Comments in opposition to permit request in Case No. PH-2021-PUB-10-001. Please confirm receipt of this letter to mcveypamila@comcast.net.

Thank you.

Mrs. Pamila McVey Richardson.
January 4, 2022

To: comments@idl.idaho.gov, mahmer@idl.idaho.gov

My name is Pamila McVey Richardson and I am a homeowner in the Outlet Bay Owners Association. My deceased husband and I purchased our cabin and our membership in the Association in 1996. Additionally, I have been a Board member for this Association.

I feel that I have a very good understanding of the many years of issues and litigation surrounding the boat ramp at Outlet Bay. I am one of a handful of long term members who still know the history of the boat ramp. Therefore I feel I need to address the issue central to this hearing.

I do not support giving Bonner County an encroachment permit at Outlet Bay simply because Judge Bereez ruled in favor of Bonner County having literal rights. I have listed my reasons below and hope that you will consider these when contemplating your decision.

1. Bonner County has a fiduciary duty to the tax paying citizens of Bonner County. There is an understanding that Bonner County would like to have a county boat launch at the southwest portion of Priest Lake in the Outlet Bay area rather than the contested ramp that has existed at the end of Outlet Bay Road for years. That is not in dispute. What IS in dispute is the encroachment permit needed to establish an official full service county boat launch at the end of Outlet Bay Road. It is known that this area has very minimal space, i.e. road only, and is in the middle of a private residential association with absolutely no room to provide the needed services of turn around space for a vehicle with boat trailer, restrooms, garbage disposal and public parking.

In my opinion, any money Bonner County has already put toward litigation and recent maintenance on the ramp at the end of Outlet Bay Road has not been in good fiduciary judgement. The continuation of offering a “less than full service” boat launch (ramp) would not serve the citizens and public adequately.

2. There is property one quarter of a mile (1/4) from Outlet Bay Owners Association which the forest service owns and maintains as Outlet Campground. In fact, the Outlet Campground already provides services to the citizens of Bonner County, the State of Idaho and the general public with restrooms, garbage disposal, public parking, a swim/boat area and adequate turn around space for vehicles with trailers and boats.

3. Perhaps the State of Idaho would be remiss in not looking at an alternative to this hearing. In my history at Outlet Bay Owners Association, common boat launching use by neighbors at Outlet ramp is usually late May to June and late September to early October. To date, I realize that a previous owner of Outlet Bay Resort had conflict surrounding the public’s use of the ramp. The Association purchased the marina from the previous owner and the boat ramp was portioned to the Association with the marina. Since then, it is understood the Association has been accommodating the surrounding neighbors needs to launch their boats in and out seasonally. I do not see these status quo accommodations currently used at the Outlet ramp would change if Bonner County did not receive an encroachment permit at the termination of Outlet Bay road, nor would the neighbors loose the ability to continue using the ramp as they always have.

4. In my opinion, Bonner County would serve its fiduciary duties by investing in a full size boat launch in conjunction with the forest service at Outlet Campground. In that location, a full sized launch would not fall short of providing for the citizens and public as does the inadequate ramp at Outlet Bay Road site. An example of a full size launch with services can be found
approximately 8 miles north of Outlet Bay Road at the forest service boat launch located at Kalispel Bay on Lakeshore Road. A similar full service launch could be installed at the Outlet campground.

5. The off and on intermittent use of the ramp at Outlet Road during the summers months of June to August comes from campers and day use boaters, not the neighbors. Would it not seem logical to establish a boat launch where the general public already goes to use the facilities at the forest service Outlet Campground in Outlet Bay? Establishing a launch at the existing forest service Outlet Campground is the alternative that meets criteria for the public's needs and for Bonner County funds to be used prudently by the Commissioners and the State of Idaho.

Thank you for your time to address this issue and to read this letter. Again, I do not support an encroachment permit being issued to Bonner County for the water at the end of Outlet Bay Road.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Pamila C. Richardson (formerly McVey)