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Manson RV project

MANSON — Construction of an initial 37 recreation vehicle camping spaces will begin soon near here, at least if the long-proposed private campground isn't held up by court action.

Jack Doty, a Chelan attorney and one of three local developers for the 144-acre park planned east of Manson, said Monday they hope sales of the project's first RV spaces can start in June.

He said one neighbor has threatened to file a lawsuit to block the project on environmental grounds. Otherwise, a favorable decision reported Saturday by the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs is expected to bring a start of construction within 30 days.

Doty, Bill Evans, and C.A. "Robby" Robinson plan gradual development of a 735-space RV campground on vacant land bordering the old mill site property. The Chelan County PUD is building a public park and boat launch there now.

Doty said the RV project has brought inquiries already from prospective buyers. A study based on the least successful RV park in the Northwest indicates the initial 37 spaces planned at Manson should sell out easily the first year.

Doty said hopes are to have a combination clubhouse and sales office, plus roads and utilities, well under way by mid-June. It's also hoped the first buyers will have spaces available for camping that soon.

Development of 165 spaces is planned during the first four or five years of the project.

The Indian Affairs agency has had say-so because the developers plan to lease the site from about 40 landowners, most members of the Indian families who received the original federal allotments.

Doty said formal approval of the leases by the Department of the Interior now is expected within 10 days. Easements for highway work and an access road are already agreed upon in principle, he said. The developers and the PUD are to maintain the access road jointly.