



PUBLIC NOTICE

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT**

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**APPLICATION FOR PERMIT
Colorado River RV Resort Boat Ramp Repair**

Public Notice/Application No.: SPL-2015-00641-WHM

Project: Colorado River RV Resort Boat Ramp Repair

Comment Period: October 20, 2015 through November 5, 2015

Project Manager: William Miller; 602-230-6954; William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil

Applicant

Colorado River RV Resort CH LLC
74711 Dillon Road
Desert Hot Springs, CA 92241

Contact

Jill Himes, Himes Consulting LLC
3301 W. Genoa Way
Chandler, AZ 85226

Location

Ehrenberg, La Paz County, Arizona; NW ¼ of Section 15, Township 3 North, Range 22 West, Gila and Salt River Baseline and Meridian (Lat. 33.6069664685066, Long. -114.527088309083).

Activity

To repair and extend an existing boat ramp in association with Colorado River RV Resort (see attached drawings). For more information see page 3 of this notice.

Interested parties are hereby notified an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for the activity described herein and shown on the attached drawing(s). We invite you to review today's public notice and provide views on the proposed work. By providing substantive, site-specific comments to the Corps Regulatory Division, you provide information that supports the Corps' decision-making process. All comments received during the comment period become part of the record and will be considered in the decision. This permit will be issued, issued with special conditions, or denied under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Comments should be mailed to:

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
REGULATORY DIVISION
ATTN: William Miller
3636 N CENTRAL AVE SUITE 900
PHOENIX AZ 85012-1939

Alternatively, comments can be sent electronically to: William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil

The mission of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program is to protect the Nation's aquatic resources, while allowing reasonable development through fair, flexible and balanced permit decisions. The Corps evaluates permit applications for essentially all construction activities that occur in the Nation's waters, including wetlands. The Regulatory Program in the Los Angeles District is

executed to protect aquatic resources by developing and implementing short- and long-term initiatives to improve regulatory products, processes, program transparency, and customer feedback considering current staffing levels and historical funding trends.

Corps permits are necessary for any work, including construction and dredging, in the Nation's navigable water and their tributary waters. The Corps balances the reasonably foreseeable benefits and detriments of proposed projects, and makes permit decisions that recognize the essential values of the Nation's aquatic ecosystems to the general public, as well as the property rights of private citizens who want to use their land. The Corps strives to make its permit decisions in a timely manner that minimizes impacts to the regulated public.

During the permit process, the Corps considers the views of other Federal, state and local agencies, interest groups, and the general public. The results of this careful public interest review are fair and equitable decisions that allow reasonable use of private property, infrastructure development, and growth of the economy, while offsetting the authorized impacts to the waters of the United States. The permit review process serves to first avoid and then minimize adverse effects of projects on aquatic resources to the maximum practicable extent. Any remaining unavoidable adverse impacts to the aquatic environment are offset by compensatory mitigation requirements, which may include restoration, enhancement, establishment, and/or preservation of aquatic ecosystem system functions and services.

Evaluation Factors

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Factors that will be considered include conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, if the proposal would discharge dredged or fill material, the evaluation of the activity will include application of the EPA Guidelines (40 CFR Part 230) as required by Section 404 (b)(1) of the Clean Water Act.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Preliminary Review of Selected Factors

EIS Determination- A preliminary determination has been made an environmental impact statement is not required for the proposed work.

Water Quality- The applicant is required to obtain water quality certification, under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. Section 401 requires any applicant for an individual Section 404 permit provide proof of water quality certification to the Corps of Engineers prior to permit issuance.

Coastal Zone Management- Not applicable within the State of Arizona.

Essential Fish Habitat- No Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), as defined by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, occurs within the project area and no EFH is affected by the proposed project.

Cultural Resources- The latest version of the National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and this site is not listed. This review constitutes the extent of cultural resources investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources.

Endangered Species- Preliminary determinations indicate the proposed activity would not affect federally-listed endangered or threatened species, or their critical habitat. Therefore, formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act does not appear to be required at this time.

Public Hearing- Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearing shall state with particularity the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Proposed Activity for Which a Permit is Required

Basic Project Purpose- The basic project purpose comprises the fundamental, essential, or irreducible purpose of the proposed project, and is used by the Corps to determine whether the applicant's project is water dependent (i.e., requires access or proximity to or siting within the special aquatic site to fulfill its basic purpose). Establishment of the basic project purpose is necessary only when the proposed activity would discharge dredged or fill material into a special aquatic site (e.g., wetlands, pool and riffle complex, mudflats, coral reefs). Because no fills are proposed within special aquatic sites, identification of the basic project purpose is not necessary. The project is not water dependent.

Overall Project Purpose- The overall project purpose serves as the basis for the Corps' 404(b)(1) alternatives analysis and is determined by further defining the basic project purpose in a manner that more specifically describes the applicant's goals for the project, and which allows a reasonable range of alternatives to be analyzed. The overall project purpose for the proposed project is to provide safe boat launching at Colorado River RV Resort.

Additional Project Information

Baseline information - Ehrenberg is located on the floodplain of the Colorado River, and rests in the Palo Verde Valley bordered by the Dome Rock Mountains to the east and the Big Maria Mountains to the northwest. The Palo Verde Diversion Dam is located approximately 9 miles north. The project area lies at approximately 255 feet (ft) above mean sea level (msl). The Resort is generally flat and previously-cleared in upland areas.

Project description - Colorado River RV Resort proposes to repair and extend their existing boat launch ramp to allow year-round boat launching. Due to the original construction of the boat ramp, the slope of the ramp is currently too shallow to allow launching during low water. The plan is to remove the lowest portion of the existing ramp and replace and extend the ramp at a 15 percent maximum grade. This would require approximately 180 cubic yards of material (4,050 square feet x 1.2 ft depth) to be removed. An estimated 75 cubic yards of base material (4,050 square feet x 6 inches) and an estimated 100 cubic yards (4,050 square feet x 8 inches) of pre-cast concrete panels would be placed. All fill will be imported from a clean upland source. In addition, approximately 12.7 cubic yards (115 ft x 3 ft x 1 ft) of crushed rip rap will be placed around the edges of the ramp to increase stability and minimize undercutting.

Proposed Mitigation – The proposed mitigation may change as a result of comments received in response to this public notice, the applicant's response to those comments, and/or the need for the project to comply with the 404(b)(1) Guidelines. In consideration of the above, the proposed mitigation sequence (avoidance/minimization/compensation), as applied to the proposed project is summarized below:

Avoidance and Minimization Information: Avoidance and minimization of impacts to waters of the U.S. was considered for this project but was found that a decrease in impacts to Colorado River waters would not provide repair and safe launching for the entire width of the ramp and would not meet the project purpose and need.

Compensatory Mitigation: The applicant proposes to provide an in-lieu mitigation fee to compensate for impacts to 0.09 acres of perennial waters at a 1:1 ratio.

Proposed Special Conditions

No special conditions have been proposed at this time.

For additional information please call William Miller of my staff at 602-230-6954 or via e-mail at William.H.Miller@usace.army.mil. This public notice is issued by the Chief, Regulatory Division.



Regulatory Program Goals:

- To provide strong protection of the nation's aquatic environment, including wetlands.
- To ensure the Corps provides the regulated public with fair and reasonable decisions.
- To enhance the efficiency of the Corps' administration of its regulatory program.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
3636 N CENTRAL AVE SUITE 900
PHOENIX AZ 85012-1939**

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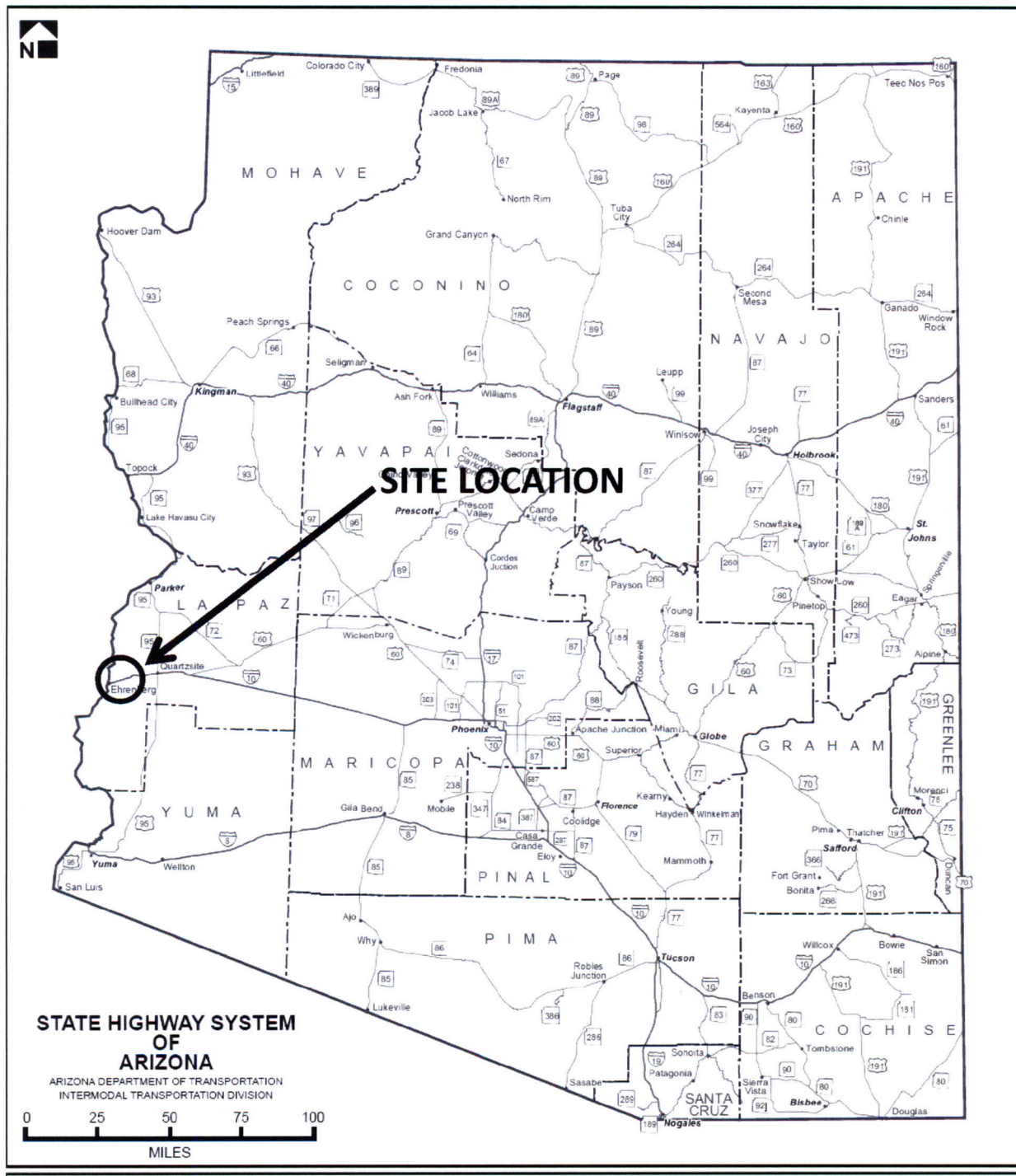
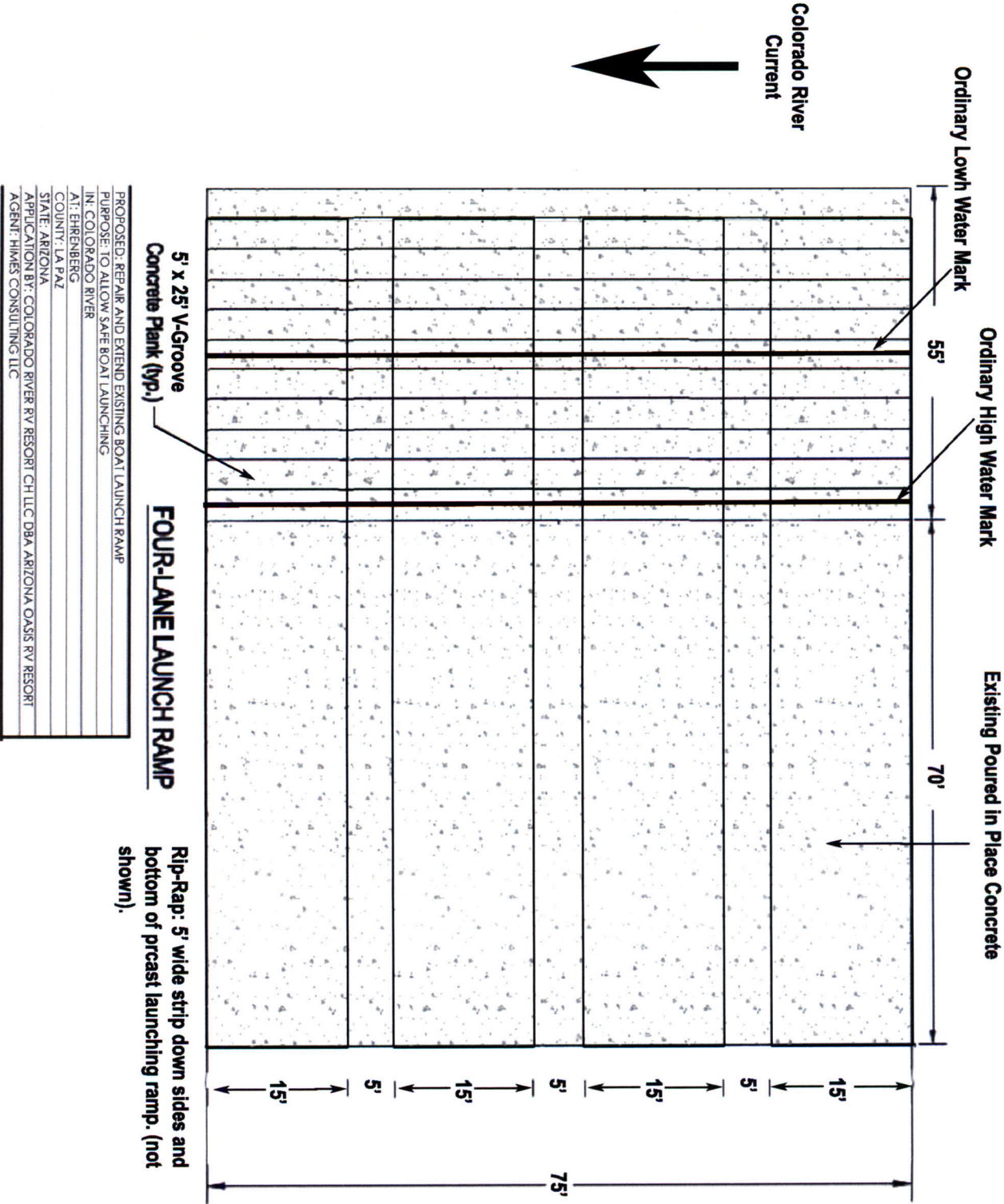
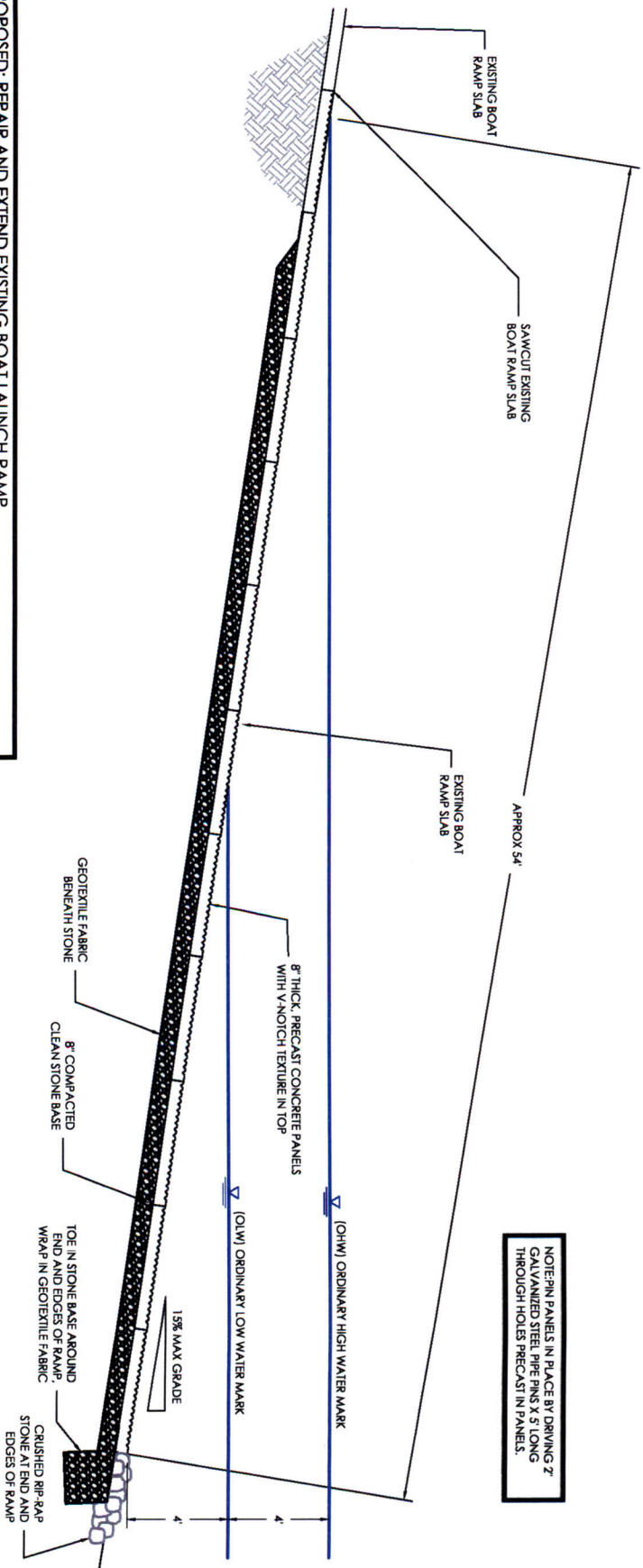


Figure 1. State Map.
Arizona Oasis RV Resort
La Paz County, AZ.

FIGURE 3 - PLAN VIEW OF LAUNCH RAMP REPAIR AND EXTENSION



**FIGURE 4 - LAUNCH RAMP REPAIR AND
EXTENSION TYPICAL SECTION**



PROPOSED: REPAIR AND EXTEND EXISTING BOAT LAUNCH RAMP
PURPOSE: TO ALLOW SAFE BOAT LAUNCHING
IN: COLORADO RIVER
AT: EHRENBURG
COUNTY: LA PAZ
STATE: ARIZONA
APPLICATION BY: COLORADO RIVER RV RESORT CH LLC DBA ARIZONA OASIS RV RESORT
AGENT: HIMES CONSULTING LLC