

~~INTERIOR DEPARTMENT
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TECHNICAL
STAFF~~

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reply 1/16

P.O. Box 4516, Carmel, Calif.
December 5, 1960

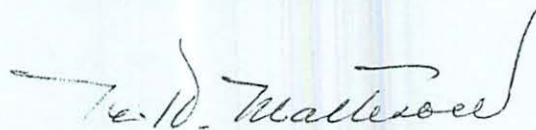
Department of the Interior *hww*
United States Government
Washington 25, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am interested in the development of a recreational area north of Needles, California, as reported recently in the syndicated column of Drew Pearson.

It would be greatly appreciated if this communication were forwarded to the proper Division of the Department, that would be qualified to send me any information available regarding plans to develop an area along the Colorado river, north of Needles, together with any maps or sketches that might be available, projected dates and other information of value regarding the project.

Very truly yours



M.H. Matteson

JAN 27 1961
FOR SIGNATURE
ADVANCE COPY

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE COMEBACK COPY

L58-RRS

FEB 13 1961

Dear Mr. Matteson:

Thank you for your letter of December 5, 1960 concerning the development of a recreation area north of Needles, California.

As you may know, the Department of the Interior has been working on the development of an overall land use plan for reclamation withdrawn lands along the stretch of the Lower Colorado River between Davis Dam and the International Boundary. Development of the important recreation resources, of course, will be a vital aspect of any such plan for this stretch of the Lower River.

Between Davis Dam and Needles, California, the recreation potential is particularly important and the resources are located in the three States--Nevada, California and Arizona. Preliminary investigations of this area indicate that these resources are suitable for developing public campgrounds and boat launching areas as well as commercial recreation development including trailer courts and motels. Further, detailed planning will probably include such uses of the lands.

On April 22, 1960 the reclamation withdrawn lands along the Lower Colorado River in Nevada (outside of the Fort Mohave Indian Reservation) were transferred to the Colorado River Commission of Nevada by Public Law 86-433. These lands contained some of the finest resources for public recreation and will presumably be developed for such use. The lands in California and Arizona, particularly in the Fort Mohave Reservation, also have considerable recreation potential and development of these resources would benefit the Indians as well as the neighboring communities. We hope this information will be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) John A. Carver, Jr.

Secretary of the Interior

Mr. M. H. Matteson
P. O. Box 4516
Carmel, California

LMP

Copy to: Assistant Secretary, Public Land Management (2) w/c inc.
Recreation Surveys w/c inc.

EWPerkins:bja
1/19/61

THIS IS NOT A PDS