

# **ELEPHANT BUTTE LAKE STATE PARK**

## **DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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## PREFACE

Each state park administered and managed by the State Parks Division (SPD) of the New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) is required to establish a Park Management and Development Plan. [Reference: Title 19, Chapter 5, Part 3 of the New Mexico Administrative Code (19 NMAC 5.3)] The objective of these plans is to provide direction for the management and development of the state parks in a manner that enhances recreational opportunities, protects park resources, provides for public input, and protects the natural environment. In essence, each plan will identify an overall management philosophy, and then outline a specific strategy for achieving management goals over a five-year period. [Reference: Section 13 of the *New Mexico State Parks Division's State Parks Policy and Procedures Manual*]

The planning process for Parks Management and Development Plans consists of: establishing a planning team for each state park; conducting an on-site inspection/assessment of the park, its resources, and facilities; analyzing all information compiled on the park; proposing goals and related activities to be completed over the next five years; developing a draft Management and Development Plan (Plan) for the park; soliciting public input on the draft Plan and revising it as appropriate; approval of the revised Plan by the Division Director; and implementation of the approved Plan by the Park Manager/Superintendent.

Any and all comments or recommendations concerning the Elephant Butte Lake State Park (EBLSP) Management and Development Plan should be directed to:

Rolf Hechler  
Park Superintendent  
PO Box 13  
Elephant Butte, NM 87935

Phone: (505) 744-5421  
FAX: (505) 744-9144  
E-mail: rhechler@state.nm.us

## **I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

The SPD's mission "Protect and enhance natural resources, provide recreational facilities and opportunities, and promote public safety and education to benefit and enrich the lives of visitors." This mission is fulfilled at EBLSP through the protection and enhancement of the Park's natural and cultural resources as well as by providing an appealing setting for water-based recreation and camping. The overall goal is to continue offering high quality services in a safe and efficient manner, while making improvements to broaden the recreational and educational experiences of EBLSP visitors. This Plan sets forth specific objectives, policies, improvements, and changes which are proposed for implementation through fiscal years (FY) 2004 (July 1, 1999 - June 30, 2004).

### **B. SUMMARY of PROPOSED ACTIONS and POLICIES**

#### **1. PROPOSED ACTIONS**

Tables 1-5 provide a detailed list of the proposed actions for the FY00 - FY04 planning period. The park has identified four major goals in which major tasks are identified for completion. These tasks are prioritized within each fiscal year.

An estimate of the fiscal and human resources required for each task and a target date are also identified. In FY00 the Plan calls for an expenditure of \$880,000. The Plan identifies expenditures for FY01 (\$317,200), FY02 (\$246,500), FY03 (\$142,000) and FY04 (\$4,055,000). These funds have not been allocated by the State Legislature. This Plan will be used as a tool to advocate and gain support for funds to be allocated for the uses identified.

**TABLE 1  
Action Plan Overview  
FY 2000**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Time Frame (FY)</b>	<b>Estimated Costs \$</b>	<b>Funding Source*</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Public Safety/ADA	1	Renovate lift station and support system at the Dam Site Historical Area.	FY00	\$50,000	CIP	37
	9	Construct a split-rail barrier fence near rock raceways for public safety at Paseo del Rio Recreation Area.	FY00	\$2,000	AOB	22
	3	Procure one 25-foot patrol vessel with necessary communication and law enforcement accessories. (replacement for B-33)	FY00	\$65,000	BOAT	32
	2	Implement erosion control at grape arbor and adjacent areas at the Dam Site Historical Area.	FY00	\$80,000	BOR	22
	10	Install a mesh canopy over playground equipment at Ridge Road.	FY00	\$20,000	CIP	27
	12	Install concrete footings at the edge of asphalt roadways near Lions Beach Electric Area and the Rock Canyon Marina Parking lot.	FY00	\$2,000	AOB	33
2. Resource Protection	4	Install approximately 20 miles of post and cable fencing throughout the park over the five-year period.	FY00 - FY04	\$75,000	BOR	33
3. Develop/Maintain Facilities	6	Install water meters at Dam Site Restaurant and Dam Site RV Park.	FY00	\$1,000	AOB	23
	14	Install double gate at entrance to Paseo del Rio Recreational Area.	FY00	\$2,000	CIP	33
	17	Enhance facilities in the group reservation areas by installation of a potable water supply.	FY00	\$1,000	AOB	26
	13	Install one additional telephone line at the Boating Safety Training Center.	FY00	\$500	BOAT	31
	7	Upgrade Loop "A" Lions Beach Electric Area.	FY00	\$20,000	YCC	26
	5	Install septic waste lift system between Rock Canyon Marina and the Wetlands Sewage Treatment Facility.	FY00	\$25,000	OC	24/37
	8	Obtain 1 cellular telephone for use of park management and staff.	FY00	\$500	AOB	31
	15	Rehabilitate and stabilize the BOR Administration Building in the Dam Site Historical Area for conversion to a Bed and Breakfast.	FY00	\$500,000	BOR/ Title 28	21

<b>TABLE 1</b> <b>Action Plan Overview</b> <b>FY 2000</b>						
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Time Frame (FY)</b>	<b>Estimated Costs \$</b>	<b>Funding Source*</b>	<b>Page</b>
4. Education/ Interpretation	16	Enhance Luchini Trail system and develop Interpretive/Education Site.	FY00	\$35,000	BOR	28
	11	Install permanent information signs in the vicinity of Long Point Check Station encouraging volunteer visitor participation in payment of park fees.	FY00	\$1,000	CIP	29
		<b>TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$880,000</b>		

**AOB** (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **BOAT** (Boating Excise Tax/Motor Boat Fuel/Coast Guard Grant); **BOR** (Bureau of Reclamation); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **D.J.** (Dingell-Johnson: N.M. Department of Game and Fish); **INM** (Inmate Programs -Parks Division); **IWC** (Inmate Work Camp Program); **OC** (Offset Concessionaire); **PVT** (Private Sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **TBD** (To Be Determined); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration Funds); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps).

**TABLE 2  
Action Plan Overview  
FY 2001**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Time Frame (FY)</b>	<b>Estimated Costs \$</b>	<b>Funding Source*</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Public Safety/ADA	5	Develop river access with a trail system adjacent to Rio Grande at Paseo del Rio Recreation Area.	FY01	\$50,000	Trails/ TBD	28/34
	1	Purchase and install 65 replacement navigational buoys and necessary hardware.	FY01	\$30,000	BOAT	32
	4	Replace "Tuff Turf" panels at both playgrounds with poured-in-place material.	FY01	\$15,000	CIP	27
	2	Procure one 25-foot patrol vessel with necessary communication and law enforcement accessories. (Replacement for B-34)	FY01	\$70,000	BOAT	32
	6	Initiate development and publication of a marine chart of Elephant Butte Lake with prominent features and hazards located and identified.	FY01	\$20,000	BOAT	29
2. Resource Protection	3	Continue to install approximately 20 miles of post and cable fencing throughout the park.	FY01 - FY04	See Table 1	BOR	33
3. Develop/ Maintain Facilities	7	Replace main water lines in the Dam Site/Winding Roads area.	FY01	\$50,000	BOR	35
	11	Rehabilitate nature trail in Winding Roads Historical Area.	FY01	\$20,000	Trails/ AOB	28
	10	Install group shelter (30' X 30') in upper portion of Winding Roads Day Use Area.	FY01	\$30,000	CIP	26
	8	Install 6 metal canopies at picnic sites in the Winding Roads Day Use Area.	FY01	\$24,000	CIP	26
	9	Install 10 freeze-proof community water hydrants at Paseo del Rio Recreational Area, and improve landscape	FY01	\$8,200	CIP/ AOB	26
			<b>TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$317,200</b>	

**AOB** (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **BOAT** (Boating Excise Tax/Motor Boat Fuel/Coast Guard Grant); **BOR** (Bureau of Reclamation); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **D.J.** (Dingell-Johnson: N.M. Department of Game and Fish); **INM** (Inmate Programs -Parks Division); **IWC** (Inmate Work Camp Program); **OC** (Offset Concessionaire); **PVT** (Private Sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **TBD** (To Be Determined); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration Funds); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps).

<b>TABLE 3 FY 2002</b>						
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Time Frame (FY)</b>	<b>Estimated Costs \$</b>	<b>Funding Source*</b>	<b>Page</b>
2. Resource Protection	3	Continue to install approximately 20 miles of post and cable fencing throughout the park.	FY02 - FY04	See Table 1	BOR	33
3. Develop/ Maintain Facilities	4	Install 3 equipment canopies adjacent to rear wall of Maintenance Yard.	FY02	\$8,500	CIP	29
	2	Install small vehicle wash bay at the Maintenance Yard.	FY02	\$2,000	AOB	29
	1	Upgrade Loop "C" Lions Beach Electric Area.	FY02	\$25,000	YCC	26
	8	Perform electrical upgrades of at least 6 residences located at Winding Roads, Paseo del Rio and Hospital Canyon.	FY02	\$60,000	CIP/TBD	29
	7	Renovate office and construct maintenance facility at the Boating Safety Training Center.	FY02	\$75,000	BOAT	29
4. Education/ Interpretation	5	Rehabilitate and stabilize historic Hatchery Building in Paseo del Rio area.	FY02	\$75,000	BOR/ TBD	22
	6	Develop brochure detailing cultural and natural resources as well as general park information.	FY02	\$1,000	AOB	29
		<b>TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$246,500</b>		

**AOB** (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **BOAT** (Boating Excise Tax/Motor Boat Fuel/Coast Guard Grant); **BOR** (Bureau of Reclamation); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **D.J.** (Dingell-Johnson: N.M. Department of Game and Fish); **INM** (Inmate Programs -Parks Division); **IWC** (Inmate Work Camp Program); **OC** (Offset Concessionaire); **PVT** (Private Sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **TBD** (To Be Determined); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration Funds); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps).

<b>TABLE 4 FY – 2003</b>						
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Time Frame (FY)</b>	<b>Estimated Costs \$</b>	<b>Funding Source*</b>	<b>Page</b>
1. Public Safety/ADA	2	Purchase and install 65 replacement navigational buoys and necessary hardware.	FY03	\$30,000	BOAT	32
2. Resource Protection	3	Continue to install approximately 20 miles of post and cable fencing throughout the park.	FY04	See Table 1	BOR	33
	5	Implement designated campsites at North Cedar Canyon.	FY03	\$2,000	AOB	25
3. Develop/Maintain Facilities	1	Construct two additional RV Dump Stations. (Possible locations: Rock Canyon and South Monticello Point Recreation Areas)	FY03	\$60,000	CIP	26
	4	Renovate and stabilize the adobe warehouse at the Region 3 yard.	FY03	\$50,000	BOR	22/23
		<b>TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$142,000</b>		

**AOB** (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **BOAT** (Boating Excise Tax/Motor Boat Fuel/Coast Guard Grant); **BOR** (Bureau of Reclamation); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **D.J.** (Dingell-Johnson: N.M. Department of Game and Fish); **INM** (Inmate Programs -Parks Division); **IWC** (Inmate Work Camp Program); **OC** (Offset Concessionaire); **PVT** (Private Sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **TBD** (To Be Determined); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration Funds); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps).

<b>TABLE 5</b>						
<b>FY – 2004</b>						
<b>Goal</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Time Frame (FY)</b>	<b>Estimated Costs \$</b>	<b>Funding Source*</b>	<b>Page</b>
2. Resource Protection	2	Continue to install approximately 20 miles of post and cable fencing throughout the park.	FY01 - FY04	See Table 1	BOR	33
3. Develop/Maintain Facilities	1	Procure 50 three-cubic-yard capacity solid waste receptacles.	FY04	\$25,000	CIP	36
	3	Construct new electrified RV campground consisting of 50 additional RV sites southeast of Desert Cove Campground.	FY04	\$1.6 Million	CIP	26
	5	Construct new electrified RV campground in South Monticello Point Recreation Area including comfort stations and necessary infrastructure.	FY04	\$2.0 Million	CIP	26
	4	Construct boat launch ramp in South Monticello Point Recreation Area and install a new 60' courtesy dock with double walkway.	FY04	\$430,000	BOAT contingent on lake elevation	30
		<b>TOTAL FY PROPOSED EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$4.055 Million</b>		

**AOB** (Annual Operating Budget-Parks Division); **BOAT** (Boating Excise Tax/Motor Boat Fuel/Coast Guard Grant); **BOR** (Bureau of Reclamation); **CIP** (Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division); **DJ** (Dingell-Johnson: NM Department of Game and Fish); **INM**(Inmate Programs -Parks Division); **IWC** (Inmate Work Camp Program); **OC** (Offset Concessionaire); **PVT** (Private Sector/Volunteers/Friends Groups); **TBD** (To Be Determined); **TRAILS** (Federal Highway Administration Funds); **YCC** (Youth Conservation Corps).

## **2. POLICY DIRECTIVES**

The Policy Directives summarized below have been developed to support and carry out the overall mission of EBLSP during the planning period.

- a. Continue to upgrade and expand facilities and the supporting infrastructure, while protecting the natural and cultural resources, in an effort to provide a better visitor experience.
- b. Continue to enhance the visitor experience by establishing usage policies and carrying capacities, and by defining the physical boundaries of campsites with an emphasis on the protection of the natural and cultural resources.
- c. Provide better public awareness of availability of park facilities and locations, as well as an increased knowledge of rules, regulations, and policies through improved communications.
- d. Continue the refinement of the holiday management plan for major holiday weekends. This plan has been designed to be general in scope in order to keep up with changing trends in visitor use and new visitor management concepts.
- e. Develop a quality and viable interpretive program to maximize interpretive capabilities within the EBLSP staff.
- f. Provide effective administration of all lease lot issues in an effort to provide consistent implementation of policies and to correct past discrepancies.
- g. Monitor the increasing use of personal watercraft (PWC) and the associated risks and noise. Implement changes based on visitor impact.
- h. Explore alternative uses for specific areas of the park, land and water, such as day use beach areas, no camping areas, expanded group reservation areas, special event locations and seasonal closures.

## **II. PARK DESCRIPTION**

### **A. BACKGROUND**

EBLSP encompasses approximately 31,000 surface acres of waters from the Rio Grande impounded behind Elephant Butte Dam, as well as 30,089 land acres. For a detailed description of parklands, refer to Contract # 14-06-500-2087, Lease Agreement between the United States of America and the State of New Mexico kept at EBLSP office. The Secretary of Interior approved Elephant Butte Dam in 1905 and Congress appropriated funds in 1907 under the Reclamation Act of 1902. However, acquisition of the land, which was to be inundated by the dammed waters, delayed start of the construction until 1912. Accumulation of water behind the dam began in 1915, the dam was completed in 1916 and A. A. Jones, a representative of President Woodrow Wilson, formally dedicated it on October 19, 1916. At the time of its construction it was the largest dam in the world, and Elephant Butte Lake was the world's largest man-made reservoir. The dam was designated as a National Historical Civil Engineering Landmark in 1977, and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in

1979. A hydroelectric power plant capable of producing 27,900-kilowatt hours of electrical energy was added in 1940. The dam, reservoir, and power plant continue to be maintained and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation, United States Department of the Interior (BOR).

The first recreational facilities were constructed in the late 1930s. At that time, the Civilian Conservation Corps constructed the facilities east of the dam. These areas are known as the Dam Site Area and the Winding Roads Day Use Area. The area below the dam is known as Region 3 Headquarters and the Paseo del Rio Recreational Area.

EBLSP, as it is today, was established in 1964 under the New Mexico Park and Recreation Commission as authorized by Chapter 98 of the Emergency Laws Enacted by the twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of New Mexico, approved on March 6, 1963. Governor Jack Campbell conducted groundbreaking ceremonies on April 15, 1965, with dedication on October 15, 1965.

## **B. KEY FEATURES**

EBLSP is the primary aquatic destination for many New Mexicans and for visitors to southwestern New Mexico from all over the nation. Located in the dramatic landscape of the northern Chihuahuan desert, it has become an oasis in an otherwise arid environment. Visitors are attracted to the lake's sandy accessible shoreline, and the clear, warm waters for fishing, boating, sailing, swimming, and water skiing. The lakeshore provides a retreat for resident wildlife as well as seasonally migrating species of waterfowl. Elephant Butte Dam facilitates irrigation from north of Hatch, New Mexico to below El Paso, Texas, as well as into the state of Chihuahua, Mexico, and generates hydroelectric power for the surrounding area.

EBLSP offers many conveniences for the outdoor recreation enthusiast. Visitors can choose to camp along the miles of undeveloped sandy beaches, or at one of four improved campgrounds fringing the shoreline. Improvements to campgrounds include electrical and water hookups, showers, flush toilets and delineated campsites. Day use areas adjacent to the lake and along the river permit opportunities for picnicking. Two improved nature trails, as well as the seemingly endless shoreline, offer the hiker hours of walking experience. Three marinas and two paved launch ramps accommodate boating visitors.

The area surrounding Elephant Butte Lake is rich in both natural and cultural history. Desert mountain ranges and millions of years of geologic history surround the lake, situated in the Rio Grande rift valley. Many natural features attest to the region's volcanically active past, including the basaltic island formation, which appears to resemble a large elephant's head, trunk and ear, and for which the lake is named. The sedimentary layers of earth surrounding the lake hold tangible evidence of ancient life in the form of plant fossils and fauna remains.

The history of human presence has also been recorded in the Elephant Butte area. Ancestral Pueblo settlements and villages have now receded into the silent landscape. Fort McRae,

established prior to the Civil War and which is now a significant historical site, is presently inundated by the waters of the lake. Many of the structures associated with the construction of the dam are intact and some are still in use in the Dam Site Historical Area.

**III. VISITATION and REVENUE**

**A. VISITATION**

**Table 6  
Annual Visitation**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Visitation</b>
98	1,804,833
97	1,754,055
96	1,771,992
95	1,814,269
94	1,610,383

EBLSP receives most of its visitation in the summer months, March through September. Typically, summer visitation starts slow, peaks in July and declines through September. Park staff, as well as the communities of Elephant Butte and Truth or Consequences, combine efforts to facilitate special events during non-peak weekends to stimulate additional visitation.

Based on staff observations and recent visitor surveys, the majority of the visitors in the summer are water enthusiasts participating in all related activities. Although fishing is a year-round sport, peak activity occurs in the spring and fall. The majority of park visitors come from within New Mexico and the surrounding southwestern states including Arizona, Colorado, and Texas.<sup>1</sup>

**B. REVENUE**

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<sup>1</sup>Additional visitor information can be obtained through documents that are retained at the EBLSP administrative offices. The following documents are included:

1. New Mexico State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan.
2. Economic Impacts of New Mexico State Parks: An Input-Output Analysis.
3. Elephant Butte Lake Visitor Survey. (Conducted in April of 1997)

<b>Table 7</b>				
<b>Concession, Lease Lot, and Self Generated Revenues</b>				
<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Concession Receipts</b>	<b>Lease Lot Receipts</b>	<b>Self Generated Receipts</b>	<b>Total</b>
98	\$143,947.15	\$209,842.00	\$751,788.17	\$1,072,893.61
97	\$98,937.47	\$206,160.00	\$670,726.97	\$974,257.89
96	\$74,510.60	\$205,646.00	\$703,658.08	\$944,987.00
95	\$106,518.74	\$206,181.00	\$656,319.44	\$932,508.00
94	\$89,066.13	\$204,647.00	\$606,511.18	\$868,701.00
<b>AVERAGE</b>				\$958,629.46

Table 7, above, demonstrates that EBLSP generates an average of \$958,629.46 annually. Self-generated receipts are received through day use, overnight camping and other services such as the use of the group shelters, group reservation areas, special use permits, and from fees generated by the sailboat “mast up” storage facility.

EBLSP presently has 21 self-pay stations located at all major entrances to the park. In addition, park personnel and volunteers are assigned to check stations at Hot Springs Cove, South Rock Canyon, Long Point, and South Monticello Point on busier weekends and on all major holidays. Efforts are underway to reduce the number of self-pay stations and to encourage visitors to self-pay at major locations before proceeding into the park. Improvement of notification through prominent informational signs advising visitors they must remit fees prior to entrance into EBLSP at the Long Point and South Monticello Point check stations will assist in accomplishing this goal, as identified in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$1,000. The proposed modifications of the two locations may permit the removal of as many as five self-pay stations between these two points.

Future expansion at South Monticello Point Recreation Area (SMPRA) should have a pronounced impact on generated revenues in the northern park areas. Park staff will study the visitation in these areas to determine the need for additional pay stations and services.

Concession receipts should remain fairly stable with slight increases expected. Efforts are underway to standardize concession contracts, which may include provisions to allow concessions to offset a portion of their payments to the State to improve public facilities.

Lease lot revenues are also expected to remain fairly stable. However, the BOR is in the process of creating a Resource Management Plan, which will provide several options for determining the future of the lease lots for EBLSP.

#### **IV. EXISTING OPERATIONS/FACILITIES and PROPOSED ACTIONS**

##### **A. OPERATIONS and MANAGEMENT**

###### **Lands/Realty**

EBLSP lands are leased from the BOR until 2023. Currently, the BOR leases a total of 61,089 acres (30,089 land acres) to the state for operation of the Park. Adjacent properties are owned by federal and state agencies as well as private landowners. There are 348 lease lots located within the boundaries of EBLSP in seven lease lot areas. Land to the south and west of this park is owned by the BOR with the exception of approximately 180 acres owned by Falls Properties, Inc. Land to the north is under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Property bordering the eastern boundary of the park consists of privately owned lots at Champagne Hills and an extensive ranch, once known as the Pedro Armandaris Land Grant #33, which spans the entire length of the lake, north to south.

###### **Hours of Operation**

EBLSP is open 365 days per year, 24 hours per day; with the exception of those areas which are seasonally closed (refer to seasonal closures below), or those areas or facilities which are closed temporarily for maintenance or safety purposes or areas which have reached capacity limits. The office is generally open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily.

###### **Seasonal Closures**

Closures of portions of EBLSP during periods of low visitor population have been instituted to permit more efficient use of resources and provide an opportunity for the natural resources to recover from periods of heavy visitor use. Restricting access to specific areas of the park and limiting access to specific physical facilities permits concentration of limited staff efforts to those areas and facilities remaining open. The intent of this policy is not to exclude visitors from enjoying recreational opportunities, but rather to simultaneously relieve impact on the natural resources as the park effectively employs a reduced staff. During periods of low visitation, the staff addresses maintenance issues and park projects in preparation for the summer season. Certain areas and facilities, which are considered to be representative of a cross section of all recreational opportunities, are available and are designated to remain open and accessible to visitors.

Designated closures are in effect annually from October 15 through March 15. Dates are guidelines and may be adjusted contingent upon visitation.

1. Areas that are closed include:
  - A. Lower Ridge Road Electric Area
  - B. South Rock Canyon
  - C. Cliffs
  - D. Long Point
  - E. North Lake shore Highlands
  - F. Club Cove
  
2. Facilities, which are winterized and closed, include:
  - A. Comfort Station #1 (Ridge Road South)
  - B. Comfort Station #2 (Ridge Road North)
  - C. Comfort Station #3 (Lion's Beach)
  - D. Rock Canyon Comfort Station
  - E. Paseo del Rio Comfort Station
  - F. Outdoor Showers
  - G. Dam Site Comfort Station
  - H. Electricity and meters are disconnected from the following areas and facilities:
    - a. Ridge Road Group Shelter
    - b. Lower Ridge Road Electric Area
    - c. Check Stations at Hot Springs Cove, South Rock Canyon, Long Point and South Monticello Point
  

Chemical toilets are delivered to the Dam Site Recreation Area and Paseo del Rio Campground for utilization by visitors during the closure of the comfort stations.

  
3. Areas that remain open year round for recreational use include:
  - A. Winding Roads Day Use Area
  - B. Paseo del Rio Campground
  - C. Main Area of EBLSP
  - D. Hot Springs Cove
  - E. Cedar Canyon
  - F. Three Sisters
  - G. South Monticello
  - H. North Monticello
  - I. Rock House

## **Maintenance**

Reference Section 11, *Parks Policy & Procedures Manual; Parks Standards of Care Manual*.

### **Emergencies**

Reference section 5, *Parks Policy and Procedures Manual*.

### **Regional Support Services**

The Region 3 Administrative Office is located in the Paseo del Rio campground. An Administrator 2, Plant Operations Specialist, Vehicle Mechanic 3 and a Heavy Equipment Operator 3 support the Regional Manager's operations.

The Regional Warehouse stocks park supplies for region-wide distribution. Supplies are purchased in bulk and distributed to the parks. In addition, specialized tools and equipment are maintained at the warehouse and are available for use by the parks.

The mechanic's shop is located at the Regional Warehouse. The regional mechanic completes repairs on vehicle and equipment that requires specialized experience and tools. Routine maintenance and repairs will be performed at the park level.

### **Rules and Policies**

EBLSP uses the standard Division and Department policies for operational guidance. These include the EMNRD's Policy Manual Division Policy Manual, Division's Standards of Care Manual and the Administrative Service Division's Procedures Manual. State Personnel policies govern the park's personnel procedures. These policy books are kept up to date and employees have access to these books. New employees are required to read and sign all policy books.

## **B. NATURAL RESOURCES**

The park includes dramatic geologic features and hosts a variety of migrating and resident waterfowl and other wildlife. Protecting these natural resources is a significant part of the park's mission. The following summarizes the existing conditions of these resources.

### **Geological Resources**

The geologic features surrounding Elephant Butte Lake present a fascinating story of erosion forces and tectonic activity. The rolling Chihuahuan Desert topography is cut by boulder-strewn tributary canyons, which carry the seasonal thunderstorm run-off that serves to shape the arid terrain. The lake, edged by wide, sandy beaches on the western shores, rests along the Rio Grande Rift Valley, formed 30 million years ago as a result of fault-block movement

that stretched the length of the state. Shadowing the Rio Grande Valley to the west, the basalt ridges of the Black Range and the San Mateo Mountains, formed by magma oozing through the sedimentary layers, are visible on the horizon.

Fringing the eastern shores north and south are the high mesas and jagged peaks of the Fra Cristobal Range and the Caballo Mountains, respectively. The eastern ranges were formed during the same fault-block episode that created the river valley and consist of Precambrian granite and gneiss overlaid with sedimentary layers of sandstone, limestone, and shales. Embedded in the sedimentary formations are clues to early life in the region. Fossilized plant and animal remains record the environmental conditions 200 million years ago.

Unique landmarks such as Kettle Top Butte and the Elephant Butte are composed of ancient sedimentary layers, which were later capped with erosion-resistant basalt. Rattlesnake Island, a remnant of a volcanic maar, is one of dozens of eroded volcanic necks that dot the desert landscape.

## **Rio Grande**

The Rio Grande flows southward approximately three-quarters of a mile from the base of the Elephant Butte Dam to the Park boundary. The cool, clear waters of the river below the dam support rainbow trout as well as white bass, walleye, largemouth bass, catfish, carp, and shad. Shallow river waters are prime fishing territories for osprey and bald eagle. North of Catfish Camp, the silty waters of the Rio Grande also provide habitat for the endangered silvery minnow. The riverine environment showcases the diversity of the southwest in addition to offering visitors an alternative to lake recreation.

## **Climate and Vegetation**

### **1. Climate**

The Elephant Butte Lake area averages 8.4 inches of precipitation annually, receiving most of the moisture July through September. The temperatures average between 43 - 76.5 degrees F with the high and low extremes near 110 and 9 degrees F, respectively. The mean evaporation is 94 inches per year.

### **2. Vegetation**

Trees commonly found in the park and throughout the Chihuahuan Desert are one-seed juniper, creosote bush, little leaf sumac, desert willow, cat-claw acacia and honey mesquite. Other scrub vegetation includes soap tree yucca, desert sage, ocotillo, several species of cactus, and Mormon tea. Johnson grass as well as Bermuda grass supplies

seed for ground feeding birds. Fringing the river and arroyos, the riparian vegetation includes cattail, cottonwood, salt cedar, coyote willow, and Emory oak.

## **Wildlife**

EBLSP is richly populated with diverse mammal species that find refuge and suitable habitat in the Chihuahuan Desert environment. Due to extensive, undeveloped shoreline and an abundant undisturbed habitat, many species thrive in this unique place where arid land meets a large body of water. Large predators, such as mountain lion, bobcat, fox, and coyote are sustained by mule deer, pocket gopher, ground squirrel, smaller rodents, jack rabbit and desert cottontail. Beaver, badger, raccoon, porcupine, and several species of bats and skunk also share the desert habitat. Black bears occasionally visit EBLSP.

Elephant Butte Lake draws hundreds of varieties of birds and many bird watchers seasonally due to its proximity to the Bosque del Apache (60 miles north) National Wildlife Refuge and its location along the Rio Grande flyway. Diverse species of migratory and resident waterfowl, raptors and other birds occur along the extensive shoreline at EBLSP. During the months of September through March, the quiet inlets and bays, bordered with thickets of salt cedar and willow, provide secluded breeding and nesting areas for waterfowl including mallards, Mexican/mallard hybrids, ruddy ducks, Clark's grebes and western grebes.

In recent years, bald eagles frequently winter in areas along the eastern shores of the lake and along the river. Inland, roadrunners, rock wrens, hummingbirds, wild turkey, several varieties of warblers and woodpeckers, ravens, doves, and both Gambel's and scaled quail are frequently seen. Red-tailed hawks, golden eagles, owls, kestrels, turkey vultures and other raptors also share resources at Elephant Butte.

The lake and its surrounding shore support many species of reptiles, amphibians and fish including snakes, lizards, frogs and toads. Several kinds of bass as well as catfish, carp, crappie, bluegill and walleye inhabit the moderate waters of the lake.

EBLSP lands and waters offer precious habitat for several species of animals listed as endangered in New Mexico, such as the common black hawk, peregrine falcon, western ribbon snake, and the Rio Grande subspecies of the bluntnose shiner.

In order to preserve these conditions, there are no plans to expand or develop areas north of the South Monticello Point Recreation Area.

## **C. CULTURAL RESOURCES**

### **Cultural Resource Management**

Cultural resources within the boundaries of EBLSP are subject to federal and state cultural resource protection laws (see Appendix E). Any development will be coordinated with the State Park Cultural Resources Planner and the BOR to avoid impact to significant cultural resources. Park personnel will work to preserve and protect cultural resources from impacts by the public or from environmental factors. Culturally sensitive area such as Kettle Top and other pre-contact archaeological sites should be evaluated as to the necessity of cultural management, protection, and interpretation. This will be accomplished by staff and supported by AOB.

### **Archaeological Sites**

Archaeological surveys and inventories for the west shore of EBLSP have been conducted from 1993 to 1997 through efforts directed by the BOR. Surveys are underway on the east shore and within the lease lot areas. Sites can be found on the shores, ridges, and mesas surrounding the lake, and some are submerged underwater. Many of these resources are eligible for listing, or have been listed, on the National Register of Historic Places for their potential to provide information about both prehistoric and historic inhabitants.

The pattern of human occupation in this area has fluctuated greatly over time. The region has been utilized intermittently by different culture groups, as attested to by the wide range of existing archaeological sites.

### **Historic Buildings and Structures**

A series of historic buildings and structures have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The dam itself is a very significant engineering property within the state and has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1979. The dam has significance for its role in regulating the distribution of water from the Rio Grande between the United States and Mexico. Furthermore, the structural integrity and workmanship of Elephant Butte Dam is phenomenal, and its architectural style stands out, particularly for its unusual ornamentation combined with a utilitarian design.

An additional series of historic buildings and structures related to dam construction are also listed as part of the National Register district within EBLSP. The BOR Building still survives in the Dam Site Historical Area. This large adobe building dates to 1911 and is currently in need of renovation. A historic building renovation plan and architectural plans have been drawn up for this building and appropriate funding has been identified through the BOR, concessionaire support and the Division in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$500,000.

The original pump house for water supply at Elephant Butte during construction of the dam was reconditioned in 1939 by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) for use at the fish hatchery, but dates to the 1911 time frame. The community jail, constructed in the same era, still remains. This small concrete building has a castle-like appearance due to its crenelated parapet and original handwriting on the interior that details the lives of the prisoners. This structure was later used as a powder house. Finally, the water tank on Water Tank Hill, built between 1908 – 1909, is listed as a significant structure that supplied water to the early dam community.

Buildings and structures related to the CCC period abound at EBLSP. The fish hatchery group is a significant part of the National Register Historic District. Properties that are contributing to this district include the fish hatchery, the fish hatchery residence, the hatchery office building and the concrete raceways and stone-lined drainage ditches (all constructed between 1937 - 1939). These raceways and drainage ditches pose a safety hazard and split rail barrier fences will be installed in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$2,000. The fish hatchery structures worked together as a unit to provide fish for stocking the Elephant Butte reservoir, the Caballo Reservoir and the Rio Grande. A significant renovation/upgrade of the actual hatchery building has been planned for FY02 at an estimated cost of \$75,000. This may be funded by BOR.

Other CCC-period buildings and structures that are listed on the National Register are located at the south end of the lake. For example, in Hospital Canyon, two Pueblo Revival style buildings currently used as housing date from 1941.

The CCC worked extensively in the dam site to enhance recreational opportunities. Historic buildings in this area include the concession building (1937 - 1938), the rest rooms (1938 - 1940), the arbor or pergola (1938 - 1940), and the boathouse (1937 - 1939). The CCC masonry walls, terracing and landscaping along the lake shore area adjacent to the grape arbor at the Dam Site Historical Area date from 1934 - 1941 and are currently being damaged due to high water levels in the lake. This erosion has caused safety concerns for the public. Significant stabilization and repairs are needed and have been planned for FY00 at an estimated cost of \$80,000.

The adobe warehouse located at the Region 3 maintenance yard is a product of the CCC era and is showing signs of deterioration. Stabilization and renovation of this building are planned in FY03 at an estimated cost of \$50,000. The BOR is the proposed funding source.

The CCC also built a series of cabins along the lakeshore between 1939 and 1941. Cabins 1 - 15 were built in the Pueblo Revival style and have value as part of the early CCC recreational improvements to the area. Due to the unstable grade of the shore and the masonry construction, these cabins will require on-going maintenance and repair, which are the responsibility of the concessionaire. If major construction costs are necessary, an offset of the concessionaire's payment to the state may be considered to fund the project. Inspections of the condition of the cabins will be performed quarterly by park staff.

Division officials are in the process of entering an agreement with BOR to standardize the cultural clearance process for maintenance and repairs to some of the historical buildings. Buildings and structures requiring extensive repairs or renovations that visually impact the structures will go through a separate clearing process.

## **D. FACILITIES/STRUCTURES**

### **Concession Facilities**

EBLSP currently has four major concessionaires:

1. Dam Site, Inc. is the southern most marina facility in EBLSP and is located near Elephant Butte Dam. The present contract with Dam Site, Inc. is in effect until 2015. The venture consists of a full service restaurant with a lounge, a marina with a store, 121 rental slips, 77 mooring buoys, 14 rental cabins and a small private RV park with approximately 29 spaces. In addition to gasoline sales at the marina, the store offers staple provisions. Houseboats, ski boats, and fishing boats are available for rent.

Dam Site, Inc. occupies several historical buildings in order to operate its concession and is responsible for the daily maintenance and repair of these buildings. The cost of major renovation or construction to the buildings and service utilities is subject to negotiation between the concessionaire, the Division and the BOR.

In FY00, the Old BOR Administration Building located in the Dam Site Historical Area will be rehabilitated and turned over to this concessionaire to manage as a bed and breakfast. In order to monitor the efficient usage of water by the Dam Site concessionaire, water meters have been planned for installation for FY00 at an estimated cost of \$1,000, funded by the park's annual operating budget.

2. Marina Del Sur is located inside the main entrance to EBLSP near the main launching facility. The contract with Marina Del Sur is in effect until 2011. The marina facility has 166 slips and four mooring buoy lines. Marina Del Sur has a store, subleases a Subway sandwich shop on the premises, and has a sub-lease agreement with a business providing Lake Tours. In addition, gasoline sales, houseboats, ski boats, fishing boats and personal watercraft rentals are available.
3. Rock Canyon Marina is located on the East Point of Rock Canyon approximately five miles north of the main entrance to EBLSP. The present contract with Rock Canyon Marina is in effect until 2019. The marina facility has 138 slips and 50 mooring buoys. Rock Canyon Marina has a store, a service center, sells gasoline and provides rental of houseboats, ski boats and fishing boats. Rock Canyon Marina also permits public night fishing from the east dock of the facility. Rock Canyon Marina

and EBLSP share common water well which services the marina and one of the park's comfort stations.

In FY00, the concessionaire, through offsets in percentage payments, will construct a septic waste lift system from Rock Canyon Marina to the Wetlands Sewage Treatment Facility. New Mexico revenue from this agreement will be offset by approximately \$25,000. The marina will upgrade the electrical service to the boat slips in order to accommodate additional demands from customers. The contract stipulates that within the next five years, approximately 50 to 60 new boat slips will be added.

4. Sports Adventure is located on the northeast corner of Long Point approximately seven miles north of the main entrance to EBLSP. The current concession contract expires in 2000. A proposal for consideration of a new contract is planned by the current concessionaire and is not available as of this writing. Sports Adventure is primarily a seasonal operation providing personal watercraft, houseboat, ski boat, and fishing boat rentals. Sports Adventure is the only concessionaire that provides parasail rides to the public. Sports Adventure also hosts Lone Tree Camp which is a nonprofit youth camp in which dozens of young adults stay on-site in portable dormitories as part of an ongoing teaching and training curriculum.

#### Concessions (unmet demand)

In recognizing the potential for environmental health hazards and in consideration of The recreating public, future concessions at Elephant Butte Lake State Park shall adhere to the following guidelines:

1. With the exception of a possible new marina facility in the South Monticello Recreation Area all future concessions are to be land based.
2. Potential new concessions should be prepared to show a substantial monetary investment in land based facilities in order to demonstrate a long-term commitment to operating within the park.
3. Recognizing the potential for environmental and boating hazards, and concern for displacing the recreating public, water based food concessions will not be considered under this plan.

#### Concessions (demonstrated demand)

There are four major concessions in operation at EBLSP. At present public services are adequately met by these concessionaires in the areas they serve. In accordance with the current concessionaire contracts, new concessions of a similar nature will not be considered

until existing concessionaires have had an opportunity to expand their facilities if they choose to do so.

A new marina concession may be granted in the South Monticello Recreation area following the completion of planned improvements, to more broadly disperse use of the lake, while satisfying demonstrated demand for additional facilities of this type. Improvements identified under this plan include the construction of a new boat-launching ramp and up to 180 developed recreational vehicle campsites. A new marina concession is intended, in part,

Additional concession contracts may be granted if they are in accordance with the Concessions Activities Policy (19 NMAC 5.5).

#### Concession Permits: Guide Cards

EBLSP will allow the issuance of up to 10 primary guide cards to operate in each year under this plan. If requests exceed allocations, additional cards may be considered the following year based on a management evaluation, taking into consideration demand and the ability of the resource base to sustain additional use.

#### **Recreation Facilities/Areas**

Appendix A identifies the recreational facilities in the park. Facilities are generally in good condition and may need some maintenance at various times. Facilities will not be replaced unless indicated below.

Remote areas within the park will be monitored and managed for natural resources protection, visitor safety, visitor impact, and staff resources. Catfish Camp will be a pack in/pack out remote area monitored by staff as a “no service” location. Indian Springs will retain existing services and will be maintained as a primitive location.

As indicated in Appendix A, there are several types of camping available at EBLSP.

1. Primitive sites: The majority of EBLSP is available for primitive camping. EBLSP staff will explore the possibility of developing some designated primitive sites by establishing boundaries and capacities to lessen the impact on the natural resource. A pilot project will be implemented in FY03 at North Cedar Canyon at an estimated cost of \$2,000.
2. Developed Sites: These are available in the Main Area of EBLSP along Ridge Road, and in the Paseo del Rio Campground.
3. Recreational Vehicle Sites: Presently there are 111 recreational vehicle sites located in EBLSP with 30 to 50 amp service. These sites are located in the Main area of the park at Desert Cove Campground, Quail Run Campground and Lions Beach Electric Area.

Campsites in Loop “A” and Loop “C” of Lions Beach Electric Area are planned to be renovated in FY00 and FY02 respectively, at a total cost of approximately \$45,000. YCC grant applications will be sought to fund this project. Renovations will be accomplished by installing shelters, grading sites, timber delineation, and upgrading the water and electrical systems in both areas.

The first phase of the SMPRA has been completed with the construction of a maintenance and administrative building, installation of utilities, installation of three manufactured homes, and improvements to the roads within EBLSP necessary to support the completed facilities. Additional facilities include 180 recreational vehicle campsites with electricity, and three full service comfort stations. A paved boat launching ramp along with roads, utilities and parking facilities to support the increased utilization of the area will be scheduled for construction when necessary assets can be provided. This is planned for FY 04 and funded by CIP at an estimated cost of \$2.0 million.

Further improvements to RV sites are planned by constructing a second loop of 50 recreational vehicle sites near the Desert Cove Campground in FY04, funded by CIP at an estimated cost of \$1.6 million.

EBLSP has two recreational vehicle dump stations located at Desert Cove and Lions Beach. Two additional dump stations, one in the vicinity of Rock Canyon and one in the vicinity of South Monticello Point have been discussed and planned for construction in FY03 at an estimated cost of \$60,000 funded by CIP. The assessment indicated these dump stations were needed to accommodate the increasing numbers of visitors utilizing portions of EBLSP north of Hot Springs Cove.

EBLSP is unique among state parks in that Desert Cove Campground has a campsite reservation system in effect from March 1 through September 30 annually. Group reservations are also available at three sites located within the park. These sites allow groups to reserve a beach area instead of relying on a first-come-first-serve basis. Improvements to the group reservation areas will include providing a potable water supply in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$1,000 funded by the park AOB. A detailed description of the reservation system can be found in the EBLSP Administrative Offices.

Several improvements are planned in the Winding Roads Day Use Area and Paseo del Rio Campground in FY01. These improvements include the construction of a new 30- foot by 30-foot group shelter and the installation six metal canopies at Winding Roads at a cost of \$54,000 funded by CIP. Ten new freeze-proof water hydrants and a drip irrigation system are planned for installation in the Paseo del Rio campground to support planned landscape improvements at a total cost of \$8,200. The hydrants will be funded with \$1200 from the AOB and shrubs and landscaping materials will be funded with \$7000 from CIP.

EBLSP has one playground at Ridge Road in the main area and one at Winding Roads. Both are in good condition, with the exception of the rubber matting. This matting is glued down in squares and the squares have a tendency to separate and become uneven, creating a possible tripping hazard. In FY01, matting for both playgrounds will be replaced with a pour-in synthetic, which makes a solid platform at a cost of \$15,000, funding from CIP. In addition, the equipment in the Ridge Road Playground is extremely susceptible to heat in the summer months; installation of a mesh canopy to keep the area cooler is planned for FY00 at an estimated cost of \$20,000.

## **Education and Interpretation**

EBLSP is situated in a culturally rich, historically significant area, offering plentiful opportunities for visitor education and interpretation, vital aspects of the visitor experience, conceivably increasing visitor appreciation and protection of the natural resources.

### Current Educational Opportunities

1. The Visitor Center, located adjacent to the main entrance provides historical presentations focusing on the construction of the Dam, geological, and archaeological displays. In addition, examples of early life forms and fossils are exhibited.
2. EBLSP has two trails with interpretive value.
  - The Luchini Trail is named after Frank Luchini, a member of the nearby Truth or Consequences community, who was an active participant in the construction of the Dam in the early 1900s. The 1.6-mile trail introduces the visitor to Chihuahuan desert vegetation and habitat via signage and a corresponding illustrated brochure.
  - Located near the Dam Site Recreation area, a currently unnamed trail entices the hiker to explore a rocky hillside overlooking the lake. Signs label the diverse species of cactus and succulents as the trail winds through historic foundations and walls erected by the CCC.
3. The Richard E. Cooper Boating Safety Training Center (BSTC), formally dedicated on November 16, 1994, was named for the late Richard E. Cooper, Director of New Mexico State Parks for five years. The BSTC serves as a nucleus for a variety of boating safety training classes offered free to the public. Other training classes are provided to the public, other agencies and special interest groups. These additional classes include Water Safety, Swift Water Rescue, Marine Enforcement Training I, II, and III, Basic and Advanced Ranger Training, Defensive Driving and a variety of advanced law enforcement training classes. Guest instructors from related fields of expertise are invited to teach classes. Several of the staff at EBLSP are qualified

instructors and teach many of these classes. An ongoing program involves the Marine Enforcement Officers who visit area schools and present water safety classes to thousands of area students annually.

4. Eight glass-covered bulletin boards located both at the marinas and comfort stations throughout the improved campgrounds provide necessary information to the visitor.

### Interpretive Proposals

EBLSP is developing a variety of interpretive programs for visitors. The programs will be expanding in depth, quality, and diversity over the coming years. Volunteers and staff will be trained to assist with the presentation of educational programs including nature walks, slide presentations and evening talks. In addition, children's programs, craft workshops and park events are planned.

1. Luchini Trail - EBLSP is redesigning and upgrading the Luchini Trail to include an ADA-accessible amphitheater, new interpretive signage and improved trail tread. The trail's intended theme will be "adaptation," focusing on the unique ways that plants, animals and humans respond to extreme environmental conditions. Funding of \$35,000 for this project, planned for FY00, is provided by BOR.
2. Paseo del Rio Trail - EBLSP is planning to create a new trail which follows the Rio Grande just below the Dam in FY01 at an estimated cost of \$50,000. Funding is to be determined, pending grant approval from YCC or Trails. This trail will potentially include an ADA-accessible fishing area and interpretive signage. The historic fish hatchery building, when renovated with funding of \$75,000 from the BOR and other sources to be determined, and the hatchery pond could both be utilized as a significant part of an aquatics/environmental education center, similar in function to the facility at the Rio Grande Nature Center. The center could include a wildlife and bird observation area, water testing facilities and interactive displays. There is space available for feed plots to be located adjacent to the center.
3. New Trails - Several possibilities for trails (bike, hike and horseback riding and ADA-accessible) have been sited: the historic Dam-construction era railbed, the old Engle highway, and an old Jeep trail northeast of Winding Roads. These trails are in the planning stage and funding is to be determined.
4. Winding Roads Trail - Upgrades in signage, design, and trail tread are necessary to improve current trail conditions. This trail would make an excellent Scouting project. This project is planned for FY01 at an estimated cost of \$20,000 funding source to be determined, based on grant applications.

5. Historic Interpretation - Winding Roads, Dam Site, Elephant Butte Dam, the Water Tank, and other historic foundations and structures near the Regional Maintenance Area have all been recognized as historically significant. Each of these sites is an area worthy of interpretation as a way of increasing visitor awareness and honoring the past. Prehistoric archaeological sites, such as Kettle Top, that can be monitored, protected and preserved could be potential interpretive locations. Staff will be evaluating with the BOR the best means to take care of this site.
6. Visitor Information Entrance Signs - Permanent information signs should be installed in the vicinity of the Long Point Check Station to encourage voluntary visitor payment of park fees. \$1,000 for this will be funded by CIP in FY 00.

In FY01, EBLSP will initiate the development of a marine chart of Elephant Butte Lake to enhance the safety of the boating public at an estimated cost of \$20,000. The chart will be available to boaters and will indicate prominent features and identify boating hazards at various elevations. Funding source to be determined.

The development of a new brochure dealing with the cultural and natural resources of the park, as well as general park information, has been identified for FY02 at an estimated cost of \$1,000 from the AOB.

### **Administration**

There are several administrative and staff facilities located in the park, including an entrance station with a full service Visitor Center, and a separate park office with a shop area and maintenance yard. The park office will be remodeled in FY02, at an estimated cost of \$75,000. In an effort to develop more administrative space, existing shop facilities will be combined with the Boating Safety Training Center shop that same year. In addition, in FY02, three equipment canopies will be installed in the rear maintenance yard at an estimated cost of \$8,500 and a small vehicle wash bay will be placed under the existing vehicle canopy at an estimated cost of \$2,000 from AOB.

There are presently 12 park residences located in the park. All residences are occupied and are in fair to good condition. Residences at Winding Roads, Paseo del Rio, main entrance and one at Hospital Canyon will need to have electrical upgrades in FY02 at an estimated cost of \$60,000 funded by CIP.

There are currently four permanent check stations located at major entrance points to the park. These check stations are used primarily for summer operation and are staffed by seasonal employees and volunteers. For a detailed list of administrative facilities, refer to (Appendix A).

## **Boat Ramps and Docks**

There are three launching facilities maintained by EBLSP staff. An additional launching ramp is planned for construction at the SMPRA in FY04 utilizing Boat Excise Tax in the amount of \$430,000, as soon as water levels drop sufficiently to permit construction.

1. Dam Site Ramp (Located on the south side of the park near the Dam Site Recreation Area Cabins) -- This ramp is recommended for single lane launching and functions best at or near high water. It is often closed during lower lake elevations because of poor launching conditions. It is supported with one 60' boat dock that is maintained by EBLSP staff.
2. Main Launching Ramp (Located inside the main entrance of EBLSP near Marina Del Sur) -- This ramp offers 10 lanes of launching at high water and is by far the busiest ramp in the park. On busy weekends and holidays, EBLSP staff is assigned to ease congestion at this ramp by assisting visitors in launching and retrieving boats. The upper portion of the ramp is new concrete and is in good shape. As the water elevation drops to approximately 3987 feet, the surface of the new ramp meets the old ramp. However, there is approximately a 1-foot vertical difference in the two surfaces from the new ramp to the old ramp. EBLSP staff is prepared to ease the transition to the old ramp with the use of pre-poured concrete pads and steel grating. The pads and grating will be placed using a loader or backhoe to bridge the gap between the old ramp and new until the water drops sufficiently to pour new concrete. Two 90-foot courtesy docks, maintained by EBLSP staff support the main launching ramp.
3. Rock Canyon Ramp (Located south of the Rock Canyon Marina) -- This four-lane ramp was constructed in the early 1990's near the Rock Canyon Marina. It is in good condition and may be extended when water drops sufficiently. A 60-foot courtesy dock, maintained primarily by the Rock Canyon Marina staff with assistance from EBLSP staff, supports this ramp.

EBLSP staff also maintains a 45-foot courtesy dock in the Dirt Dam Reservation Area.

## **E. EQUIPMENT**

### **Communications**

The park's communications system is comprised of:

1. Public and business telephones. (discussed under Utilities)
2. Radios. (marine and land)

3. Fax machines.
4. Digital computers.
5. Cellular telephones -in the near future.

The recommendation is made that EBLSP obtain one cellular telephone for official business in FY00, at an estimated cost of \$500, to be used in addition to the fixed site phones located at the Visitor Center, the Maintenance Office, the Boating Safety Training Center, the Regional Warehouse and at SMPRA. These phones would be used by the on-call personnel and will be available for employees in order to enhance communications.

EBLSP personnel and specific volunteers are equipped with standard VHF radio communication equipment, which includes:

1. 17 hand held radios.
2. 4 base station radios located at:
  - a. The Maintenance Office.
  - b. The Boating Safety Training Center.
  - c. The Region 3 Warehouse.
  - d. The Visitor Center

Three temporary base stations are located at area check stations during their operation on busy summer weekends and holidays. An additional planned site for a base station is the maintenance facility at the SMPRA. Currently, EBLSP vehicles and vessels are equipped with radios that are capable of communicating on these frequencies:

1. New Mexico SPD frequencies, both local and repeater.
2. Sierra County Sheriff's Office, both local and repeater.
3. New Mexico State Police, both local and repeater.
4. Sierra County Fire and Rescue.
5. Marine Mobile Channel 16- for emergency use only.

**Note:** There are several radio "dead spots" located throughout the park. The installation of a new repeater tower within the park boundaries might eliminate these "dead spots" and enhance radio communications.

The park has several telephone lines for official use which accommodate most needs. However, some problems are being experienced in the form of lines being dedicated to computer and fax use. Anticipation is that the BSTC will require one additional line to accommodate a toll free public information number, and increased telecommunication needs as referenced in Table 1, FY00, at an estimated cost of \$500 funded by AOB.

### **Boating Equipment**

A complete list of boating equipment is identified in Attachment C.

EBLSP has an extensive boating program, encompassing all aspects of the boating realm from safe boating classes, to professional accredited training classes for multiple agencies, to a complete maintenance program, involving a fleet of several vessels, over 100 buoys, several docks, heavy equipment and ramps. Boating classes, Law Enforcement classes and other training relevant to the park mission are hosted at the BSTC. An additional boating building utilized for boating maintenance and vessel storage is also located at the SMPRA.

At present, boat docks and ramps are serviced with the park's front-end loader and a Gradall that was procured for ramp maintenance. The park has also modified a John Deere tractor with an attached box scraper for removal of sand from the boat ramps.

Estimated costs of \$30,000 each in FY 01 and FY 03 for replacement of buoys and associated hardware are identified in Tables 2 and 4. Past history dictates that approximately 65 buoys will need replacement every two years.

Two of the park vessels currently in operation have extensive hours and are expected to be replaced FY00(\$65,000) and FY01 (\$70,000) as indicated in Tables 1 and 2.

### **Field**

On hand field equipment is identified in Appendix C.

### **Office**

On hand office equipment is identified in Appendix C.

## **F. TRANSPORTATION and ACCESS**

### **Roads**

EBLSP staff maintains a portion of the roads within the park. Sierra County Road Department or State Highway and Transportation Department are responsible for maintaining the public roads which access the park and some that are within the park. Elephant Butte staff periodically grade roads in the lease lot areas and throughout the park, as equipment, time, funding and staffing allow, to insure that all roads are passable, especially for emergency vehicles.

Even though EBLSP has maintenance responsibility for less than five miles of paved roads, the estimated 150 miles of semi-improved and unimproved roadways along with a multitude of primitive trails places a significant burden upon the assets of EBLSP to provide adequate maintenance. Many of the roads necessary to access the vastness of EBLSP are not located

on park property, so can neither be maintained or improved utilizing park resources. Discussions remain ongoing between the Division, the Highway and Transportation Department and the Sierra County Road Department to identify fiscal resources to provide for the maintenance and improvement of roadways within EBLSP, as well as those providing access to all areas of the park.

Visitors attempting to access some of the more popular and remote camping areas are damaging the natural resource by creating new roads. EBLSP management policy is not to restrict access to those areas, but to direct traffic onto existing access routes. Measures are underway and partially completed to install post and cable fencing along main roadways to channel visitors toward desired avenues of access. These measures will take place from FY00 to FY04 at an approximate cost of \$75,000. These strategic access points will be identified to minimize adverse effects on natural resources and will provide an additional benefit of increasing revenue by the placement of self-pay stations at these points.

Proposed actions in regards to roads, include the installation of a double gate at the entrance to Paseo del Rio Campground to be closed nightly. This will take effect in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$2000. This campground has been newly renovated and a new comfort station has been constructed. In addition, Division and park management will explore the feasibility of constructing an alternate road to the main entrance of the park in order to facilitate traffic flow.

Erosion problems have been identified with some of the paved roads bordered by sand in the park. EBLSP will install concrete footings at the edge of these asphalt roadways in FY00 at an estimated cost of \$2,000.

## **Parking**

Parking in the vicinity of Marina del Sur and the main boat launching ramp has become extremely congested, especially on summer weekends when special events are scheduled. Park events tend to occupy the majority of parking spaces early in the day, displacing the recreational visitor. The activation and construction of the SMPRA will alleviate a portion of the problem, if and when it is completed. Many of the special events and fishing tournaments will be relocated to this area as facilities become available.

## **Trails**

EBLSP has two trails offering very different experiences for the visitor.

1. The Luchini Trail, located to the north of the Visitor Center, is 1.6 miles in length. Entering the trail adjacent to the northeast corner of the Visitor Center and proceeding in a generally northward direction the visitor can visit the interpretive portion of the trail for approximately one-half mile. The remainder of the trail forms a loop and is best suited for hiking and or

jogging. Upgrades and additions to this trail in the form of course and additional interpretive exhibits are planned in FY00, as indicated on page 28 under Interpretive Proposals.

2. Dam Site/Winding Roads Trails Several trails meander through the Dam Site/Winding Roads Historic Area and combine to form a trail of about one-half mile in length. Efforts are on going to correct existing erosion problems, replant vegetation that has died and generally upgrade these trails. A more concerted effort to rehabilitate the Winding Roads Trail has been identified in FY01.

Two additional trails are currently in the planning stages. The first to be constructed in FY01 is located along the east bank of the Rio Grande in the Paseo Del Rio Recreational Area and is designed to provide easier access for hikers and fishermen. The other, proposed for the SMPRA, will be completed as a portion of that expansion effort in FY04 and is included in item #5 as part of the necessary infrastructure.

## **G. UTILITIES**

### **Water**

Water for the park is provided from several separate well and distribution systems.

1. The first is located in the Main Park Area and serves the Park Office/Visitor Center complex, park residence, and the BSTC. In addition, water is piped from this system to serve Marina Del Sur and all of the comfort stations in the main area. The system provides water to frost-free hydrants throughout the main area. A dump station at Lions Beach Electric Area and Desert Cove Electric Area are serviced by this system, with an additional electric loop of at least 50 sites planned in FY04.

Technical Details - Water Supply System #908-27 consists of a welded steel 110,000-gallon storage tank supplied by two wells at a depth of approximately 520 feet. Well #1 is adjacent to the storage tank and Well #2 is south of the Main Marina Parking Lot. The two pumps operate simultaneously in normal mode, or individually in a manual mode of operation. Both pumps are electric submersibles with a combined pumping capability of approximately 120 gallons per minute. The distribution system is six-inch and four-inch pipe, respectively, with smaller taps to service individual facilities. Water quality is fair; but does meet acceptable quality standards.

2. The second is a well system located in the Rock Canyon Recreation Area. This system was installed in 1995. The well is located to the south east of the Comfort Station. It was installed as a joint venture with Rock Canyon Marina Concession. The system supplies the Rock Canyon Comfort Station and the marina. Per agreement, the well is to be maintained by the marina. Due to sand problems, a centrifugal separator was added to the system by EBLSP in 1996. In addition, a bag filter has been added to the portion that services the comfort

station. Both are located in the chase of the comfort station. The well depth is approximately 250 feet and water quality is good, with some sand.

3. The third system is a well system located adjacent to the Administrative and Maintenance Area at SMPRA. It is a well system that serves three park residences and the shop/office complex. The well is located to the southwest of the maintenance building with the pressure tank located in the shop. The well depth is approximately 150 feet and the water quality is good. Future plans are to tie this system to a dump station. In addition, an additional large well (or possibly several smaller wells) will be drilled in conjunction with future full service camping loops being constructed in the SMPRA.

4. The fourth water system is a joint venture between EBLSP and the BOR. The system is supplied by wells that are managed by the BOR and through a processing plant within its facility. Water is then supplied to various branches as outlined below:

- a. One branch serves the Paseo Del Rio Recreation Area, the Region 3 Office, a park residence and the BOR Facility. The well which services this area is considered shallow (exact depth unavailable) and the water quality is poor due to high in mineral content
- b. A second branch serves the Dam Site Restaurant and Marina Complex. A comfort station is operated within this facility by EBLSP as well as three park residences located in Hospital Canyon, three park residences located in Winding Roads, the Region 3 Warehouse Complex and irrigation systems throughout the Winding Roads/ Hospital Canyon Area. In addition, there are several private residences on Water Tank Hill and one at Winding Roads that are tied to this system. Steps need to be taken to meter those private individuals and ensure that their usage is appropriately billed.

This branch is supplied from the BOR plant and is pumped up to a large tank located on top of Water Tank Hill. Elephant Butte is responsible for the system beyond this point. After water leaves the tank it gravity flows to a pump house located east of Hospital Canyon and then south from the turn into the Dam Site Marina facility. Hospital Canyon is serviced from a "T" off the main line prior to the pump house with a loop system. The pump house has two pumps that pump water to three tanks located above.

From these tanks water is dispersed to three separate locations. One line services Dam Site Marina and Winding roads and a second services the region warehouse complex. Future plans are to add access hatches into the base of these tanks and to replace existing valves that no longer function. These non-functioning valves do not permit isolation of any of the three tanks and a leak in one of the tanks would result in all of the tanks losing water. It is possible to get water to the Dam Site

from Water Tank Hill on gravity feed by reconfiguring the valve combinations below the pump house. Many of these water lines are old and may fail. Replacement of the main water lines in this area will take place in FY01 at an estimated cost of \$50,000.

- c. A separate well, equipped with a surface pump, serves the two park residences located by the first bridge, south of the dam and south east of Paseo del Rio.

The Regional Plant Operations Specialist tests water on a monthly basis for public safety.

## **Electricity**

The Sierra Electric Cooperative provides all electrical service at the park. The majority of the service is located above ground on utility poles, with the exception of the developed electrical sites where underground distribution lines are owned and maintained by EBLSP. The poles located throughout the park are visually unattractive and should be replaced with underground cable as budget allows. In addition, the Electric Co-op provides street lighting that is serviced with a combination of overhead and underground lines. The underground lines are shallowly buried and have become exposed several times. The Co-op has responded and recovered lines when contacted. A future consideration should be to replace these lines with correctly installed underground lines.

The SMPRA service was installed in 1997 to provide service to residences and shop facilities. It consists of overhead lines within the park boundaries and goes underground at the entrance to South Monticello Point where it travels along the north side of the road. A much larger system upgrade will need to be installed as part of the SMPRA development.

## **Gas**

All facilities have propane gas for heat and cooking, provided by various contractors, depending upon the specific contract in effect. Locations of tanks are identified on maps retained in EBLSP Office.

## **Waste Disposal**

### **1. Solid Waste**

- a. The park will seek to purchase its own inventory of fifty three-yard dumpsters which in FY04 at a cost of \$25,000.
- b. Refuse collection is normally scheduled on Mondays and Fridays. During the summer holidays, it is collected daily. Additional collections are scheduled as needed.

- c. EBLSP has acquired a contract vendor to provide four 30-yard roll-off trash bins as a further measure to help control excess waste during holiday weekends. These bins are placed in areas with high visitation for short periods of time.
- d. Solid waste collection north of the Lakeshore Highlands area occurs on an as needed basis. Due to the long distances and the rough roads, efforts are underway to increase the size of the refuse containers at these locations. This should reduce the number of trips required by the compactor truck. Other measures to aid completion of this task include moving the trash bins closer to the main roadways and installing signage advising visitors that these areas are "pack in - pack out".

## 2. Septic Waste

The park has three different types of liquid waste disposal systems.

- a. A sewage treatment package plant is located at Ash Canyon at the end of the Dam Site cabin road. A Level Three Wastewater Operator operates this plant. It has been upgraded several times and currently meets all environmental discharge requirements. This plant services the Dam Site complex, Winding Roads residences, Hospital Canyon residences and the Region 3 Warehouse. It is connected to these locations by a system of sewer lines and service manholes, which are detailed on existing blue prints at the park office. Extensive repairs are needed to the lift station and manholes located at the Dam Site Recreation Area as identified in Table 1 in FY 00 at an estimated cost of \$50,000.
- b. A wetlands project is located west of Rock Canyon, adjacent to the caliche gravel pit. This system handles all effluent pumped from chemical and vault toilets.
- c. The third type of system used at Elephant Butte consists of standard septic tanks and leach fields. These are located as follows:
  - i. One is located west of Ridge Road and due west of Comfort Station # 1. It services Comfort Station # 1, a park residence, the BSTC, and the Marina del Sur pump-out station. This leach field has been expanded to accommodate a new comfort station, scheduled for construction in 1999, near Marina Del Sur.
  - ii. A second is located at the Desert Cove Comfort Station. It also services an adjacent dump station.
  - iii. The third is located to the south of Comfort Station # 2 on Lower Ridge Road. Two monitoring wells are associated with this leach field.

- iv. Comfort Station # 3's leach field system is located northwest of the Lions Beach Electric Area. This system also has a wet well with a pair of lift pumps located just west of the comfort station. In addition, it has monitoring wells and services a dump station.
- v. Other facilities with standard leach fields include: Rock Canyon comfort station, Paseo del Rio comfort station, and two residences at the river crossing adjacent to Paseo del Rio are on one system.
- vi. In addition, at the SMPRA, there are three residences with separate leach field systems and a shop facility, which is connected to the southern most field.

## **Telephone**

Public telephones are available at several locations within the park. All public pay phones within EBLSP are currently owned and serviced by PhonTel Technologies, Inc. PhoneTel provided all of the installation and equipment and currently there are no other providers. Service has been acceptable. Problems with the telephones should be reported to 1-800-259-2254.

The phones are located as follows:

### **1. Visitor Center**

Located on the northeast corner of the Maintenance Office, diagonally southwest across road from the Visitor Center.

### **2. Desert Cove Campground**

Located west of the sidewalk between Desert Cove Campground and the Comfort Station.

### **3. Dam Site Recreation Area**

Located adjacent to the sidewalk serving the Office for the Dam Site Concessionaire.

### **4. Marina del Sur**

One public telephone is located across the driveway, south of the vault toilet, at the top of the boat launch ramp. Another is located at the northeast corner of the mercantile store on the marina, accessible only when the marina is open.

5. Rock Canyon Marina

Located on the southwest corner of the marina building.

Note: Public telephone service needs to be expanded to Lions Beach and SMPRA.

**V. BUDGET AND STAFFING**

**A. BUDGET**

The approved annual operating budgets for FY95 through FY99 are listed below. The Division allocates the amount shown to EBLSP for operating costs. Allocated budget figures in this table do not reflect other sources of revenue. These revenues may include funding from: Boating Excise Tax/Motor Boat Fuel Tax, Coast Guard Grant, Bureau of Reclamation, Capital Improvements Program-Parks Division, Dingell-Johnson: NM Department of Game and Fish, Federal Highway Administration Funds (Trails), Private Sector (Volunteers/Friends Groups) and Youth Conservation Corps.

**Table 8**

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Allocated Budget</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
FY98	\$907,800	\$952,611.21
FY97	\$1,001,718	\$797,397.31
FY96	\$968,779	\$879,605.00
FY95	\$761,813	\$725,139.00
FY94	\$668,420	\$779,915.00

**B. STAFFING**

Staffing at EBLSP is graphically illustrated on the Organizational Chart located at Appendix F.

Permanent Staff

The permanent staff of twenty-one provides maintenance of all facilities and equipment, administrative support, law enforcement and customer service to nearly two million visitors per year. In addition, those personnel are responsible for input and guidance for major renovation and/or expansion projects. Significant assistance in specific areas is derived from an extremely active volunteer program that contributes in excess of 10,000 hours per year to the operation of the park. Staffing is supplemented by seasonal personnel,

generally between mid-March and mid-September annually, and by personnel working through social programs.

The staff includes two Park Superintendents, one which functions as an Assistant Superintendent, three Park Managers; one who is in charge of boating and the other two who assist in park operations. Non-management staff consists of 11 Park Ranger 2 positions, four of which are assigned to the boating program, and one as an Interpretive Ranger, a Maintenance Supervisor, three Park Ranger 1 positions and one Administrator 2.

#### Seasonal Staff

EBLSP staff is normally augmented between March and September by approximately 16 seasonal laborer positions. Four of the seasonal laborers are normally utilized as visitor center staff, while the remainder are utilized in the field as laborers and check station operators. Seasonal personnel may be hired in the winter months, but do not exceed the total number of allotted positions.

#### Student Government Intern Position

This position may be filled during the summer months on an annual basis or as allotted by the Santa Fe Office, provided a qualified applicant is located.

#### Volunteer Program

The EBLSP Volunteer Program has resulted in the donation of over 10,000 hours of labor by more than 50 volunteers per year for several years. EBLSP currently has 6 recreational vehicle sites, which have full electricity, sewer and water hookups for use by members of the volunteer staff. Significant accomplishments by volunteers include total staffing of the EBLSP Visitor Center from early October through late March; year round daily assistance by at least one volunteer in pay tube collections and accounting; and a continuing program of campground host fee verification and documentation, which significantly reduces the time required by regular staff in verification of fee payment.

#### Summer Youth Employment Program

EBLSP participates on an annual basis in the Summer Youth Employment Program administered through the New Mexico Department of Labor Office in Socorro. Traditionally, four to six positions are requested, and three or four are filled.

#### Youth Conservation Corps (YCC)

The YCC has been utilized in the past to complete park projects and EBLSP will continue to apply for YCC projects. Other specific projects have been identified for completion under this program and are enumerated in Table 1 of this document.

#### New Mexico State Inmate Program

EBLSP recently began participation in the Inmate Program. Prisoners completed a huge timber wall in the plaza area near Marina Del Sur and various other projects throughout the park. EBLSP will continue applying for inmate programs. Inmates work includes trail work, erosion control, general maintenance, grounds improvement, litter control, fence repair, landscaping, painting projects but is not limited to these projects.

#### Welfare Reform programs

Occasionally, EBLSP benefits from welfare reform programs sponsored by the Human Services Department. These programs provide training for participants in the work place.

Additionally, EBLSP participates in a state employment program through the New Mexico State Agency on Aging. In this program, an individual is assigned to EBLSP to develop skills for future employment.

#### Park Support Groups

##### 1. *Friends of EBLSP Committee*

The Friends of EBLSP Committee meets monthly and has been helpful in raising money for a variety of projects, equipment, and programs, and often offers good input for future development. This committee is also involved with the promotion and implementation of park events.

##### 2. *Enchanted Waters Committee*

The Enchanted Waters Committee is a group of local business leaders who work closely with EBLSP staff to promote the park and surrounding area by sponsoring and hosting special events.

##### 3. *Others*

EBLSP management and staff continue to work closely with the Chamber of Commerce and the communities of Elephant Butte and Truth or Consequences in the promotion of all events benefiting both the EBLSP and those communities.

#### Future Requirements

Increasing visitation and expanding recreational opportunities will require two additional personnel and these positions have been identified. These two positions will support park operations. Refer to Appendix F for a detailed explanation of currently authorized positions.

## **Appendix A**

### **Existing EBLSP Facilities**

#### **Recreation**

##### Visitor Center

- A. Interpretive center for EBLSP
  - 1. Historic displays
  - 2. Fossil remains
  - 3. Information on EBLSP facilities and their location
- B. Cashiers office
  - 1. Drive-up window used year round
  - 2. Island collection booth for use in high visitation periods
  - 3. Park merchandise display
- C. Men's and ladies rest room facilities

##### Comfort Stations

Six full service comfort stations are located throughout the park. These facilities feature showers, flush toilets, and lavatories.

- A. Comfort Station # 1 (full service)  
Located just inside the park entrance at the south end of Ridge Road
- B. Comfort Station # 2 (full service)  
Located at the north end of Ridge Road.
- C. Comfort Station # 3 (full service)  
Located immediately south of Lions Beach Campground
- D. Desert Cove Comfort Station (Comfort Station #4 full service)  
Located between the Quail Run Campground and the Desert Cove Campground
- E. Rock Canyon Comfort Station (Comfort Station #5 full service)  
Located adjacent to the west end of the parking area for Rock Canyon Marina and boat launch ramp
- F. Comfort Station #6 (no showers)  
Located at top of boat launch ramp east of the Visitor Center
- G. Paseo del Rio Comfort Station (full service)  
Located at the south end of Paseo del Rio Campground
- H. Dam Site Recreation Area comfort station (no showers)  
Located under the grape arbor on the west side of the Dam Site Restaurant and Lounge
- I. Cold water shower facility adjacent to comfort station # 1 is available for use on major holidays and busy weekends.

##### Vault toilets

Nineteen double-sided, fiberglass vault toilets are located within EBLSP as follows:

- A. Indian Springs  
Located southwest of the road entering the north side of Indian Springs Camping Area
- B. Rock House  
Two facilities located prominently in the Rock House Camping Area
- C. North Monticello Point South  
Located south of the road accessing the south side of North Monticello Point
- D. South Monticello Point  
Located at the east end of South Monticello Point
- E. Three Sisters  
Located on the south side of Three Sisters Cove
- F. Club Cove  
Located on the south side of Club Cove
- G. South Lakeshore Highlands  
Located on the south side of Lakeshore Highlands Cove.
- H. Cedar Canyon  
Located on the south side of Cedar Canyon Cove
- I. North Long Point  
Located on the north side of Long Point west of Sports Adventure
- J. South Long Point  
Located on the south side of Long Point, northeast of Rock Canyon Marina
- K. Rock Canyon  
Located west of the walkway to Rock Canyon Marina
- L. Hot Springs Landing  
Located adjacent to the top of the gravel boat launch ramp in Hot Springs Landing
- M. Cow Camp Cove  
Three units located one on the south side and two on the north side.
- N. Lions Beach  
One unit located on south side
- O. Ridge Road  
One unit located adjacent to the southeast corner of the playground
- P. Main Ramp  
Located at south side of the top of the boat launch ramp adjacent to Marina del Sur
- Q. Paseo Del Rio Campground  
Located at the north end of the Paseo Del Rio Campground

**Note:** Fourteen additional vault toilets (12 single-chamber units and two double-chamber units) are being delivered in FY99. Specific site locations were not identified at the time this document was prepared. Sites will be selected based on the proximity to heavily used areas and recreation activity. The long-term service to the public and the handiness to a heavily used area are also considerations

#### Chemical Toilets

EBLSP has 80 portable chemical toilets located throughout the park. Maps depicting specific site locations for chemical toilets and associated solid waste receptacles are maintained in the EBLSP Maintenance Office. Again all permanent structures are placed to serve most of the visiting public and the demands of high usage.

### Dump Stations

EBLSP has two dump stations for discharge from visitors' recreational vehicles.

A. Desert Cove

Located north of the Desert Cove Campground and east of the Desert Cove Comfort Station

B. Lions Beach

Located West of Lions Beach Electric Campground, diagonally across the paved road northwest of Comfort Station # 3

### Camping Areas

The majority of EBLSP is available for camping experiences of one sort or another. Within the boundaries of the park, three basic types of campsites are available:

A. Primitive Sites

A primitive campsite is defined by Division Regulations as a camping site that offers no facilities except a cleared area for camping. NOTE: Vehicle parking, solid waste facilities, human sanitation facilities and water may be available in the area; but such amenities are not a requirement. Except for developed areas, the majority of EBLSP is available as primitive campsites.

B. Developed Sites (estimated 130 sites)

Developed camping sites are defined by Division Regulations as a park camping site with at least one shelter, table, grill or any combination of two or more such facilities at the site. Developed campsites are available in the Main Area and in Paseo del Rio Campground; additionally, a Group Reservation area qualifying as a developed site is available.

C. Recreational Vehicle Hookup Sites

All 111 recreational vehicle hookup sites within EBLSP have electrical hookups for 30-amp electric service as a minimum. The majority of those sites also have water available on site, or in close proximity. Six of those sites have sewer hookups, but those are normally set aside for occupancy by volunteer staff.

### Play Grounds

A. Ridge Road (completed in 1992)

Located west of Ridge Road, north of the Visitor Center

B. Winding Roads Day Use Area (completed in 1993)

**Administrative/Staff**

Maintenance Yard and Office

- A. Men's and women's rest room facility
- B. Covered pit area for servicing vehicles
- C. Two-bay maintenance shop
  - 1. One used for work space and employee lockers
  - 2. One converted to a security cage for tools and small equipment
- D. Office space which includes:
  - 1. Office for Park Superintendents
  - 2. Office for Secretary
  - 3. Administrative area
    - a. Counter for public contact
    - b. Desk and file space for other park staff
- E. Metal shed capable of covering the majority of EBLSP vehicles and equipment
- F. Fueling station
  - 1. Diesel.
  - 2. Unleaded gasoline
- G. The Richard E. Cooper Boating Safety Training Center is located adjacent to this complex.
- H. A water storage tank (110,000 gal) for the developed park area
- I. Pump house
- J. Park Residences
  - There are 12 employee residences within EBLSP
    - One residence adjacent to the Visitor Center
    - Three residences located in the Hospital Canyon Area
    - Three residences located in the Dam Site Area
    - Two residences located across State Highway 51 south of the Paseo Del Rio Campground
    - Three residences are located at the west end of South Monticello Point
    - One residence at the north end of Paseo del Rio Campground
- K. Other Facilities
  - 1. Region 3 Storage Yard
    - The fenced area surrounding the Region 3 Warehouse, across State Highway 51, south of the Dam Site Recreation Area
      - a. EBLSP storage area
        - An area for storing large timbers, portable chemical toilets, and other items not requiring inside storage
      - b. Adobe Warehouse
        - Adjacent to and southeast of the Region 3 Warehouse. Suitable for storing items that are used infrequently but need to be stored in a dry place

c. Sign Shop

Attached to the west end of the building housing the Region 3 Mechanic shop Contains a large router guide suitable for making wooden signs in a uniform manner

Check Stations

Check stations are operated intermittently during periods of peak visitor arrival to minimize the amount of field collecting which has to be performed. EBLSP has four permanent check stations and establishes temporary check stations for special events. Each of the permanent stations is air-conditioned and is temporarily equipped with a radio base station and cash register. Locations are as follows:

1. Hot Springs Cove
2. South Rock Canyon
3. Long Point, on Lakeshore Road between the entrance to the Cliffs and Long Point Camping Areas
4. South Monticello Point, on Lakeshore Road adjacent to turn accessing South Monticello Point

**Appendix B**  
**Maps of EBLSP**

**Appendix C  
EBLSP Equipment**

<b>Field</b>		Year	1992
		Model	W250
Vehicles		License G -	05727
		VIN	1B7JM26Z6N596141
A. Pickup		Fuel	Propane/Unleaded
Mfg	Dodge	Maintenance	Reference: VEMR and Manufacturer's Manuals
Year	1993	Replace	FY03
Model	W150		
License G -	04775		
VIN	1B7HM16Y3PS234867	E. Pickup	
Fuel	Propane/Unleaded	Mfg	Dodge
Maintenance	Reference: VEMR and Manufacturer's Manuals	Year	1991
Replace	FY02	Model	W150
		License G -	05766
B. Pickup		VIN	1B7HM06Y5MS286099
Mfg	Chevrolet	Fuel	Propane/Unleaded
Year	1989	Maintenance	Reference: VEMR and Manufacturer's Manuals
Model	K2500	Replace	FY01
License G -	05723		
VIN	1GCGK24K1K1265189	F. Pickup	
Fuel	Propane/Unleaded	Mfg	Ford
Maintenance	Reference: VEMR and Manufacturer's Manuals	Year	1994
Replace	FY00	Model	Ranger
		License G -	15283
C. Pickup		VIN	1FTCR10A6RPA68390
Mfg	Dodge	Fuel	Unleaded
Year	1991	Maintenance	Reference: VEMR and Manufacturer's Manuals
Model	W150	Replace	FY03
License G -	05726		
VIN	3B7HM13Z6MM047544	G. Blazer	
Fuel	Propane/Unleaded	Mfg	Chevrolet
Maintenance	Reference: VEMR and Manufacturer's Manuals	Year	1996
Replace	FY00	Model	S10
		License G -	21401
D. Pickup		VIN	1GNDT1BW2S2257786
Mfg	Dodge	Fuel	Unleaded
		Maintenance	Reference: VEMR

and Manufacturer's Manuals  
Replace FY03

- H. Pickup  
Mfg Ford  
Year 1996  
Model F150  
License G - 22612  
VIN 1FTEF14N8TLB34631  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manuals  
Replace FY04
- I. Pickup  
Mfg Ford  
Year 1996  
Model F150  
License G - 22610  
VIN 2FTEF14NXTCA49705  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manuals  
Replace FY05
- J. Pickup  
Mfg Ford  
Year 1996  
Model F150  
License G-23092  
VIN 1FTEF14N4TLC07669  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manual  
Replace FY05
- K. Pickup  
Mfg Chevrolet  
Year 1998  
Model K2500  
License G-34390  
VIN 1GCGK24R1WZ191574

Replace FY06

- L. Pickup  
Mfg Dodge  
Year 1998  
Model W150  
License G-37505  
VIN 1B7HF16Y4WS640679  
Replace FY08

### Heavy Equipment

- A. Tractor  
Mfg John Deere  
Year 1992  
Model 2355  
VIN XL02355F68483X  
Fuel Diesel/4 cyl  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturers Manuals  
Model 245 front-end loader installed.
- B. Loader  
Mfg John Deere  
Year 1973  
Model 544A  
VIN 195586T  
Fuel Diesel/6 cyl  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturers Manuals
- C. Grader  
Mfg John Deere  
Year 1974  
Model 670A  
VIN 08555T  
Fuel Diesel/6 cyl  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturers Manuals
- D. Backhoe  
Mfg John Deere

Year 1997  
Model 310SE  
VIN T0310SE833456  
Fuel Diesel/6 cyl

### Heavy Trucks

#### A. Dump Truck

Mfg Ford  
Year 1997  
Model F - 800  
License  
VIN FDYF80E8WVA18071  
Fuel Diesel/8 cyl  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

#### B. Dump Truck

Mfg GMC  
Year 1987  
Model 6000  
License G - 05736  
VIN TCE618V613796  
Fuel Unleaded/8 cyl  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

#### C. Trash Compactor

Mfg Peterbilt  
Year 1991  
Model Peterbilt  
License G - 38435  
VIN NP-2170X-4-ND706164  
Fuel Diesel/8 cyl  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

#### D. Pumper

Mfg GMC  
Year 1984  
Model 7000  
License G - 05750  
VIN 1GDL7D1B7EV552018  
Fuel Unleaded/8 cyl  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

#### E. Pumper

Mfg Ford  
Year 1997  
Model F-series  
License G-39183  
VIN 1FDYF80E1WVA34936  
Fuel Diesel  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manuals

### Beach Management Equipment

#### A. Surf Rake

Mfg Barber  
Year 1992  
Model 600HD  
VIN 6343  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
Mechanized pick up of trash on sandy beaches.

#### B. Rake

Mfg York  
Year 1992  
Model 9.6  
VIN  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

### Trailers

#### A. Utility

Mfg  
Year  
Model  
License G - 05739  
VIN 31634457  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
14 ft/Material trailer

#### B. Utility

Mfg  
Year  
Model  
License G - 05633

VIN 13485  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
14 ft/Material trailer

C. Car Hauler  
Mfg  
Year  
Model  
License G - 05768  
VIN N/A  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
14 ft/Transport light vehicles and small equipment

D. Welding  
Mfg  
Year  
Model  
License G - 05801  
VIN  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
Transport electric arc and oxygen/acetylene welders

E. Pumper  
Mfg LOBO LIFT  
Year 1983  
Model 200 gal  
License G - 05779  
VIN (NRD# 9379)  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
Powered by Honda GX-140 Gasoline engine.

F. Solar Power  
Mfg Direct Power  
Year 1998  
Model  
License  
VIN FW98A061024127  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR  
Direct solar to electric power converter.

G. Utility  
Mfg Texas  
Year 1994  
Model 10' x 6'

License G - 05823  
VIN 00043092MEXRA017  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

### Miscellaneous Equipment

A. All Terrain Vehicle  
Mfg Kawasaki  
Year 1994  
Model Bayou 400  
License G - 05755  
VIN JKALFKB15PB503044  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

B. All Terrain Vehicle  
Mfg John Deere  
Year 1997  
Model Gator  
License  
VIN WOO6X4X030150  
Maintenance Reference: VEMR

C. Cement Mixer  
Mfg  
Model 135202  
S/N 95052-2E

Engine Briggs & Stratton, 5 Hp

D. Sweeper  
Mfg  
Model 924480  
S/N  
Fuel  
Maintenance Reference: Small Equipment Log

E. Welder

Mfg Miller  
Model 230 V AC Welder S/N 10928  
S/N 1282E  
Fuel Unleaded  
Engine Tecumseh, 5 Hp

Maintenance Reference: Small Equiq.Log  
Mounted on Welding Trailer, Lic # G - 05801

F. Welder

Mfg Victor  
Model Firepower - Oxygen/Acetylene  
Maintenance Reference: Small Equipment Log  
Mounted on Welding Trailer, Lic # G - 05801

G. Generator

Mfg Homelite  
Model 2500 Watt  
S/N HL1140182  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance Reference: Small Equipment Log

H. Chainsaw

Mfg Huskavarna  
Model  
S/N 9430086  
Fuel Unleaded/Oil mix  
Maintenance Reference: Small Equipment Log  
& Manufacturer's Manual

I. Battery Charger

Mfg Marquette  
Model 39-110

**Boating**

Patrol Vessels.

A. B63, 25 ft Boston Whaler  
Ser# BWCBC528H798

Trailer - BOATMASTER  
VIN - 42XBB2523US007152

J. Air Compressor

Mfg Englo  
Model 10  
S/N 081084003  
Motor Electric Model 5KC184AL251BT

K. Drill Press

Mfg Orbit  
Model OR-1412F  
S/N 4040402  
5 Speed

L. Bench Grinder

Mfg Universal  
Model UP 9201  
S/N  
6 Inch

M Jersey Wall Tongs

Mfg Caldwell  
Model 73-4.25  
S/N 78416  
1.25 Ton Capacity

N. Air Compressor

Mfg Farm Test  
Model 44A50-12 A.S.M.E.  
S/N 23670

B. B33, Mark Twain 24 Ft.  
Ser# MTM32400H889

Trailer - EZLOADER  
Lic - G-05744

C. B34, Mark Twain 24 Ft.

Ser# MTM32400H889

Trailer- MARKTWAIN  
VIN- 41DM2Cztzk1000001

D. B36, Newman 23 Ft.  
Ser# NEW505M80K

Trailer - COBRA  
Lic - G-05746  
VIN - 221776-80

E. B50, Boston Whaler 17 Ft.  
Ser#BWCCA851B494

F. B45, Sea Doo.  
Ser# ZZN43661E292

Trailer -  
Lic- G05641  
Vin- 1MDBYVK18ND561330

Work Barge.

A. B-35, Monark 24 Ft.  
Ser# SAMA0471A494

Trailer -  
VIN- 42XBB2023RS005735

Motor Vehicles.

A. Dodge Ram  
Mfg Dodge  
Year 1990  
Model 4x4  
License G-05725.  
VIN 3BA4GM07701M044229  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manuals

B. Chevy Blazer  
Mfg Chevy  
Year 1993  
Model 4x4  
License G-05812  
VIN 1GNDT13W2P2156271  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manuals

C.  
Mfg Chevy  
Year 1989  
Model 4x4  
License G-32083  
VIN 1GC9K24K6E265477  
Fuel Unleaded  
Maintenance References: VEMR  
and Manufacturer's Manuals.

**Miscellaneous**

A. Gradall  
Mfg Gradall  
Year 1989  
Model G3WD

B. Bar-B-Que Grill.  
Mfg Belson  
Year 1995  
Model z-Burner

Additional Items assigned to Boating over \$500.

1 Tool Box w/ miscellaneous tools  
Imager 601 NRD#9272  
Canon, F127500 Copier, Model # NP3050,  
Serial # NB236361, NRD# 9265  
Kodak Ektagraphic III Projector,  
NRD# 9266  
15 Tables

45 Chairs  
15 pictures  
1 Bunn Coffee Maker

**Office Equipment**

Office items identified valued over \$500

2 DTK Computers  
1 NEC/Multisync 2A Computer  
1 NEC SVGA Computer  
1 Cannon Fax L700  
1 Cannon 1290 RE Copy Machine  
1 Hewlett Packard Laser Jet 4 Plus Printer

Office items identified valued under \$500

1 NEC Ready 466-05 Printer  
12 Cash Registers  
3 Two-way Radio Base Stations

## **Appendix D**

### **Cultural Resource Protection Laws**

The following cultural resource protection laws are applicable to Elephant Butte Lake State Park, which is owned by a federal agency, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and managed by New Mexico State Parks, a state agency. Each law has a direct bearing on the management of the park. Park personnel should reference the Cultural Resources Guidelines for New Mexico State Parks for more detail regarding the documentation, protection, and preservation of cultural resources.

#### ***FEDERAL***

**National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 As Amended (Public Law 89-665; 16 U.S.C. 40-470w-6).** This law establishes historic preservation as a national policy and defines it as the protection, rehabilitation, restoration and reconstruction of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, or engineering. It establishes guidelines for recognizing nationally significant properties and methods of documentation of these properties. It authorizes the withholding of sensitive data on historic properties to avoid harm to the cultural resource or to ensure that traditional use of an area is not impeded.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act provides direction for federal agencies for any development project on federal property that may potentially impact any cultural resource listed or eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. Section 110 requires that federal agencies locate and inventory cultural resources on federal land for use in planning.

**Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (Public Law 96-95; 16 U.S.C. 470aa-11).** This act prohibits the removal, sale, receipt, and interstate transportation of archaeological resources from public or Native American lands obtained illegally (without permits), and imposes substantial criminal and/or civil penalties.

**Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (25 U.S.C. 3001).** This act protects Native American human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects and objects of cultural patrimony. It prohibits the sale, purchase or use or transport for sale or profit, the human remains of a Native American. The law outlines the procedures in the event of an inadvertent discovery of a Native American burial as well as the relinquishment of control of such items to the appropriate Native American group.

**National Register of Historic Places, 36 C.F.R., Part 60.** This is the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. These properties must have historic significance and integrity and must meet at least one of the following criteria: association with significant events; association with important persons; distinctive design or physical characteristics; or potential to yield information important in history or prehistory.

## *STATE*

**New Mexico Cultural Properties Act (NMSA 1978, § 18-6-1 to 18-6-17).** This act recognizes that the historical and cultural heritage of the state as one of the state's most valued and important assets. It indicates that the neglect, desecration and destruction of historical and cultural sites, structures, places and objects result in an irreplaceable loss to the public. It establishes the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division (HPD) to maintain the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties (similar to the National Register) and to review of state projects to determine effect upon significant historic properties. This law prohibits unauthorized excavation, injury or damage to cultural properties located on state land. It requires excavation and burial permits and assesses criminal and/or civil penalties for unlawful excavation of cultural properties or burials. Finally, this law requires that site location remain confidential.

**New Mexico Prehistoric and Historic Sites Preservation Act (NMSA 1978, § 18-8-1 to 18-8-8).** This law states that no public funds of the state shall be spent on any program that requires the use of any portion of land from a significant prehistoric or historic site, unless there is no feasible and prudent alternative, and unless the project includes all possible planning to preserve and protect the cultural property.

**New Mexico Cultural Properties Protection Act (NMSA 1978, § 18-16A-1 to 18-6A-6).** This law requires state agencies to establish a system of professional surveys of cultural properties on state lands. State agencies are required to cooperate with the Historic Preservation Division to ensure that cultural properties are not inadvertently damaged or destroyed.

## **Appendix E**

### **Authorized Staffing for EBLSP**

#### **A. Park Administration**

1. Superintendent

Oversees all administrative operations of the park, visitor relations and budget and park programs. Responsible for the preparation of PADs for the Assistant Superintendent, Boating Manager, Interpretive Ranger and Administrator 2.

2. Park Ranger 2

Non-law enforcement assigned primarily to interpretation, special events, visitor center training, staffing and volunteer coordination within the park.

Wednesday, June 02, 1993. Secretary 3

Oversees all office administrative duties, remittance reports and visitor correspondence.

4. Student Government Intern

Is required to become familiar with park operations to include maintenance, visitor management and remittance procedures, as well as assist with park events.

#### **B. Park Operations**

1. Assistant Superintendent

Reports directly to Superintendent. Oversees all operations of the park with the exception of the Marine Enforcement Program, Interpretive Program and the Visitor Center. Responsible for preparation of PAD's for Park Managers and the Maintenance Supervisor.

2. Park Managers

Report to the Assistant Superintendent and are responsible for the preparation of the PADs for all Park Ranger 2 positions, with the exception of the Interpretive Ranger and Boating Ranger 2's. Primarily responsible to assist with park programs and maintenance.

3. Park Ranger 2 (six positions)

Greet and assist visitors, perform law enforcement, maintain facilities, grounds and equipment. Perform park administrative and other duties and inspects facilities. Responsible for the adherence of the Standards of Care in specific areas. Four of the six positions supervise Ranger 1's. Two positions are in charge of park programs.

#### **C. Maintenance**

1. Maintenance Supervisor  
Oversees specific park operations that are maintenance related. Coordinates with a Park Manager position and Assistant Superintendent for assistance. May coordinate with the Park Ranger 2's in performance of maintenance tasks.
2. Park Ranger I (four positions)  
Greet and assist visitors. Maintain park facilities, grounds, vehicle and equipment. Assigned under the primary direction of the Maintenance Supervisor.

D. Boating

1. Manager Boating  
Manager in charge of all activities involving the boating programs at EBLSP. Oversees the launching ramps, courtesy docks, inland navigational buoy system, wind warning system, boating vehicles and vessels, the BSTC and all other maintenance and operations related to boating. Supervises three full time Park Ranger 2 Marine Enforcement Officer positions. Responsible for completion of PAD's for all boating personnel.
2. Park Ranger 2 (Three positions)  
Ranger, Marine Enforcement Officer, primarily assigned to the Boating Program, with other associated land-based duties and functions under the direction of the Boating Manager.

E. Seasonal Laborers (up to 15 summer and one winter positions)  
Duties include customer service and maintenance.