From: jhsonline
To: Meghan Byers
Subject: Formal Objection to Proposed Encroachment Permit NP200101
Date: Thursday, October 1, 2026 8:22:54 PM

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Hi Meghan,

My wife and I have already turned in the $75 fee for contesting the community docks on pending permit **NP200101** on parcel **RP027630000CA0A**. I would like to submit additional information to be included for the future public hearing.

We request that the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) deny or require major modifications to this permit based on the following structural and legal issues:

- **Infringement on the Line of Navigability and River Current Impacts:** Pushing a structure 100 feet straight out into the water channel on this side of the river artificially extends past the natural line of navigability established by existing, historic docks in the immediate area (including my own dock, which sits 60 feet from the line). Extending this far into the water creates a distinct hazard for public boating, safety, and local navigation. Furthermore, extending 100 feet out places the dock and moored vessels directly into the active river current. This high-flow positioning increases the risk of watercraft drifting during docking maneuvers, creating a safety concern for boats navigating the channel and a collision risk for adjacent downstream properties.
- **Violation of the 25-Foot Littoral Setback Rule:** IDL rules require that all floating structures, slips, and moored vessels maintain a strict setback from extended side property lines to prevent encroachment on neighboring littoral rights. By placing the physical structure a mere 25 feet from the boundary line, any watercraft moored in those 35-foot slips will inherently cross, crowd, or unsafely bottleneck the open water buffer between our properties. I am highly concerned that any large boat requiring a 35-foot slip will have to cross over my littoral line just to enter and exit.
- **Encroachment on Historic Littoral Rights:** My family's fixed pile-supported dock has safely and continuously occupied its historic footprint since the 1980s. This massive proposed multi-slip layout crowds the shoreline zone, threatens to bottleneck our safe navigation path, and unfairly impacts our historic littoral rights.

Hydrologic and Wake Reflection Impacts: Because this location sits near a high-traffic bend in the river, placing a massive floating structure 100 feet into the channel will disrupt natural wave and current patterns. It will reflect boat wakes directly back toward our shoreline and 1980's pile dock, creating artificial erosion hazards that impact our upland bank. That is in addition to the increased erosion from adding more boats to this portion of the river.

Thank you for adding these points to our pending file. I've tried to emphasize my concerns more with how they relate to the water and less on problems related to the land.

Sincerely,

Jason and Heather Merrifield
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Priest River, ID