

From: [Kandice Stewart](#)
To: [Meghan Byers](#)
Subject: Re: Dock encroachment in Sourdough Point
Date: Wednesday, April 15, 2026 5:08:43 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that there is a proposal to extend the existing dock in the marina at Sourdough Point to add 4 additional boat slips.

As someone who has vacationed in Sandpoint for over 30+ years and still vacations there every summer with young children who basically live in the water along that particular shoreline, this proposal causes great concern to the safety of my children. My kids are 3, 7, and 10 and spend the majority of their day in the water whether it be swimming, paddleboarding, or with their cousins in a pedalboat. From morning until sun down, these kids are in the water.

Coming from a family who has had safety drilled into us our whole lives (especially water safety), we talk extensively with our kids about safety and visibility. They know to stay near the western shoreline particularly as they get nearer to the existing docks so that they give plenty of space to the boats that may be traveling in and out of the lagoon who may not see them immediately. My concern is that with added boat slips that narrow the distance between the docks and the shoreline, all it takes is one boat operator swinging wide in their big boat to try to park or exit and not seeing some of these kids on the water. I would love to assume that every boat operator exercises the same caution and safety measures that our family was taught... but in my lifetime I've seen my fair share of careless boat operators and close calls. It is not worth the risk to narrow the navigation channel, create blind spots, and add more boats to a small little lagoon at the risk of not only my children, but many other children in the community who utilize these waters all summer.

So I appeal to the Idaho Department of Lands to help protect our children and their recreational safety along this water corridor. It's dangerous enough already with swimmers and boats navigating the same waters - truthfully, I don't understand how this could even be considered because these docks are protruding out of the lagoon already. So please... do not grant this proposal. Protect the safety of all those who enjoy that little piece of heaven!

Thank you for your careful consideration in this matter.

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