

April 1, 2020

Bill Felten
5480 Bottle Bay Rd
Sagle, ID 83860

DEPT OF LANDS

APR 02 2020

Idaho Department of Lands

Regarding my dock permit application, L-96-S-2571, and the objections stated to its issue, kindly permit me to argue the following.

How did this situation come about? This property was re-platted in 2016 due to the necessity of selling the home property. This created a new parcel specifically for the purpose of allowing continued lake access. It was believed that 25' of frontage would allow a usable dock to be constructed. The original idea was for a 60' dock with accompanying boat lift allowing safe tie up in the water conditions normal on this unprotected shoreline. Why is this important? The nearest public boat ramp is ten miles away. Leaving a boat tied up in heavy weather can lead to a wrecked and sunken boat as we have previously experienced. This danger is readily apparent when one observes the docks on either side of the dock proposed are of exactly the same description and function.

I acknowledge the ten foot setbacks from property lines, but ask that in this case they be waived at least on one side. The purpose of the setbacks, as I understand them, is to minimize boat maneuvering, docking and other incursions in front of neighboring property.

A second object of the setbacks would preclude adjoining docks from being closer than twenty feet to each other.

A third, and I believe unintentional result, is the overwhelming weight given to neighboring objections, essentially giving them veto power. This is not the case with any other property right that I'm aware of. Objections are understandable and deserve to be considered. They may be valid. But when did they become absolute?

Regarding the first issue, intrusive activity in front of adjoining property, I submit that a dock at the ten foot setback is still entitled to be tied up to and to embark and disembark passengers. A boat lift in this area merely facilitates the safe docking, docking already allowed, and does not significantly affect the legitimate use or function in the setback area.

Secondly, regarding the crowding of docks, it should be considered that the two adjacent docks are in excess of twenty feet away from the proposed dock, being 75' and 58' at the closest points respectively.

And finally, I am at a loss to see why my neighbors are entitled to deny me, essentially by veto, boat access to the lake, the same access they themselves enjoy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

