



MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: June 19, 2015

Agenda Item: Capital Projects Over \$5,000

Division: Parks

Action Needed: Approval

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 15 minutes

Background (Brief description of the issue, decision to be made, history, etc.):

Per the Parks and Recreation Board Policy adopted in December 2013, Board approval is required for unanticipated expenses exceeding \$5,000 within the Parks Capital Program. For this meeting, two projects have or will incur capital costs which have not been previously approved by the Board. They are:

- Pictograph Cave State Park – the hiring of a specialized contractor to perform ‘scaling’ (i.e. – loose rock removal) above and around the cave openings at Pictograph Cave SP. During the recent winter a large piece of rock came loose and fell at the viewing platform area. The other potential areas of rock that can be physically pried loose by hand will be allowed to fall in a controlled manner. This effort will reduce the risk of future rock movement events resulting from moisture, the freeze/thaw process, and other natural events. The cost of this effort will be approximately \$25,000.
- Wild Horse Island State Park – with the passage of HB 82 by the 2015 Legislative Session the ability to install a public boat dock on the shore of the park is now in-place. This capital project was not one of the proposed Parks Capital projects approved by the Parks and Recreation Board in October 2014. At that time it was unknown if a bill would be advanced to allow the dock installation and if so, if it would be passed. The preliminary estimated cost of the dock project is \$200,000. This amount includes the dock structure, engineering fees, site modification necessary at the shoreline, permitting fees, and other miscellaneous costs. It is anticipated that 75 percent of the project costs will be from Federal DJMB funds, with the remaining 25 percent from state funding sources.

Public Involvement Process & Results (Brief description of the type of public involvement and summary of what we heard from the public):

Pictograph Cave State Park – no public involvement is necessary or planned concerning the funding of this safety and site maintenance effort.

Wild Horse Island State Park – an Environmental Assessment (EA) will be issued seeking public comment on the proposed project.

Alternatives and Analysis (Brief description of alternative solutions with analysis of the pros and cons of each):

Alt. #1 – approval of the proposed capital funding expenditures for the two projects.

Alt. #2 – modified approval for the expenditure of capital funds on the two projects.

Agency Recommendation and Rationale (Brief description of our recommendation to the Board and the reasons for it):

It is recommended that the Board approve the proposed costs for the two capital projects.

Proposed Motion (Draft language the Board could use to adopt the agency recommendation):

I move to approve the Parks Division’s proposal to commit capital funds to the Pictograph Cave and Wild Horse Island State Park projects as proposed.