



## United States Department of the Interior

### BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region  
P.O. Box 36900  
Billings, Montana 59107-6900

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
MT-200  
LND-8.00

AUG 19 2004

Ms. Debbie Alke  
Montana Department of Transportation  
Aeronautics Division  
P.O. Box 200507  
Helena, MT 59620-0507

RECEIVED

AUG 20 2004

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION  
HELENA, MONTANA

Subject: Seaplane/floatplane use at Canyon Ferry Reservoir

Dear Ms. Alke:

AUG 19 2004

This is in response to your February 3, 2004, letter, and subsequent discussions concerning the use of seaplanes/floatplanes at Canyon Ferry Reservoir. Please accept my apology for not responding sooner; however, we did experience some significant time delays in conducting the research necessary to ensure a response consistent with applicable federal laws and regulations.

Per the stipulations outlined in the 2003 Final Canyon Ferry Reservoir Resource Management Plan/Environmental Assessment, this letter conditionally authorizes the incidental, non-commercial use of seaplanes/floatplanes at Canyon Ferry Reservoir. Please be advised that the public, including seaplane/floatplane users, are neither authorized nor allowed on the water between the buoy line and the face of Canyon Ferry Dam.

In the future, if issues arise that involve conflicts between seaplanes/floatplanes and other recreational and/or non-recreational activities at Canyon Ferry Reservoir, or if issues arise involving seaplanes/floatplanes and public safety or security, this authorization is subject to reconsideration at that time.

In closing, I want to take this opportunity to also express my appreciation of your ongoing contribution to the Canyon Ferry Working Group process, particularly with respect to your efforts on the access and transportation sub-committee. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact Tom Sawatzke of the Montana Area Office at 406-247-7314.

Sincerely,

Maryanne C. Bach  
Regional Director