

North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release, Friday, Sept. 28, 2012

For more information, contact Grahams Island State Park, 701-766-4015

New campsites under construction at Grahams Island

Construction on 48 new campsites at Grahams Island State Park will soon start with completion of the work expected by mid-summer of 2013, announces the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department (NDPRD).

The park is among the busiest in the state system as it provides access to one of the nation's finest fisheries and draws fishermen from all over the country. Just this past summer, access to the park was greatly improved with the raise of the only road leading to Grahams Island. The new campsites will help meet public demand for these facilities.

The new campground loop is located directly west of the state park's bait shop. Each campsite will have 50/30/20 amp electrical service, water and sewer hookups. Contracts for the work have been awarded with Hatton, ND's Naastad Brothers doing the earthwork; Peterson Construction, Langdon the sewer and water; and Black Construction (Johnson Electric) doing the electrical work. The project will cost approximately \$660,000.

"The new sites are necessary because of the popularity of Grahams Island State Park for camping," Mark Zimmerman, NDPRD Director says. "Visitation to the park was down due to the uncertainty of access, but with the Island Road having been rebuilt to a height where it is unaffected by the lake's rise, there has been a resurgence among visitors, particularly campers. The 48 new campsites help meet the needs of our customers."

Currently contractors are staging equipment and stripping of topsoil is underway to allow construction to start on Oct. 1.

Information on North Dakota's state parks can be found online at www.parkrec.nd.gov.