

**From:** Gretchen Vasquez <pfposse@gmail.com>  
**Sent on:** Monday, December 23, 2024 1:51:28 AM  
**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>  
**Subject:** L-95-S-3036N

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## **IDL Case No. PH-2024-NAV-22-004 / OAH Case No. 24-320-09**

My comment on the application to permit the expansion of a commercial marina on the Spokane River is to deny it.

I frequently use the river to paddle board , I put in at Q'melin Park and travel towards Templin's Red Lion Resort. It is a no wake zone. However, most boaters do not abide by this rule. I hear air horns quite often from landowners along with them shouting that it is a no wake zone. Frequently, the boats zip past me and do not even give me a wide berth. The wake of the boats challenge my ability to stay on the board as well as cause erosion to the shore. Allowing more boats easy access to the river will cause even more congestion and safety issues. It is already a problem, why exacerbate it?

Gretchen Vasquez

**From:** Bob M <rafterrbarranch@gmail.com>

**Sent on:** Sunday, December 22, 2024 9:24:02 PM

**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>; Filings <filings@oah.idaho.gov>

**Subject:** application # L-95-S-3036N

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There does not need to be any more boat slips on the Spokane river. The people from out of the area and the ones who only live here for one or two months of the year don't need a place for a boat. Adding 100 boat slips will have a severe impact on the environment of the river and affect fish and wildlife of the river and downstream in the river.

**From:** Eric Beghtel <n47w116@gmail.com>  
**Sent on:** Sunday, December 22, 2024 8:21:49 PM  
**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>  
**Subject:** Concerns Over Proposed Marina Expansion in Post Falls

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I'm writing to voice my opposition to the plan to add 100 boat slips at the marina in Post Falls. The Spokane River is already crowded with boat traffic during the summer months, which has created safety concerns and environmental damage. Adding 100 more permanent boats to the system will only make these problems worse.

Wakeboard boats and other large vessels create wakes that erode shorelines, stir up sediment, and damage water quality. A 2012 study by the Spokane Conservation District showed how these wakes harm the riverbanks and disrupt the river's ecosystem (Spokane Conservation District, 2012). Kootenai County has tried to address these issues with a 150-foot "no excessive wake" zone, but enforcing that rule is nearly impossible in narrow sections of the river, especially with the high number of boats already on the water.

The increased traffic would also make it harder for kayakers and canoeists to safely enjoy the river. Large wakes from boats create dangerous conditions, and the congestion makes the river less appealing for those seeking peaceful recreation. Anglers, too, would face additional challenges. The increased sediment disturbance and damage to aquatic vegetation caused by heavy boat traffic can impact fishing spots and overall river health.

The Spokane River is an essential natural and recreational resource, but it's under strain. Adding more boats to the mix will only push the river closer to its limits, affecting everyone who uses and enjoys it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Eric Beghtel  
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

**From:** Mariette Buck <mariettebuck@gmail.com>  
**Sent on:** Saturday, December 21, 2024 4:09:25 AM  
**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>  
**Subject:** Application #L-95-S-3036N

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Subject: Boat slips on the Spokane River at Templins

To whom it may concern:

I live just east of Templins Resort and have spent many hours kayaking on the Spokane River for the past 20 years that I've lived here. Each year the motor boat traffic has increased dramatically. Boats often travel at excessive speeds, sometimes jumping wakes, sometimes pulling skiers, sometimes just going far too fast. Weekends and holidays are particularly busy and I fear that it's only a matter of time before someone gets seriously hurt.

Already there was a serious accident when a fisherman anchored near shore was hit by a speedboat.

The river is actually very narrow at many points and adding over 100 new boat slips will only add to the overcrowding on the river.

Sincerely,

Mariette Buck

**From:** Vic Parrish <fissionmeister@gmail.com>

**Sent on:** Friday, December 20, 2024 8:26:37 PM

**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>

**CC:** Joseph Parrish <FissionMeister@gmail.com>

**Subject:** Urgent Request for Denial of Application # L-95-S-3036N - Addition of 100 Boat Slips on the Spokane River

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To: Idaho Department of Lands,

My

wife and I are residents living on the Spokane River. We are writing to strongly oppose and urge the denial of application # L-95-S-3036N, which proposes the addition of 100 new boat slips. As homeowners directly affected by the river's conditions, we have

firsthand knowledge of the severe impacts this development could have.

## **Environmental**

### **Impact:**

From our home on the river, we've witnessed the delicate balance of our local ecosystem. Our weather camera, which continuously records the section of the river at Harbor Island, captures the daily changes and disturbances caused by boat traffic. Adding more

boats would intensify the erosion and sediment disruption, further damaging the river's ecological health, especially during peak seasons.

## **Property**

### **Damage:**

We've attached a link to a video illustrating the typical boating activity taken on Monday, July 15, 2024, for about four hours from 3 PM to 7 PM. The playback speed is 4x for timely viewing. I've also attached a link to a video I posted on Reddit last year,

which demonstrates the potential for property damage from wakes, which would only increase with more boats. One of our river neighbors is facing over \$30,000 in repairs to his dock due to heavy boat traffic. My wife and I have personally spent several thousand

dollars repairing seasonal damage to our property, and this application would likely lead to even higher costs for all riverfront residents.

## **Safety**

### **Concerns:**

**PC-00020**

The video further highlights the safety risks as boats navigate this already busy section of the river. More slips mean more boats, exacerbating the dangers for all users, especially in the narrow waters near Harbor Island.

## **Regulatory**

### **Challenges:**

The footage we've provided shows the challenges of enforcing current boating regulations. With increased boat traffic, these challenges would only grow, leading to more breaches of safety and environmental norms.

## **Community**

### **and Precedent:**

Living here, we are acutely aware of the community's vocal opposition to developments threatening our river's integrity. Legal precedents in similar situations support protective measures, but this application contradicts those precedents and the community's desires.

Given

our direct experience, the evidence from our continuous weather camera, and the attached video clips, we strongly advocate for the outright denial of application # L-95-S-3036N. As seen through our camera and in our daily lives, current usage of the Spokane

River is already stressing it, particularly with the evolving issue of wake boats. The financial burden on residents, as exemplified by the significant repair costs our neighbor and we have faced, is a testament to the need for conservation rather than expansion of boat facilities.

Thank

you for considering this critical matter. We are excited to hear your decision to deny this application, safeguarding the Spokane River for everyone who cherishes it.

Sincerely,


Vic  
& Traci Parrish

5432  
E. Marina Court

Post  
Falls, ID 83854

**PC-00020**

(509)539-1847

 typical-4-hours-on-spokane-river-v0-  
ajFvY25jYTIxMThlMQn3U07zn9Xs6rpyve  
tiLOCrFIi5i3E7Pa.jpeg

From the SpokaneRiver community on Reddit:  
Typical 4-Hours on Spokane River!  
reddit.com

 zPmPZJnQwAKvRwDS1-  
5cpQtu\_5lR7a2EHQ8GjtX3qRE.jpeg

From the SpokaneRiver community on Reddit:  
Excessive Wake?  
reddit.com

**From:** Skip Allert <skipallert@gmail.com>  
**Sent on:** Thursday, December 19, 2024 3:58:34 PM  
**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>  
**Subject:** Spokane River

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The river is already a dangerous place to boat on weekends.  
Kids can no longer play on the beach because of the large wakes from wake boats.  
Please don't allow more traffic on the river.  
Thank You  
Sent from my iPad



**From:** Paula Smyly <paulajeansmyly@gmail.com>  
**Sent on:** Monday, December 23, 2024 12:27:43 AM  
**To:** Navigable Waterways <navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov>  
**CC:** Paula Smyly <paulajeansmyly@gmail.com>; Patrick Smyly <psmyly@roadrunner.com>  
**Subject:** Fwd: DL Case No. PH-2024-NAV-22-004 / OAH Case No. 24-320-09, 414 PF Hospitality, LLC  
**Attachments:** Smyly Marina 33 response.docx (17.28 KB)

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Paula Smyly** <[paulajeansmyly@gmail.com](mailto:paulajeansmyly@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, Dec 20, 2024 at 1:14 PM  
Subject: DL Case No. PH-2024-NAV-22-004 / OAH Case No. 24-320-09, 414 PF Hospitality, LLC  
To: <[navigablewaters@idl.idaho.gov](mailto:navigablewaters@idl.idaho.gov)>

Please see attached letter of objection. Please confirm receipt of this letter.

December 20, 2024

To: [navigablewaters@idl.idaho.gov](mailto:navigablewaters@idl.idaho.gov)  
Idaho Department of Lands

Re: DL Case No. PH-2024-NAV-22-004 / OAH Case No. 24-320-09  
414 PF Hospitality, LLC

From: Paula and Patrick Smyly  
Greenview Condominiums  
208 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, C4  
Post Falls, Idaho. 83854  
208.660.5743 and 208.661.9049

Objections and Comments:

1. Patrick and I attended the Public Hearing last night at the Coeur d'Alene High School.
2. We are very disappointed that we were NOT notified, nor was the Greenview HOA. By happenstance, we found out 8 days ago. This is INEXCUSABLE since our property is right next door. The documents show that "our" notice was sent to ASI – and returned undeliverable. ASI was the management company used by the HOA several years ago. Why was nothing done to get this to us? Where to we file to get our correct notification center? Funny – IDL has the correct address to send us our waterway lease information AND Stancraft – a sister company to 414 PF Hospitality – can bill us correctly for our dock repairs.
3. In our opinion, this lack of notice, became inexcusable – when almost every comment speaker last night – said they also did not receive notice. The 414 representing attorney and IDL stated that – to date, they haven't heard from adjacent property owners. Those adjacent property owners were not property noticed.
4. We do NOT believe that the Break Water – referenced multiple times – sets the boundary lines. This was NOT part of the original development by Bob Templin – it was a break water used for river logging that never got removed. Regardless of how long it's been there, it should NOT set a boundary line. NO ENTITY – private or commercial – should be allowed to put water structures IN FRONT OF other people's shorelines. The proposed new configuration puts the additional dock structure in front of our shoreline – specifically Buildings D and C. IDL would not allow a private party to put their dock structure in front of ANY other property owners – and it should happen to us. While we don't support the addition of more boat slips – IF more are added – they should be added to the EAST side of the Templin's property, where they HAVE additional shoreline. Please do not let this application allow more marina to be added to Greenview's shoreline.
5. Much was said last night about the congestion of boat traffic in our small ¼ mile area that is already established. This is true. We, like many others, do not use our boat on the weekends, because of boat traffic congestion – yes, even in the no wake zone. Please consider that in addition to testimony last night, Q'emiln Park, next to Spokane Street Bridge, has a public boat launch. I am unsure of how many boats/trailers the park holds, but there is a CONSTANT stream of traffic coming and going from there every day. And very heavy traffic on the weekends. It's simply dangerous to have this many boats moored and launched in such a small footprint.
6. 414 suggests that they will improve safety on the water. How can this statement be a fact when our waterway is already overpopulated and dangerous. Adding more slips is going to improve safety how?

7. As a side note – my family is 6 generations in North Idaho. I am generation 3. We are not the typical, let us come, let us take over and close the door folks. I want my property to be safe for our parents, kids and grandkids. Right now, the only reason they can recreate at our own dock is we have a log boom that protects our little swimmers.

Please do not approve this request. At the very least, do not allow any docks, structures, or otherwise to be put off the shoreline of Greenvew's waterfront feet shoreline.

Respectfully,  
Paula and Patrick Smyly

AGCY. CASE No. PH-2024-NAV-22-004

OAH Case No. 24-320-09

Regarding 414 PF Hospitality LLC 116 Boat Slip Expansion for Commercial Marina & Store.

Position: **OPPOSED**

Dear Idaho Department of Lands,

The following is a paragraph from the Idaho Department of Lands Policy. P.6, 012, Policy, 01.: Environmental Protection and Navigational or Economic Necessity. It is the express policy of the State of Idaho that the public health, interest, safety and welfare requires that all encroachments upon, in or above the beds or waters of navigable lakes on the state be regulated in order that the protection of property, navigation, fish and wildlife habitat, aquatic life, recreation, aesthetic beauty and water quality be given due consideration and weighed against the navigational and economic necessity or justification for, or benefit to be derived from the proposed encroachment. ***Moreover, it is the responsibility of State Board of Land Commissioners to regulate and control the use or disposition of state-owned lake beds, so as to provide for their commercial, navigational, recreational and public use.***

My family has owned property directly across from Templin's Red Lion since the late 70s (it was a field then). I grew up on the Spokane River, learned to swim, fish, water ski, and boogie board between its shores. For nearly 45 years I have ***recreated*** on these waters and I now take my teens boating on the Spokane River. The river's ***serenity*** and ***aesthetic beauty*** have changed, to sit here and reminisce about old times serve nothing.

The Spokane River from the Q'emlin boat launch to Lake Coeur d'Alene has become a major thoroughfare during the summertime. Those affected by this the most are the residents that live along the river. These residents pay good money and taxes to live and enjoy waterfront, but it is becoming less desirable because of increased traffic, marinas and their ***economic*** gain. We all know that the Spokane River is narrow and shallow in many areas, there are already areas of concern because of copious amounts of boaters and risk due to surf boats. This concern has caused damage to both ***residential properties*** and had an ***environmental impact*** on shores and the bottom of the river. Now

more traffic is being allowed without feasibility impact studies. Take a ride with me in my boat, you will learn a lot within a half hour.

Just in boat slips alone, the Templin's Red Lion presently has 170 (approximately) slips, River's Edge has 142 slips, the Greenview condos can accommodate 20 boats. This is a total of 332 boats NOT INCLUDING the boats launched at Q'emlin, Greensferry and Blackwell Island and waterfront residents. Now add another 116 boats for the proposed expansion. This will be 450 boats stored within a half-mile area along with two boating gas stations. What kind of **environmental impact** will this have on the residents along the river and directly across from the marina area? The 450 boats does not include tax-paying boating residents on the river and boats launched by locals and out-of-staters. Add the hundreds of boating waterfront residents and those that launch; you now have a **navigational nightmare**.

In the last 5 years the no wake zone just east of the bridge in front of the homes on the south side of the river including Crystal Bay have become an area where boats drop their anchors, sit not far off the docks and play their music. 9 times out of 10, they are from the marinas. We have had to several times to use bull horns to tell boaters to turn down music. We live here and now our best season is listening to music and noise from these boaters. Is this what you would desire with your waterfront?

I can no longer take the kids boating anytime from Friday morning to Sunday after dinner because the traffic is **dangerous** and **not safe**. We time our boating excursions, especially to pull a tuber or wake boarder. It has become combat boating, now we are adding more boats which will add to the **navigational nightmare** it already is.

I am adamantly **OPPOSED** to this marina. Please re-evaluate the impact of the river. Re-evaluate the impact on the residents that live along the river. Please re-evaluate the navigational, environmental, safety issues that are present. There is no economic gain for the public in this situation whatsoever.

Please listen to those who live here and pay taxes.

Polly Schindler – [schindlerjp1991@gmail.com](mailto:schindlerjp1991@gmail.com) – 208-659-5440