

Hagerty, Karen H MVR

From: Carol Severino [carol-
Sent: Saturday, December 28, 2002 3:45 PM
To: CampDayBreakEA@mvr02.usace.army.mil
Subject: FONSI

Dear Corps--

As a member of the Cumberland Ridge Neighborhood Association and a dog walker who hikes in the targeted area every day, I was shocked to read of a Finding of No Significant Impact if the construction of the Muslim camp is allowed. [From the very beginning of the planning for this project, neither the Corps nor MYCA has shown sufficient interest in collaborating or negotiating with us 50 or so neighbors who live in that very Environment Zembrana Engineering claims will not be impacted by the building of MYCA's camp. The FONSI now demonstrates more clearly that the people who live near the proposed site have not been regarded as a significant and integral part of the environment.] How could the addition of 140 more people, a huge lodge, a parking lot with attendant traffic, 10 cabins, a caretakers' cottage, and the cutting down of 403 trees not affect the Environment and the way its inhabitants, both humans and animals, live? [What is the plan for waste water treatment? Where will all that sewage go? How could an additional 140 people and the vehicles that bring them not overwhelm a neighborhood of 50-60? Doesn't the Jolly Roger Marina crowded with boats and trailers already constitute maximum use, in fact, overuse, when the Coralville lake is so oily in the summer that swimmers are covered in a black film? How can a small, already overused peninsula (see new development on Scales Bend near Hwy 965) stand much more diversified use?] [Besides this apparent lack of logic, the report contains numerous inaccuracies in the placement of wells and in measurements.]

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The lack of collaboration, negotiation, information, logic, and accuracy is accentuated by many anxieties and more unanswered questions about what sort of education and training will go on at the camp during the U.S. "War on Terrorism" on weeks MYCA is and is not using the camp. When MYCA sub-leases the camp during weeks they are not using it, who exactly will be using it? [Who has control over these organizations and their activities?] [If the camp is built, will we neighbors still be able to hike in the area? Will I still be able walk to Fossil Point as I do almost every day, or will Fossil Point and other wooded and lake shore areas be closed off to us, significantly affecting our lives and Environment. Will we neighbors be invited to share, use, and/or work at the facilities?]

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[Choosing the second or third alternative, a camp that is half or one quarter the scale of MYCA's proposed project, the kind of summer camp that Daybreak was, would show a spirit of collaboration, negotiation, and compromise with the people that have been a significant part of the Environment since the 1970s.] Both MYCA and the Corps should be more open, communicative, and forthcoming with us about information and planning. They should seek, respect, and value the input of us human residents of that Environment.

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