of scouts, summer campers or to an after school program so they can be ready for the summer? Check out the new DVD, Getting the EDGE. This video features world champions Ken Clune and Don Reading and introduces the basics of playing Disc Golf as well as throwing techniques.

www.edgescgolf.org

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Recreational Programs: Activities For Your Course

Recreational Disc Golf

Park departments across the country have been pleasantly surprised at the level of enthusiasm shown by most Disc Golf clubs. Many clubs share engages in park and driving work related to their local events. Weekly and monthly singles and doubles tournaments bring golfers out to the course to challenge their fellow players. Handling local competitions are beginners, amateurs, and pros a way to compete fairly against others of similar and diverse skill levels.

Weekly league events will increase traffic to your course. If you schedule weekly league play events, with a set day and time, the word will spread.

Handicapped League - DGC

If your community is interested in offering organized Disc Golf play, having Handicapped Leagues is a great idea. Handicap is a service that can provide everything you need to run a successful handicap league or tournament event at your course. Visit dgcunited.com or call 1-800-875-9988 for complete details on how to add this program to your parks activities schedule.

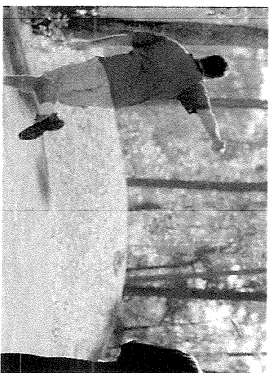
Youth Programs - DDCG

DDCG (Recreational Disc Golf) is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing Disc Golf to youth. (see page #11) If you are interested in a youth activity for summer programs or after school activities, DDCG can provide all the materials and equipment needed to introduce disc golf to the youth in your community. For more information visit edgethroughit.org

Tournament play -

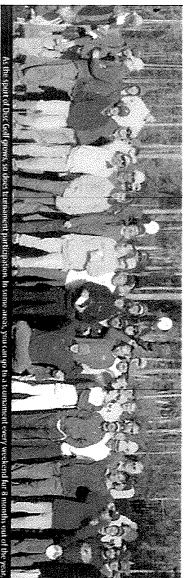
Many events are run by local clubs and organizations. If you are interested in hosting a tournament at your disc golf course, check with the local club to find qualified volunteers who have experience running events. Events can be run in cooperation with your park department and can be used to increase awareness of the game.

Disc Golf courses or to target youth and/or family groups. Weekend takes place on nearly 200 courses around the world in March/Apr. The event happens in late January and early February. The event and raise funds for local food banks and charities. Whether it is a local league or a global event, INNOVA stands ready to share its expertise and promotional tools to help your local Disc Golf program thrive.



WWW.DISCGOLFUNITED.COM
WWW.INNOVADISG.COM
WWW.DGC.COM
WWW.DDCG.COM

Professional Disc Golf: A Lot of Fun and Action



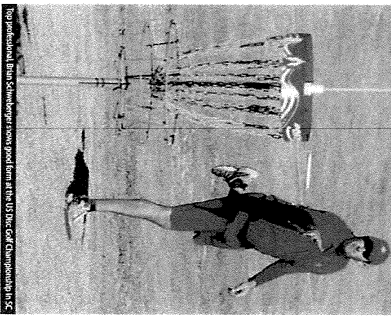
At the end of the Disc Golf World Championship, the winners stand on the winners' pedestal on the famous green, westward of a corner of the park.

Professional Disc Golf

Founded in 1988, the Professional Disc Golf Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to promotion of the sport of Disc Golf worldwide. It has 300 plus members live and play in more than 100 countries. The PDGA writes the rules for the full-color magazine called Disc Golf World, and is a source of information about the sport.

Each year, the PDGA sanctions competitors for professional and amateur players. Points are awarded by participating in these events. The points are tabulated by the PDGA and used to determine invites to the annual World Professional and Amateur Disc Golf Championships.

The PDGA is the governing body for the sport. It has a long history and the PDGA provides rules of play, equipment profiles, a directory of the more than 2000 Disc Golf courses world wide. As more players discover Disc Golf tournaments, more players are attracted to competitive events. This increases the demand for more PDGA sanctioned events around the country.



Top professional Brent Snodgrass moves past fence at the US Disc Golf Championship in KS

For information visit the PDGA web site or send an E-mail: office@pdga.com Web site: www.pdga.com

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses

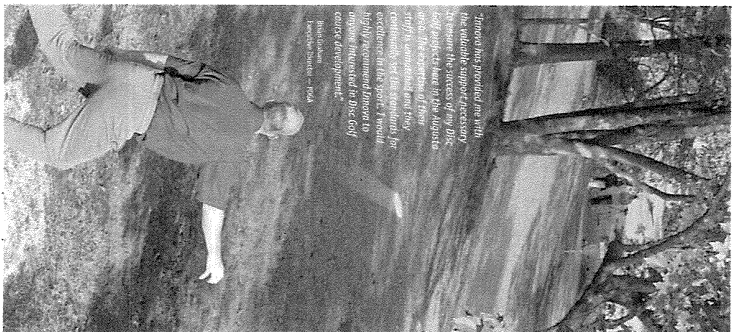
Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Course Design: What Makes a Course Great

Course Design

Trying out a Disc Golf course on finding a good flow, negotiating obstacles, creating intriguing holes, and designing a fair course layout is a lot of work. The most fun is almost in the priority. Getting the most pleasing and safe (to both players and park users) course requires careful planning.

Why Good Design is Important:
Design is a critical factor in the long-term success of any Disc Golf course. The designer starts by recommending an ideal location for a course. The course is designed to accommodate a variety of unique features, and other park activities. A qualified designer will then produce an overall layout, set the best lengths, and determine the most interesting and challenging holes for your site and player base. The skilled course designer will then maximize your Disc Golf investment within the constraints you establish.



"Timoni has provided me with the indubitable support/necessity to ensure the success of my Disc Golf project. I have in the meantime been able to enjoy my Disc Golf efforts with my family and friends by excellence in the field. I would highly recommend Timoni to anyone interested in Disc Golf course development."
- Mike Sauer
- Mike Sauer

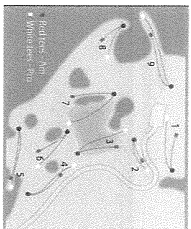
Good Course Design Should Take Into Account Several Factors.

Safety –

- A well-designed course lowers the risk for disc golfers and non-disc golfers alike.
- Disc golfers should be able to play as safely as possible. Design holes to play away from active areas.
- Pathways should never cross each other nor cause players to trip over tree stumps, logs, bushes or trees.
- Never play toward playgrounds.

Variety –

- The course should require a wide variety of different skills and techniques to succeed and require certain challenges and to score well.
- Route players up, down and across terrain. Mix wide open holes with tight, technical holes. Place baskets to the left, right and center of the fairway.
- More variety means players become well rounded players on your course.



- A fair course rewards good strategy and punishes poor strategy.
- Good course design doesn't accentuate the element of chance.
- Placing targets too close to out-of-bounds areas can punish good throws and lead to frustrated players.
- Good course design rewards accuracy, but should leave room for good recovery shots for those who don't execute the drive.

Strategy –

- The design should cause players to put a premium on correct shot selection and placement.
- A good course design is more strategic than a par three.
- Show some strategic choices for your last four holes, where better courses can be won.

Character –

- Courses design should highlight the special features and inherent beauty of the land itself.
- Play off unique details, trees, or holes around it.
- A string of holes that utilize a unique aspect to your course can make it memorable.
- Both right and left handed and throw backward and forehand.
- Try not to string together holes that require the same shot over and over.

"The best design feature effective courses have is the ability to reward the player for the playing experience it must include that makes it fun, opportunities for risk of shots, and it has to be enough fun to keep players coming back."
- John Hawk, designer of the International Disc Golf Course in Appleton, WI

"A good course designer has detailed knowledge of the right balance of modern disc. Keep up with trends in disc design and use them to your advantage. You can't win if you don't know the rules."
- Head Pro and designer of more than 20 Disc Golf Courses, Steve at the 1st Disc Golf Championship



Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

nt

Planning your budget

Disc Golf course designers are very flexible. The scope of your project, target audience, and your imagination all play an important role in defining the "personality" of your course. A simple 9-hole course can be built on as little as two acres for around \$9000. Championship caliber courses typically require one to two acres per hole.

Disc Golf courses can be installed in phases and upgraded over time. Concrete tees, benches, trash receptacles, and alternate pins are optional items, and budgets for all features often can be added after your course is first established.

Volunteer Labor

Local disc golfers are often willing to volunteer with course installation. They can help install targets and tee pads as well as widen wooded fairways. Disc golfers will give their time to see a new course opened. Planned workshops with free lunch can get you a lot of enthusiastic helping hands for the price of some food and drinks.

Targets

Targets are the most important piece of equipment for your course. Invoce targets are highly visible, easy to see, and can be made in many styles. The DISCatcher® Pro approved by the Professional Disc Golf Association.

Tees

Tees provide a surface from which disc golfers "tee off." Tees should be as maintenance-free and slip-resistant as possible. Choose a te—natural, recycled rubber, or concrete—that suits the needs of your course and budget. Invoce does not offer any tee options, just suggestions and instructions for installation.

Signs

The signs at each hole provide information about the hole and the course. Invoce offers a variety of hole boring layout. The signs also help place the hole in the course. There is a tee sign option to fit every budget.

Materials and Expenses

Bags of concrete, weedkiller, wood for tee forms, gas for power equipment, chainsaw blades. Depending on your course location, added expenses can be low or high. Wooded holes that require tree cutting and clearing should budget more time and money than wide open holes.

ECO Course

The ECO Course is a no-frills option that is both Economical & Ecological. This course package features minimal environmental impact as DISCatcher Pro Targets are the only additions to the land.

Basic Course	9-Hole	18-Hole
Equipment	\$2700	\$5400
DISCatcher Pro Targets	\$275	\$550
Freight	\$275	\$550
Equipment Total	\$3250	\$6500

Basic Course

The Basic Course is ideal for parks, camps, and school teaching for an economical Disc Golf solution. Course implemented through the use of basic Silver Level tee signs and natural tees.

Basic Course	9-Hole	18-Hole
Equipment	\$2700	\$5400
DISCatcher Pro Targets	\$360	\$720
Silver Level Tee Signs	\$125	\$125
Practice Sign	\$275	\$550
Freight	\$275	\$550
Equipment Total	\$3600	\$6795

Upgrades:

- Professional Course Design
- Concrete tees
- Practice target
- Benches
- Trash receptacles
- Alternate pin locations

Deluxe Course

The Deluxe Course provides more amenities than the basic course. Gold Level tee signs and a practice target add to the Disc Golf experience. The practice target is perfect for warm up before a round, and it shows beginners the general concept of Disc Golf. Larger, framed tee signs provide added protection against the elements and vandalism and provide space for hole sponsorship. A professional course designer will maximize the effectiveness of your investment.

Deluxe Course	9-Hole	18-Hole
Equipment	\$2700	\$5400
DISCatcher Pro Targets	\$1125	\$2250
Gold Level Tee Signs	\$125	\$125
Rules Sign	\$390	\$390
Practice Target	\$390	\$780
Freight	\$390	\$780
Equipment Total	\$4600	\$8775

Upgrades:

- Additional concrete tees
- Alternate target
- Information book
- Benches
- Trash receptacles

* Freight pricing is estimated. Please call for specific freight quotes.

Four Potential Disc Golf Course Packages

Championship Course

The Championship Course offers our finest tee signs to elevate your course and your sponsors. Beautiful, full-color hole maps to enhance the disc golf experience. A Rules and Overview sign will introduce players to the course and game. A practice target allows players to practice putting before each round. Bxirt tees and/or extra pin positions allow a variety of layouts to challenge players throughout the year. Long tees may be used for tournaments and skilled players, while short tees are ideal for recreational players. A professional designer will maximize the effectiveness of your investment.

Championship Course	9-Hole	18-Hole
DISCatcher Pro Targets	\$2700	\$5400
Platinum Level Tee Signs	\$1665	\$3330
Rules Sign	\$125	\$125
Overview/Course map Sign	\$265	\$265
Practice Target	\$300	\$300
Freight	\$400	\$800
Equipment Total	\$5455	\$10220

Upgrades:

- Alternate concrete tees and target locations
- Benches
- Trash receptacles

Additional Expenses

The targets and tee signs that we can supply will get you started in establishing a potentially great course. Investing in permanent tees and professional course design may be the next best investment you make for your course. Installation materials include 4x4 posts or steel posts for tee signs, as well as lumber and fasteners for the installation. Products are recommended for the installation. Additional items can be added to your course. Items can be viewed as investments in your course, and each of them will provide a positive return.

Additional Course Installation Costs (estimated)	9-Hole	18-Hole
Concrete Tees	\$1800	\$3600
Course Design	\$700	\$5400
Installation Materials	\$180	\$360
(Bench) Concrete	\$150	\$300
Additional cost (estimated)	\$4890	\$9660
Complete Course (Basic)	\$8990	\$16455
Complete (Deluxe)	\$9930	\$18435
Complete (Championship)	\$10285	\$19880

Letter I-2, Continued

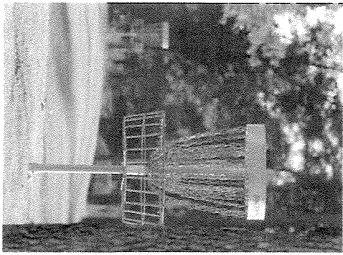
Comments

Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Extra Installation Tube
If you have multiple course layouts, you'll need additional installation tubes. Install a tube for each target location and you can easily move the target to alter your course. Multiple sleeves give players variety and reduce wear and tear near a single target location, some switch seasonally, some monthly.
\$25 per installation tube

Quantity	Pricing	Shipped Weight	Approx. Freight
1 DISCatcher PRO target	\$900.00	72 pounds	650
9 DISCatcher PROs	\$8200.00	650 pounds	\$200-\$300
18 DISCatcher PROs	\$83400.00	1300 pounds	\$450-\$500



DISCatcher PRO Targets
The DISCatcher PRO is the latest part of the DISCatcher line. In this regard, the history dates of Disc Golf, target, high poles, and trash cans were designated as the art in Disc Golf target technology. The art of target building is the most visible and longest lasting Disc Golf target. The DISCatcher PRO is a favorite of target designers and course professionals – in 2007 over 100 courses were installed using DISCatcher PRO targets. The DISCatcher PRO is the most popular target from the west and also distinguishes the Disc Golf course to other park visitors.

equipment: DISCatcher Pro Targets

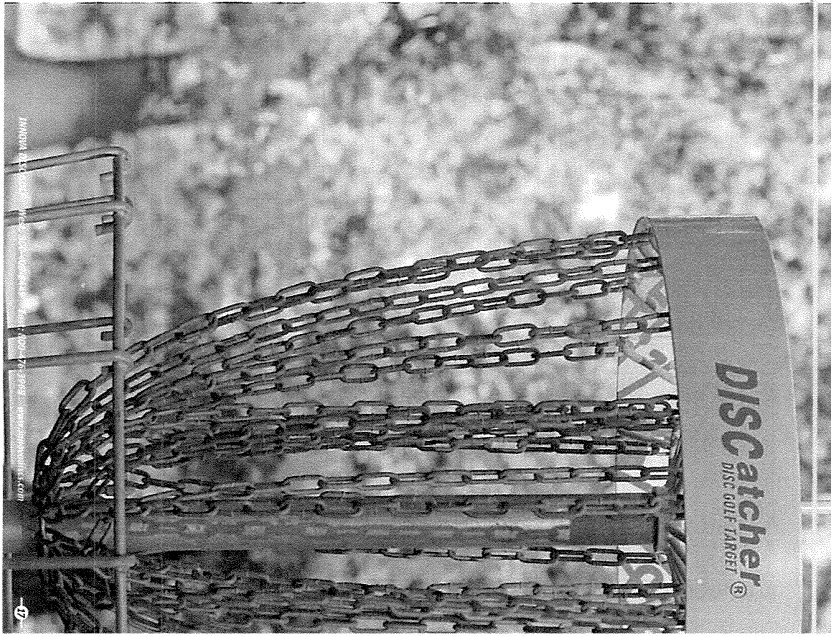
DISCatcher PRO Benefits

- HIGH VISIBILITY TARGET TOP**
Our yellow powder coated target top makes the INNOVA DISCatcher PRO highly visible and able to withstand the elements. The target top is made of a strong, durable, UV resistant material. The target top is also made of a material that is easy to clean and maintain.
- GALVANIZED CONSTRUCTION**
The DISCatcher PRO is made of galvanized steel. This makes it resistant to rust and corrosion. The target is also made of a material that is easy to clean and maintain.
- THREE TIERED CHAINS**
The DISCatcher PRO has three tiers of chains. This makes it easy to adjust the target to the height of the player. The target is also made of a material that is easy to clean and maintain.
- PGA APPROVED**
The DISCatcher PRO is PGA approved for tournament play.
- SECURITY FROM THEFT**
The DISCatcher PRO has a locking mechanism that prevents theft. The target is also made of a material that is easy to clean and maintain.

Custom Color Targets
Is your course in need of a blast of new color? Does your school want a Disc Golf team's colors? You now have the power!

Custom color DISCatcher PROs
The DISCatcher PRO is available in a wide range of colors. If the target is not the color you want, we can use a special additive that can be used for extra flair. We will work with you to be it the color you want. Please contact us for more information and pricing.

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8



Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Course Equipment: Tees

Tees

Each Disc Golf hole begins from a tee. Some courses have natural tees, but the preferred tee is a reinforced slab of concrete.

Proper Tee Design and Construction

Concrete tees should be at least 1/2 inch per linear foot, or no less than 4 inches thick, and should not slope off sharply in front of the tee. The front edge of the concrete should be finished on the ground with three feet of soil level in front and to the sides, and the top of the concrete should be finished to the same level as the surrounding ground. Edges of the pad should not drop off sharply, especially at the corners. Proper design will dramatically reduce the potential for injury.

Natural Tees

Natural tees are the easiest to install, and cost little. With time, however, natural tees can wear if not maintained and sandy soils. Areas that receive a lot of rain or have loose soil may want to consider concrete if a natural tee is not ideal before permanent tees are installed.



Concrete Tees

Concrete tees with a coarse finish provide the best throwing surface for all types of Disc Golf discs. A firm, level, long power drive. Concrete tees are the most maintenance free, long lasting tee surface. Properly installed concrete tees provide the biggest choice to provide a consistent maintenance-free

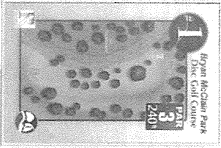


Tea & Course Signs

Signs are an important part of the character and community relations of a Disc Golf course. Overview and Rules signs are essential for player safety and proper play. Individual tee signs keep players on target and aware of hazards and safety issues.

Rules & Safety
12" by 18"
\$125

- Essential rules and contents of disc golf files
- Your custom safety instructions
- 100% recycled, UV-resistant ink, UV- and graffiti-resistant coating
- Other sizes and colors available
- Optional frames and lean cover available



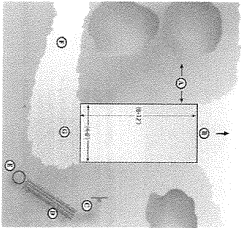
Platinum Level \$185
12" by 18" Framed, with Lexan

The ultimate in disc golf mapping. Beautifully rendered and detailed.

- All-weather, rippling Lexan, has aluminum mandrel, hazards, paths and odds.
- Two legs - supports your club and sponsor.
- Durable steel frame. Has legs, leans over.
- Includes attached mounting bracket for easy installation onto a standard pole.
- Includes professional graphics design.
- Case 10 holes \$2350
- 9 holes \$1665

Course Equipment: Signs

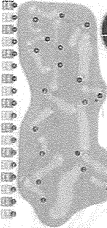
Fig. 4: Tee area layout



A minimum thickness of 4 inches is required for concrete tees. The concrete should be finished on the ground with three feet of soil level in front and to the sides, and the top of the concrete should be finished to the same level as the surrounding ground. Edges of the pad should not drop off sharply, especially at the corners. Proper design will dramatically reduce the potential for injury.

For more information on installing concrete tee pads, turn to page 22.

Bryan McChain Park Disc Golf Course



Overview 24" by 36" \$265
Display your entire course. Oriented players and enhances the experience.

- Huge map shows course flow, landmarks, restrictions, safety hazards, and notes.
- Includes hole numbers, hole names, and hole types.
- Information for players to navigate the course. A MUST for sponsored.
- Includes hole numbers, hole names, and hole types.
- Includes hole numbers, hole names, and hole types.
- Includes hole numbers, hole names, and hole types.

Overview frame available. Hook upon request.



Gold Level \$125
9" by 12" Framed, w/Lexan

Attractive hole maps with full-color graphics.

- Premium map features the shirley
- One hole for city, park, dept., or club
- 100% aluminum sign with UV-resistant ink
- Customized steel frame, hardware, and mounting.
- Mounts easily onto a standard pole
- Includes professional graphics design
- 18 holes \$2350
- 9 holes \$1125

Silver Level \$40
5" by 10" Unframed

- Key information for course navigation
- Red-color graphics
- 100% aluminum sign with UV-resistant ink
- Variety of sizes
- UV-resistant ink and UV-resistant ink
- Includes hole numbers, hole names, and hole types.
- 18 holes \$950
- 9 holes \$490

Call us for additional sign choices

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

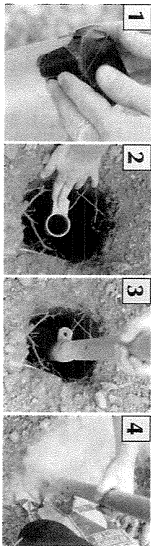
Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

How To Prepare the Site For DISCatcher® Pro Targets

A day or two before you can set the targets into the ground, you must prepare the ground anchors for each target. It is important to install each tube straight and at a proper height. Though what it takes to install a DISCatcher PRO Target properly:

- Items needed to install ground anchors**
- One DISCatcher Installation
 - Portable digger or auger with 8" bit
 - Water (to approximately 3 gallons or faster as needed per hole)
 - Dust tarp (to seal the bottom of the tube)
 - Approximately one bag of concrete per hole
- Tools you will need for this project:**
- Flexible digger or auger with 8" bit
 - Portable shovel - KA-1 Sharp Shooter
 - Water (to approximately 3 gallons or faster as needed per hole)
 - Dust tarp (to seal the bottom of the tube)
 - Approximately one bag of concrete per hole



1. Digging the hole: Using a portable digger or auger, dig holes approximately 24 inches deep and 8 inches in diameter. Dig straight down, avoiding rocks for alignment.

2. Position the DISCatcher tube: Place the DISCatcher tube bottom 2-3 inches above the hole from setting into the tube. No locking here!

3. Slide the DISCatcher pole onto the tube: The hole must be level with the ground. Set the tube down in the hole. Adjust the locking tab so that the DISCatcher pole will fit into the hole. Make sure to face the way. Make sure to make it very easy to align the tube to sit straight.

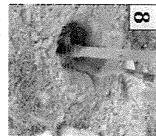
4. Pour in concrete: The hole must be level with the ground. Set the tube down in the hole. Adjust the locking tab so that the DISCatcher pole will fit into the hole. Make sure to face the way. Make sure to make it very easy to align the tube to sit straight. Of course, concrete can also be placed in a container about 1/2 of the depth. We mix the concrete in the hole, getting into the tube from several time and energy.



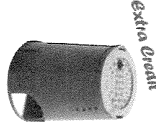
5. Pour in water to make the concrete: Make sure you do not pour too much. If it is really easy, add a little more concrete.

6. Mix the concrete with the ground: Stick the grade in and rotate and turn it while lifting. This will mix the water with the concrete.

7. Repeat until 5'-6\"/>



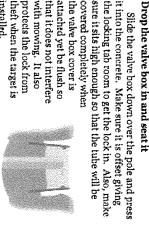
8. Mix the concrete well: The another the better. Try to mix all the dry concrete with the water. Here you can stop to keep an extra bag of concrete on hand for any hole in the location. The valve box is suggested for courses that involving multiple pin locations.



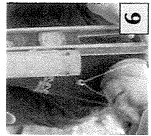
Drop the valve box in and seat it: Slide the valve box down over the pole and press it into the concrete. Make sure it is offset going in. The valve box must sit high enough so that the tube will be covered completely when the valve box cover is placed over it. Make sure that it does not interfere with moving. It also sits high enough so that it is not in contact with the target it installed.

Sprindler valve box: 7 inch sprindler valve boxes can be purchased at local hardware stores for about \$5. They can easily be ordered if not in stock.

For multiple pin locations: For multiple target locations, we suggest setting a sprindler valve box in the hole. If it keeps dirt out and prevents damage and makes it easy to find overgrown pin locations.



When using a valve box placement: When using a valve box placement, Locking tab 1 to 2 inches below grade.



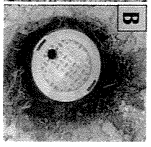
9. Strengthen the pole from to 5' to 6' level against the pole, and move the pole until it is level.



10. Now straighten it side to side: Now move to the other axis (90°) to make sure it is square to that direction also. A level right there from all four axes. Make sure a little straight and some rechecking of the other axes before all is square.



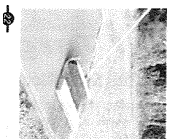
11. Remove the pole gently... get to keep it plumb: Remove the alignment pole and wipe any excess concrete from the locking tab. Do not touch the DISCatcher sprindler valve box. It will need air to dry quickly.



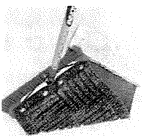
Place the cover on the valve box: Place the cover on the valve box. Make sure on the valve how fine you clean the tube! You are done! Now just think, only 17 more to go...

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments



Feature the tee
Once the tee has been placed with the 2x4, it is important to make sure you put the concrete pad on one side of the pad and not the other side. This will allow the tee to sit in the concrete.



Tee pad leveling tool
This is a tool that can be used to level the concrete pad. It is a long metal bar with a level on top. You can use it to check the level of the concrete pad and make sure it is level with the ground.

Some helpful tips for getting your tee pads done right

- Make sure you have enough people and the right tools to do the job.
- Enlist one person with the job of extending the pads.
- You may want to break the work into two days.
- Bring at least 3 wheel barrows if you need to transport the pads that are located near roads.
- Lay down fencing or rebar before pouring to strengthen the pads.
- Always have a bit more concrete than you have calculated. Deeper cuts, spillage, and much errors can occur.
- In busy parks, you may want to have volunteers with the pad for the rest of the day to prevent graffiti in your finished concrete.

Tee Pad Installation Tips

Proper Procedure

Pour in the concrete. Distribute and mix to remove voids. Spread the concrete to permit low or high spread from the concrete. Make sure there is a slight added concrete to account for spillage.

Concrete Base

Make sure you have enough concrete to finish your job. A typical concrete truck can hold a maximum of 12 yards of concrete.

Each tee requires a large amount of concrete, so it is advised that a mixer truck deliver pre-mixed concrete. You will need to have a concrete mixer truck on hand for the entire day. There are different types of concrete, so know what to order. 2000 psi is an industry standard and is ideal for tee pads. 2000 psi is an industry standard and is ideal for tee pads. There are different types of concrete, so know what to order. 2000 psi is an industry standard and is ideal for tee pads. 2000 psi is an industry standard and is ideal for tee pads.

Concrete Quantities Table

Concrete quantities: 9 feet	width	length	depth	and per feet	for 18 feet
5 feet	8 feet	1 inches	5.03 yards	9.03 yards	
5 feet	10 feet	1 inches	6.69 yards	13.38 yards	
5 feet	12 feet	1 inches	8.35 yards	16.70 yards	
6 feet	10 feet	1 inches	6.69 yards	13.38 yards	
6 feet	12 feet	1 inches	8.35 yards	16.70 yards	
6 feet	14 feet	1 inches	10.01 yards	20.02 yards	
6 feet	16 feet	1 inches	11.67 yards	23.34 yards	
6 feet	18 feet	1 inches	13.33 yards	26.66 yards	

Delivered mixed concrete prices range from \$50-\$60 per cubic yard. Bagged concrete would cost over \$200 per cubic yard. A local concrete company's sponsorship on your tee pads. Many clubs have found that a concrete company is glad to trade concrete for a hole plug on a Disc Golf course, which is a perfect target audience for their market.

INNOVA - We Have Everything For Disc Golf

On-site Merchandise Sales and Concessions

Buy courses with on-site concession facilities are easy to run and cost less than a full concession stand. Parks that already have on-site personnel can generate considerable additional revenue. Facilities with on-site vendors can also generate revenue through vending machines for traditional golf pro shops can add a complete line of golf discs and merchandise with a minimal investment to set up a full line pro shop. The can generate revenue through vending machines and/or equipment, accessories and apparel. Call for complete details on how to offer disc golf merchandise sales at your facility.

Organized Events

You can increase awareness of the golf in your area by hosting organized events. Custom gear and apparel can help generate additional revenue for events.

Custom Disc Sales

Provide an extra boost to on-site sales with the addition of custom stamped discs and mini markers. Custom gear and apparel can help generate additional revenue for events. We can also have full color artwork on select disc models. Many players enjoy purchasing custom discs as a reward or reminder of a special event. We offer custom disc sales and custom disc model availability and pricing.



Request a copy of our product catalog to help you maximize your Disc Golf more fun!



As the Disc Golf Experts, Innova can help you maximize your Disc Golf fun and revenue.

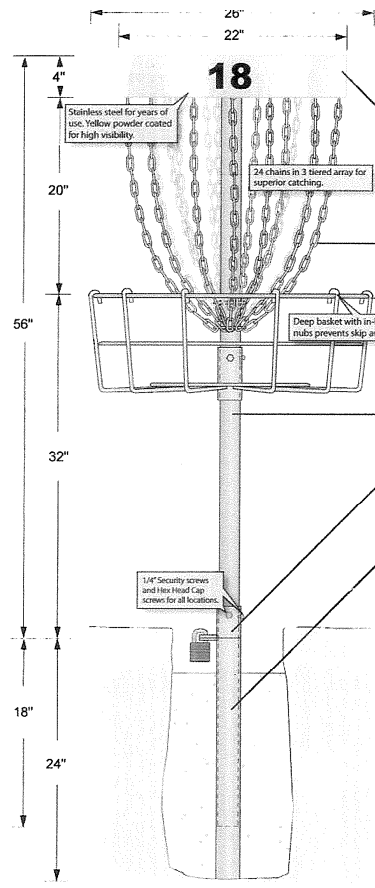
Responses

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses



DISCatcher PRO

Disc Golf Target

Permanent Model Specifications

- Target Top** — Our yellow target tops are made from stainless steel. They are 22 inches across and 4 inches high. The band is also stainless steel welded to stainless steel "spokes". Each target top is then powder coated in bright yellow for best visibility on the course.
- Chains** — Our chains are made to handle abuse. 24 strands of galvanized 2/0 chains. (12 outer, 6 middle, 6 inner)
- Basket** — Our baskets will provide years of loyal service. They are made using 3/8" steel rod, which is hot-dip galvanized to survive years of harsh weather.
- Pole** — Our hot-dip galvanized 74" pole deters vandals. With 1/8" walls to prevent bending or cutting. Each is pre-drilled for target top, basket, and collar hardware.
- Locking Collar** — Hot-dip galvanized finish. Securely fits over pole mounted with tamper resistant screws.
- Installation Tube** — 24" long hot-dip galvanized steel tube. Provides a snug fit for the target at PDGA approved height. Locking tab aligns with locking collar for security.

DISCatcher PRO Benefits

HIGH VISIBILITY TARGET TOP

Our yellow powder coated target top makes the INNOVA DISCatcher PRO highly visible and able to withstand the elements. Under the powder coating is all stainless steel construction making it long-lasting and maintenance free.

GALVANIZED CONSTRUCTION

Hot-dip galvanized basket, pipe and chains allow a DISCatcher PRO target to weather the elements better than painted or zinc plated baskets.

THREE TIERED CHAINS

12 outer chains grab your disc, while 12 more inner chains buffer and slow the disc, improving catching performance. This makes the DISCatcher a favorite target of players.

PDGA APPROVED

The DISCatcher PRO is PDGA approved for tournament play.

Installation Tips

Here are six tips that will really help to make your installation successful.

1. Make sure your target pipe is plumb. Use a level or the chain set and its rings as an indicator if no level is available.
2. Remember the lock tabs are to be set at or just below ground level.
3. Make sure to leave enough room between the top of the concrete and the locking tabs so that the padlock can be accessed easily.
4. Use rubber/vinyl clad locks that have been thoroughly lubricated before installation.
5. Align padlock tab back toward the tee to have hole number decal face tee area.
6. Order a set of matching padlocks from a lock manufacturer.

Official Target of the
U.S. Disc Golf Championship



EAST COAST SALES
2850 Commerce Dr.
Rock Hill, SC 29730
Toll Free (800)476-3968

WEST COAST SALES
11077 Arrow Route
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
Toll Free (800)408-8449

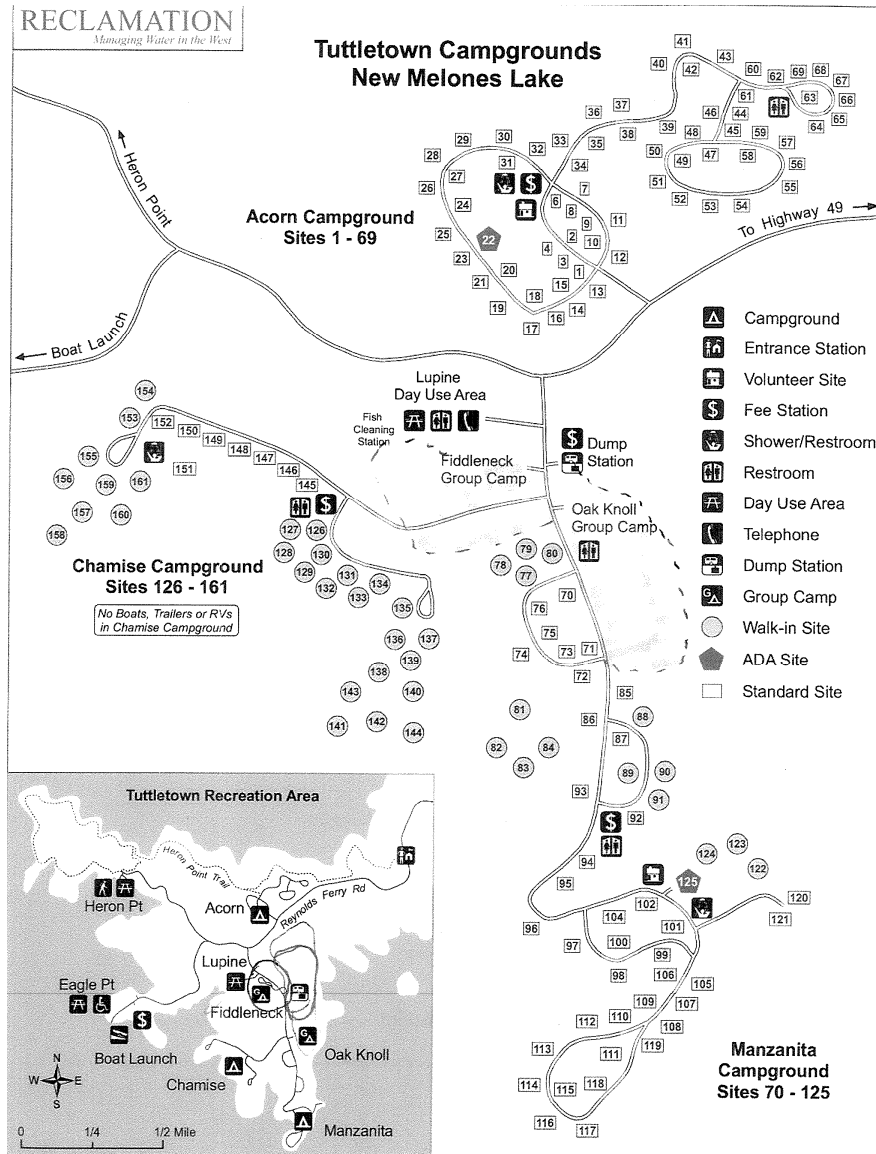
www.innovadiscs.com

Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Letter I-2, Continued

Comments

Responses



Attachment to Letter I-2. Not a comment letter on the New Melones Lake Area Draft RMP/EIS.

Letter I-3

Comments

Responses



RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Comment Sheet for the New Melones Draft RMP/EIS

Written comments may be submitted at the Comment Table or are due to the Bureau of Reclamation by close of business Monday, January 4, 2010.

Comments may also be mailed to the address on the back, or faxed to 916-989-7109, or e-mailed to m Brockman@usbr.gov. Thank you.

(Please print clearly)

Name KEN KENTON
 Organization and Address 14192 TULLOCH ROAD
SAN JOSE, CA 95131
 Phone (209) 438-1296 FAX () E-mail

Comment here: 12-2-09
Date

- I-3-1 PROVIDE ACCESS FOR HANDICAPPED PEOPLE.
- I-3-2 ALLOW NO HOME-CLASH TO LAKE.
NO 2202

All comments become part of the public record.

- I-3-1: Reclamation will comply with all ADA requirements, as stated under Actions R 50 through R 53.
- I-3-2: There are no homes on Reclamation property. Reclamation does not have control over development on non-Reclamation lands.

Letter I-4

Comments

Responses



RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Comment Sheet for the New Melones Draft RMP/EIS

Written comments may be submitted at the Comment Table or are due to the Bureau of Reclamation by close of business Monday, January 4, 2010.

Comments may also be mailed to the address on the back, or faxed to 916-989-7109, or e-mailed to mbrockman@usbr.gov. Thank you.

(Please print clearly)

Name DENNIS BELL

Organization and Address NONE - REGULAR LAKE USER

Phone (925) 980-2184 FAX () _____ E-mail DENNBEL@COMCAST.NET

I-4-1: Comment noted.

Comment here: 12/2/09
Date

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE STANDING TREE SNAGS KNOCKED DOWN OR CUT DOWN TO REDUCE HAZARDS TO BOATING EQUIPMENT AND INCREASE SAFETY FOR SKIERS, SWIMMERS AND OTHER WATER USERS.

I-4-1

All comments become part of the public record.

Letter I-5

Comments

Responses

December 2, 2009

Bureau of Reclamation
 Attention: Melissa Brockman-Vignau, Project Manager
 7794 Folsom Dam Road
 Folsom, CA 95630

Subject: New Melones Lake – Management Plan

Melissa Brockman-Vignau:

For the past 20 years our family has enjoyed New Melones Lake. Our favorite activity is fishing for both bass and trout. But we also use the lake for water skiing, walking and even birthday parties. We visit the lake about 30 times during the year.

One of the very nice features of this lake is that it is not overly developed and is large enough to accommodate a lot of visitors. We also find those using it to be very considerate with little or no trash being discarded. It is definitely getting a lot more use over the years since we started going to it, but it is still a great lake as it exists now.

I-5-1 | I would hope any new management plan would recognize that it should be kept as Open for use as it is currently. I am always afraid of “New” management plans which end up closing lands or lakes to the public, or limiting their current use, for the sake of preservation. In the name of “Conservation” or protection of natural and cultural resources, too little consideration is given to those who enjoy and use facilities on a routine bases, instead, too much weight is often given to those who want to make things the way they believe things should be, i.e., no man input what-so-ever. This lake exists, let’s make good use of it while also protecting it for future users.

I-5-2 | My recommendations would also be to reopen access to boaters who may want to use the old Highway 49 road to launch their boats, i.e., very near the 49 bridge crossing and entrance to the New Melones Visitors center. We have used this location in the past until it was closed, and found that it was faster and saved fuel if we go up north, to gain access nearer the Stanislaus River input. It would seem to be a simple thing for the Bureau to monitor if this is a concern since it is so close to the local headquarters.

I-5-3 | We also used to enjoy going via Columbia and inputting our float tubes and fishing via the Parrots Ferry Road and would like to see this re-opened. I believe the reason for closure of this access was due to garbage and old appliances being discarded. It would seem that with night time closure of the short road this problem could be easily remedied. Opening this would again provide access to those who may not want to be in the higher impacted areas.

I-5-4 | I am all in favor of bike and horse trails where vehicle traffic is not of a major concern. My reservation about these and other possible improvements is that the costs of maintaining them becomes too great and the whole use of the lake is closed in the future

I-5-1: Through the preferred alternative, Reclamation aims to achieve a balance between public use and conservation.

I-5-2: This option is being considered under the preferred alternative (TA 4D), and will be implemented only if financially feasible and if the roadway could be rebuilt to meet modern boat ramp standards.

I-5-3: Reopening Parrotts Ferry Road is being considered under the preferred alternative (TA 4D).

I-5-4: Reclamation would only undertake developments that would be adequately funded. Where Reclamation cannot afford new developments, it can enter into an agreement with a cost sharing partner.


Letter I-5, Continued

Comments

Responses

I-5-4
(Continued) at times because of underfunded budgets. I would rather see the lake kept at its present level of use and maintenance costs, rather than to expand possible features and uses only to have it not properly funded and have to be closed at times.

Thank you for allowing input.


David and Dawn Sweitzer
21174 Oneto Ridge
Sonora, CA. 95370

I-5-4: Reclamation would only undertake developments that would be adequately funded. Where Reclamation cannot afford new developments, it can enter into an agreement with a cost sharing partner.

Letter I-6

Comments

Responses

From: Mel & Ann [melann@goldrush.com]
Sent: Friday, December 04, 2009 4:53 PM
To: Brockman, Melissa A
Subject: Melones Resource Management Plan - Public Input

Dear Ms. Brockman,

My husband and I keep a sailboat at the New Melones Marina. We enjoy the the uncluttered shoreline and the abundant wildlife that we see while out on the lake. The lake at this point is home to grebes of several varieties, at least two varieties of ducks, terns, seagulls, great blue herons, egrets, night herons etc, along with, of course, the osprey, many types of hawks, song birds, turkeys as well as the mammals and other creatures that inhabit the shore and surrounding country. Our hope is that if you must further develop the area, you keep in mind that too much development that involves buildings, roads that allow more people into previously fairly inaccessible areas, and the like will affect the wildlife and perhaps lower its numbers and ruin the pastoral feeling at the lake. The public can go to other lakes and waterways closer to more urban areas if they want overly developed recreation with lots of amenities.

I-6-1

We are not in favor of a recreational vehicle park that will involve more paved areas and lights, especially if any off road vehicles are allowed.

I-6-2

What would the "floating campsites" that were mentioned in the report be like and where would they be located?

I-6-3

We are not in favor of floating campsites farther up river or movable campsites as this might be damaging to the wildlife and perhaps becoming a nuisance.

I-6-4

More people having more access will mean more garbage, litter, sewage etc. In the current situation with the economy which doesn't look like it will be rebounding any time soon, how will all these matters be handled when there isn't the money to pay for all the necessary extra employees and infrastructure. If fees are to be generated to pay for these things, how can you be sure those of us using the area will have the extra income to pay the new fees with many of us losing jobs or taking pay cuts?

I-6-5

Also, please include ways to avoid light pollution when making any new developments. One of the wonderful things about camping or being on the water at night is the fairly "clean" night sky. Since started keeping our boat in the marina 14 years ago there is more light pollution from nearby areas that have grown up in the past few years, so adding more lights near the lake would not help in keeping the night sky dark there.

I-6-6

Personally, it seems that for the coming decade, just keeping the systems that are already in place running smoothly will be a big job in itself considering the bad economy. Keeping the main thrust of the program on maintenance of existing developments, conservation of the area and low impact recreation, ie. camping, fishing, hiking and boating seems to us the most prudent course of action.

Thank you for the opportunity to voice our concerns.
 Ann & Mel Wallace

I-6-1: It is Reclamation's goal to provide a range of recreation experiences from developed recreation areas to less developed recreation experiences. The Visitor Use Survey and WROS were conducted to document the current spectrum of available recreation uses and plan for future demand in the most suitable areas.

I-6-2: Comment noted. The RMP outlines additional facilities that could be constructed within the New Melones Lake Area. Any proposal for additional facilities would undergo a separate NEPA analysis.

I-6-3: Comment noted. The RMP outlines additional facilities that could be constructed within the New Melones Lake Area. Any proposal for additional facilities would undergo a separate NEPA analysis.

I-6-4: Comment noted. The RMP outlines additional facilities that could be constructed within the New Melones Lake Area. Any proposal for additional facilities would undergo a separate NEPA analysis and Reclamation would look closely at how proposed projects would impact maintenance, budget, and existing users.

I-6-5: Comment noted. Implementation-level projects will undergo a separate NEPA analysis and concerns will be addressed at that time.

I-6-6: It is Reclamation's goal to provide a range of recreation experiences from developed recreation areas to less developed recreation experiences. The Visitor Use Survey and WROS were conducted to document the current spectrum of available recreation uses and plan for future demand in the most suitable areas.