



## MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

**Meeting Date:** February 16, 2017

**Agenda Item:** Ackley Lake State Park Lease

**Division:** Parks

**Action Needed:** Final

**Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation:** 20 minutes

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

Ackley Lake State Park is located approximately 13 miles southwest of Hobson. The park is located on land owned by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) as part of an irrigation reservoir. It is comprised of 250 acres and has 15 campsites and two boat ramps.

In August, the Montana State Parks and Recreation Board directed signature of a one-year lease for Ackley Lake State Park and directed the Department to form a working group to develop alternative management strategies for the park. That working group has since been formed and is presently meeting. While the team has been highly functional and solution oriented, the needed structure and funding for a local management solution of Ackley Lake will take time to develop. Upon discussion with the working group and local elected officials, the department is recommending an extension of the Ackley Lake lease.

This agenda item involves the proposed mutually-agreed upon lease agreement between Montana State Parks and the DNRC through the end of 2021. This lease is needed to clarify roles and responsibilities for management while working through the details of a change of management. The lease agreement proposed does not require any payment to DNRC.

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

The proposed action does not result in any immediate change of services or management to the public and thus a public involvement process related specifically to the lease was not conducted. There are, however, public outreach efforts underway (including a recent public meeting) related to allowing management of the site to revert to DNRC.

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

Alternative 1: Approve signature of the mutually agreed upon lease between MSP and DNRC.

Alternative 2: Do not approve signature of the mutually agreed upon lease between MSP and DNRC.

**Agency Recommendation and Rationale** (Brief description of our recommendation to the Board and the reasons for it): It is the agency recommendation to approve signature of the mutually agreed upon lease for Ackley State Park between MSP and DNRC.

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

I move to approve the signature of the mutually-agreed upon lease for Ackley State Park between MSP and DNRC.

