Please send confirmation of your receiving this email. Our comments are attached.
Comments in opposition to permit request in Case No. PH-2021-PUB-10-001

My name is Jack Kelly. My wife Peggy and I purchased our home located in the Outlet Bay Owners Association (OBOA) in September of 2020. However, during the last 18 years we have had boats moored at Bishop’s and Priest Lake Marina so we have significant experience with the county owned boat launches in Coolin and Kalispel Bay. Obviously, the Outlet Bay launch is vastly different from those and we believe that the county needs to be proactive and clearly promote and educate the public about its limitations and restrictions.

Our home sits on lot 24 which is one of the 9 lots adjacent to Outlet Bay Road that has a minimum setback from the road of only 10 feet. (Bonner County Conditional Use Permit File #C701-00 section 5b) Our deck, where we spend considerable time, is on the south end of the home and overlooks Outlet Bay Road and the launch area.

This last summer we observed that many of the people who launch their boats at Outlet Bay are familiar with its limitations and respectful of the OBOA home owners. They turn around and back in from Lake Street, then park up the road, where their vehicle and trailer are not in front of anyone’s home.

However, some used OBOA’s private property to turn around. And there were several who, after pulling their boats out, parked adjacent to our homes to clean out and wipe down their boats. One was there almost an hour.

Based on our observations, we are requesting that the County promote and manage the Boat Launch with the following restrictions.

1. People launching their boats must back into the launch. They can turn around on Lake Street but all side roads and property beyond that point are private property.
2. Because the roadway is narrow between Lake Street and the launch, there is only room for one vehicle/boat to be in the launch area at a time. Additional vehicles/trailers need to wait beyond Lake Street.
3. The launch area needs to be just for launching or pulling out boats. Once that is accomplished, boat owners need to park elsewhere.
4. There should not be parking on any of the private property adjacent to or on Outlet Bay Road east of Lake Street. This is a safety issue as this road is heavily used by pedestrians, including children. Pedestrians need to be able to have access to the sides of the roadway so they can avoid traffic launching their boats or vehicles traveling in and out of our community.

We also request there be clear signage and informational materials stating these restrictions so people are completely aware BEFORE they head to the launch. It is our goal to be good
neighbors to individuals using the launch. We believe that can be accomplished if people will follow these rules.

Thank you for considering this information as you move forward.

Sincerely,

Jack and Peggy Kelly