



Public hearing for BNSF Railway Co. permit application
Fact Sheet

The IDL administers the Idaho Lake Protection Act and regulates encroachments and activities on, in, or above the beds of navigable lakes in the State of Idaho, including Lake Pend Oreille. BNSF Railway Co. must obtain a permit from IDL under the Idaho Lake Protection Act and corresponding administrative rules before project construction.

The Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) will hold public hearings on the application received from BNSF Railway Co. to construct a second train bridge adjacent to and west of the existing train bridge across Lake Pend Oreille and Sand Creek. Public hearing dates, times and locations are as follows:

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

First session: 8 AM Pacific - Ponderay Events Center, 401 Bonner Mall Way, Suite E, Ponderay

Second session: 6 PM Pacific - Sandpoint Middle School Gymnasium, 310 S. Division, Sandpoint
Doors open 30 minutes before the start of each session.

- The purpose of the hearing is so that the hearing coordinator can gather testimony for the record. The hearing coordinator will then make a decision on the encroachment permit application based on the written and oral evidence in the record; the Lake Protection Act; and the Rules for the Regulation of Beds, Waters, and Airspace over Navigable Lakes in the State of Idaho, IDAPA 20.03.04.000 *et seq.*
- This is a public hearing, not a public meeting, and there will be no question and answer period. The hearing coordinator is the only one who may ask questions of the speakers.
- Those wishing to speak at the hearing will be required to sign in, providing a clearly written email address or mailing address as those who comment will receive a copy of the decision.
- Written comment will be accepted through May 23, for consideration by the hearing coordinator.
- To help insure that everyone gets an opportunity to testify, detailed comments should be submitted in writing and only the highlights should be covered in oral testimony. The hearing coordinator may request that duplicative testimony be avoided and that testimony be directed to the specific permit application being considered.
- A decision will not be made at the end of the hearings on May 23; the final decision will be issued no later than 30 days after the hearing.
- The decision for IDL is independent of other state, federal and local agencies. Those agencies have separate considerations and authorization processes.