



NEWS RELEASE

A Century of
Water for the West
1902-2002

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Great Plains Region
Dakotas Area Office
Rapid City Field Office
515 9th Street, Room 101

Rapid City SD 57701 Contact: Faye Streier
(605) 394-9757 ext 3005
e-mail: fstreier@gp.usbr.gov
For Immediate Release
December 9, 2002

Reclamation selects preferred alternative for Belle Fourche RMP

The Bureau of Reclamation has available for review and comment a draft Environmental Assessment and Resource Management Plan (EA/RMP) for Belle Fourche Reservoir in South Dakota. The review period will be open until January 24, 2003.

The EA/RMP presents three action alternatives and a no-action alternative. The three action alternatives are Alternative B, Minimum Facilities; Alternative C, Recreation Emphasis; and Alternative D, Fish, Wildlife and Recreation (Preferred Alternative). This draft EA/RMP evaluates the potential impacts to the human and natural environment associated with the alternatives.

Reclamation will use this draft EA/RMP and any review comments to determine whether the project will have any significant impacts on the human and natural environment. If no significant issues are identified, Reclamation will issue a final EA/RMP with a selected alternative and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). If

any significant issues are identified, Reclamation will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Reclamation would appreciate public review and comments on the draft EA/RMP. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of this document should contact Faye Streier, Rapid City Field Office, 515 9th Street, Room 101, Rapid City, SD 57701, (605) 394-9757, ext. 3005. Review copies are also available at local public libraries.

--BOR--