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Manson resort almost ready for campers

MANSION — The first 35 campsites at the long-awaited Mill Bay RV Resort east of here are expected to be opened sometime in the coming week.

C.A. "Robby" Robinson says he and partner Bill Evans have already sold the first membership and are now completing last-minute work on the development's power and sewage systems.

Campsites at the development include power, water and sewer hook-ups for recreation vehicles.

The landscaped property also includes a 40-foot swimming pool, an outdoor barbecue kitchen, a restroom facility with showers and a laundry with coin-operated machines.

A tennis court is expected to be completed within a month.

Robinson said dock facilities on Lake Chelan will be started when a federal permit comes through, probably in 6 to 8 weeks. The 130-acre development site includes 2,000 feet of beach.

Robinson's former general partner at the nearby Wapato Point condominium resort and since has become a local orchardist. Evans remains landowner representative for Wapato Point.

They began negotiations to lease Indian trust land for the Mill Bay project more than two years ago and have since faced environmental obstacles and some local opposition.

But during the past week the development posted its first sales prospects, who Robinson said heard about Mill Bay by word of mouth and came to camp out before bookings were even ready.

Fifty-year memberships are being offered for \$4,495. Members have unlimited use of the facilities. They'll be able to reserve RV campsites for up to two weeks on a first-come, first-served basis.

For hookup sites, members will be able to book only one reservation at a time. But they'll be able to camp elsewhere on the property

without reservations.

Robinson said Mill Bay is registered with the state to sell up to 300 memberships on its current level of development.

The site could accommodate as many as 735 RV campsites, plus additional swimming pools, tennis courts and other amenities. But that's "a long time away," Robinson said. A second phase of

campsite construction next year will depend on demand.

A second factor may be sewer service. More development is doubtful with Mill Bay's small on-site disposal system, Robinson said. With little capability remaining at Chelan's existing sewage treatment plant, Mill Bay may be kept waiting for a hookup to the Manson interceptor line.