From: James

To: <u>barbj72@gmail.com</u>

**Subject:** Spokane River boat slip permission issue **Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 5:45:59 PM

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To: Idaho Department of Lands

navigablewaterways@idl.idaho.gov

From: Barbara and Dale James

708 E Anchor Way

Post Falls, ID 83854

Re: Concerns regarding increasing number of boat slips on the Spokane River

We are probably the oldest full-time residents along the Spokane River, living just east of the Red Lion hotel and River Run gated community. We have resided in this location since 1980 and have both seen and experienced the changes in residential and recreational availability during these 45 years.

The number of boat slips keeps increasing along the river, seemingly with little or no regard or process for gaining a permit to allow a slip. This began when you (IDL) permitted Stancraft to provide an additional 100+ slips when they purchased Templins Red Lion hotel, with little or no notice to residents in the immediate area. Now, it seems that you are also considering adding another 96 slips in two locations, bringing a possible total of 223+ new slips along the river.

The blanket statement being tossed around of "Let's make the river a no wake zone" is not viable and would certainly detract from the recreational opportunities and value provided now to both Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene.

We are opposed to the procedure/process of approving these boat slips. It is difficult to understand that approval can be granted without any study of the river's maximum capacity, erosion, or other issues. We would encourage all responsible for these decisions to study the impact more closely than seems to be happening, and delay approval until you have sufficient factual information to make a wise and informed decision. If there is no updated and reasonably comprehensive permit process in place, take the time to establish one and take the responsibility for doing so.

Thank you -

Barbara and Dale James

--

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software. www.avast.com

From: Connie Davis
To: Navigable Waterways

Subject: Greensferry (Permit #L95S6163A) and Atlas/River"s Edge additional Boat docks

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 2:05:03 PM

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Please save our river, erosion control and safety of our existing people using the Spokane River, Idaho upriver side of Post Falls Dam. Come out and use the river on the weekend especially. This might open your eyes to the growth. I don't believe the regulations have kept up the growth of the boating and recreational use of the river.

Take time to do a study of the usage and damage being done to the river.

Thank you

Connie Davis 112 S Coho Rd Post Falls, ID From: Debra Hammett

To: Navigable Waterways

Subject: Protect our river

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 12:08:52 PM

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Greetings. We're at a crossroads here to save the quality of our Spokane river. As a resident of Harbor Island since 1987, I have seen many changes......many. The most noticeable is the volume of boat traffic on the water. Boats are also bigger! If you continue to grant permits for multiple marina slips (ie Templins, Greensferry, and Atlas), permanent residents of our beautiful N Idaho will again be left to clean up the aftermath of careless recreation. Tourists don't worry about the LEAD in our river bed. Anyone who has lived here more than a minute can recognize the complications of our population explosion. Please don't let the destruction of our river go unchecked. High boat traffic added to summer heat creates volatile tempers in all parties. Please help calm our waters and our residents with a moratorium on more slips. Thank you in advance for protecting the Spokane river.

Deb Hammett 6182 W Harbor Drive Coeur d'Alene

To: Subject: Date:	Navigable Waterways Concerned Citizens Monday, August 4, 2025 5:43:41 PM
	This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.
Hello Idaho I	Dept of Lands,
THERE NEE	the addition of 223+ additional boat slips added to the Spokane River. AT THE VERY LEAST, DS TO BE A PAUSE ON PERMITS, AND AN ASSESSMENT/STUDY OF THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY, SAFETY, EROSION and other issues impacting the river.
	e bay across from Templins and are very concerned with the safety of swimmers, people on non ter toys, water life and erosion of our land.
We simply do	o not have the space for this huge increase of boat traffic to continue a safe bay.
Thank you,	
Delina Basor	e
Concerned C	itizens

From:

dbasore secairc.com

From: Diane Winebarger

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>; <u>Diane Winebarger</u>

**Subject:** Subject: Spokane River Boat Slip Expansion Issues

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 2:20:00 PM

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As a residential property owner on the Spokane River we would like to provide you with our comments as to the ongoing, continue expansion/addition of boat slips, marinas, etc., on the Spokane River.

The amount of traffic on the Spokane River has dramatically increased over the past several years creating dangerous conditions, shore erosion, damage to boats/docks, etc. As retirees, we elect not to use our boat or jet skis on the weekend because of heavy boat traffic and what we determine to be unsafe conditions.

The river is too narrow to allow for continued expansion of boat slips by marinas and commercial boating operations. These marinas and commercial boating operations have negatively impacted the enjoyment by the general public and property owners of the recreational opportunities of the river due to overcrowding.

The public sector decision makers should seriously consider all aspects associated with expansions such as safety, environmental, future development of vacant land, etc., before issuing permits for commercial/multiple boat slips.

E. C. Winebarger Diane Winebarger dianewinebarger@yahoo.com From: Erica Sheppard
To: Navigable Waterways

Subject:Comments on Permit #L95S6163ADate:Monday, August 4, 2025 12:28:14 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am writing an email to address the proposed permit of boat slips off of Atlas road on the Spokane River. The permit number for this proposed encroachment is #L95S6163A. I currently reside on the Spokane River in my family's house, which my grandparents purchased in the late 1980's. I have been an Idaho resident most my life, and have recreated on the Spokane River since I was a child. As a resident on the Spokane River, I would like to comment on the additional boat slips requested on behalf of myself and my family.

An additional 74 boat slips on the Spokane River at this time is not appropriate. The Spokane River is a narrow river and already has significant congestion issues due to the population increase in the area. Adding more boats and jet skis to the river will affect not only the community surrounding the Spokane River, but also the waterway itself.

At the current time, safety of those that recreate on the river is already a significant issue. Patrol and enforcement of waterway safety regulations is not occuring at this time due to the understaffed Marine Deputy Department (who are mostly part-time and patrol the Coeur d' Alene Lake.) This has led to people not following the laws that keep the waterway safe. Boats are traveling too quickly, people do not wear appropriate gear for boating (life jackets), and safety rules and regulations involving towing others are not being followed. I have seen many near accidents as those recreating on the river travel too close to other boats or to personal docks. Adding an additional 74 boats to the Spokane River is a definitive safety concern for all who recreate on the Spokane River. More boats and recreation vehicles will cause more accidents on the river.

Secondly, the addition of these boat slips on the Spokane River will cause more damage to the waterway itself. Erosion of the shoreline of the river has increased significantly due to capacity of the river and wake size. At the current time, there is no wake limit on the Spokane River. The wake size has increased over the years and is now around 3-4 ft. This wake size has caused erosion damage to the soil of the river and is damaging the natural habitat of the fish, ducks, geese, and other birds that live in the area. The damage and disruption to the soil of the riverbed is unknown, and no scientific studies have been completed to see what the current damage to the riverbed is. As the river flows from Coeur d' Alene Lake, it would be recommended to test the soil for lead and other harsh chemicals, as mining from North Idaho has affected the Lake, and may now be affecting the Spokane River. This would be unsafe to stir up with additional wakes and boats and if this permit moves forward, more damage to the riverbed will occur. This damage may bring additional health hazards to those who recreate on the Spokane River.

Additionally, the wake sizes on the river have caused many landowners significant costs to repair damage to their property along the river and in many cases loss of acreage. The damage is now done, but to prevent further issues, something needs to be done to ease the mounting load of the river on its shoreline. At this time, adding additional boat slips is unsafe and unwise. Before moving ahead with any endeavors that affect the waterway, I believe that more scientific studies and research into populations and safety of the waterway be taken by the Department of Lands. Additionally research on the riverbed and soil erosion is needed to see what is occurring beneath the surface of this waterway. This data can then be used to determine if additional boat slips are safe for the community and the river. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

From a Concerned Citizen, Erica Sheppard

AT THE VERY LEAST, THERE NEEDS TO BE A PAUSE ON PERMITS, AND AN ASSESSMENT/STUDY
AT THE VERY LEAST, THERE NEEDS TO BE A PAUSE ON PERMITS, AND AN ASSESSMENT/STUDY OF THE MAXIMUM CARRYING CAPACITY, SAFETY, EROSION
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AT THE VERY LEAST, THERE NEEDS TO BE A PAUSE ON PERMITS, AND AN ASSESSMENT/STUDY OF THE MAXIMUM CARRYING CAPACITY, SAFETY, EROSION

From: Jack Glinski
To: Navigable Waterways

**Subject:** Opposition to Boat Slips-Spokane River **Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 1:52:54 PM

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To: IDL Members:

This email is intended to express my opposition to the additional boat slips being proposed at Templin's Resort, Atlas and Greensferry on the Spokane River.

Our home is located approximately 8 lots upstream from Templin's Resort on the Spokane River. I have resided on the Spokane River for over 40 years. My parents, prior to their death, resided here since 1972. These proposed boat slips are most definitely a NEGATIVE for homeowners, boaters, recreational users and the River itself.

On the daily, we witness the congestion, the wakes created by oversized boats and wakeboats. the damage to the shoreline, the danger to our wildlife. On the daily, we witness close calls between boats, jet skis, paddleboarders and kayakers. Not to mention the close proximity that these boaters come to our children and grandchildren while swimming near the shore and docks. The River is already very congested and the addition of these boat slips will only further congest and cause an extremely dangerous situation. Trust us, the close calls with the present boat activity is already terrifying.

Just two days ago, 2 large Stancraft boats, heading towards Templins Resort downriver caused a huge amount of water to "swamp" our floating dock. I cannot imagine an additional 50 to 100 boats utilizing the River and causing the amount of wake and damage to shoreline and property. The wake created by the large boats that would be housed at the proposed boat slips at Templin's will be detrimental to the shoreline and properties.

The River is a blessing to the public and we do not come to this opinion as "entitled homeowners" but as a first hand account of the present situation. As a 50+ year Idaho resident living right on the Spokane River, I have witnessed change. Along with this change has come the increase of usage of the River and safety concerns. My position as a boater and River resident makes me a valid witnesses to what is presently happening and the concern and danger of further traffic on the Spokane River.

The Marine Sherriff Department opinion should be carefully considered.

Public opinion on this matter should be weighed much more heavily than that of private investors seeking these boat slips for financial gain. Public safety and the damages to the River itself should be the primary concern when decisions are made.
Regards,
John (Jack) Glinski, Jr.
549 S Idaho Street
Post Falls, ID 83854
Phone 208-660-1032

From: Jackie Glenn

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

**Subject:** Spokane River Permit #1 -Templins **Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 4:54:36 PM

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The boat traffic on the Spokane River is heavier than ever. The addition of the boat slips at Templins will only aggravate the problem. I live on the river and have seen many close calls.

The river is just not wide enough to keep expanding boat traffic. I used to go out on the weekends and now do not as the river is too busy. I really think that there should be more studies done before approval is given. Once done there is no going back.

Regards, Jackie Glenn From: Jim Landers

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

Subject:Post Falls Atlas/Rivers Edge boat slipsDate:Monday, August 4, 2025 10:35:57 AM

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I frequently boat on the Spokane River. It has been for years overcrowded. Common sense would tell anyone that more docks on the river is not warranted. Deny this request for more slips on the river.

From: Jody Wilson

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

**Subject:** Opposition to Additional Boat Slips on the Spokane River

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 2:36:51 PM

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Idaho Department of Lands,

I am writing you to let you know that we oppose the addition of 223+ additional boat slips added to the Spokane River. There are already too many boats going to fast along the river. It is unsafe and noisy and dangerous. Please think about safety. We who live along the river already see daily near misses on the busy days on the river.

Thank you for voting no on this proposal,

Jody Wilson 6701 W Harbor Dr Coeur D Alene ID From: Kim Wilson

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

**Subject:** No to More boat slips on the Spokane River **Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 2:41:16 PM

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I am opposed to more boat slips on the Spokane River. It is already very unsafe with the boats we have on the river now. As homeowners on the River we see constant potentially dangerous situations with too many boats going too fast on the river regardless of what the speed limit is. They get way too close to the docks and don't pay enough attention to other boats. Please think about our North Idaho resident's safety.

Thank you,

Kim Wilson

From: Liz Koury

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

**Subject:** Opposition to additional boat slips Spokane River!

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 5:38:44 PM

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I am writing today in opposition of all the proposed addition of boat slips on the Spokane River, between CdA lake and the Post Falls dam.

I have been a resident on the river for almost 30 years. What I have seen in the last 8 years is nothing short of astonishing and horrific. I have witnessed exponential increase in boat traffic, wave size, erosion, property damage and safety issues. Daily. It's hard to believe there is any public official or agency that cares about the long term consequences and environmental impact of what is being allowed to happen to a valuable natural resource for corporate profit.

Please. I beg your department to stop or pause any additions until environmental impact studies are completed and laws are put in place AND existing regulations are upheld. We need to protect the health and safety of waterways first. Please stop the greed and put the people and the resources first.

I would like to extend an invitation to anyone that would like to see what is happening on evenings and weekends to come over for a couple hours to witness some of the madness.

Liz Koury 6347 W Harbor Dr CdA 83814 From: Mary Lee Linton
To: Navigable Waterways
Cc: Mary Lee Linton; Dirk Linton

Subject: Re: New permit requests on Spokane River

Date: Monday, August 4, 2025 1:26:46 PM

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

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Dear waterways manager at IDL,

We are residents living on the Spokane River between Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene, ID. Our family has owned this property since 1965.

We are writing today to express our strong opposition to the New Permit applications for boat slips on the Spokane River. Specifically 2 new permits: #1) Atlas/River's Edge, (74 slips) Permit#-L95S6163A and Permit #2) Greensferry (22 slips)--permit# undetermined.

This plus the 120+ boat slips planned for Templin's marina puts at least 200+ additional boats traveling on the Spokane River the short distance between Post Falls and Coeur d'Alene Lake.

The basis for our opposition is 2 fold: 1. SAFETY--to people and to the river--this is an extremely narrow and shallow body of water. Currently we see 3-4 boats at a time meeting/passing each other where the river is very narrow. We have also witnessed "close calls" where a jet skier was narrowly missed by a boat and boats passing each other way too closely and swerving to within 50 feet of our dock/shoreline.

We know the University of Idaho conducted studies last summer of this waterway studying how heavy metals such as lead and zinc occurring in silty sediments of the Spokane River and Cd'A Lake get kicked up by high boat traffic and large wakes. This presents a high risk to persons and shorelines of these toxic metals.

2. LACK OF CONSISTENT ENFORCEMENT OF IDAHO WATERWAY RULES--there are established regulations and rules for the Spokane River. All the boating laws are included in The Handbook of Idaho Boating Laws and Responsibilities. In part, the rules include specific language for wake boats to stay more than 200 feet from docks and shorelines and to operate at no wake speed when within 100 feet of docks, other vessels, swimmers and persons in the water.

It is common knowledge that the Sheriff marine partrols are not enforcing any of these rules for all boat types. During high boat traffic times, we rarely see the marine patrol boats.

As Idaho residents and active boaters ourselves who enjoy this beautiful river, we are asking you to halt authorizing any further permits that will add boats this river; at the very least a longterm pause until there are assessments/studies done to determine the maximum carrying capacity of this waterway and to do erosion and safety studies.

Thank you for your time and attention on this matter.

Dirk and Mary Lee Linton 8825 W Driftwood Dr Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814 From: RannSamm Haight
To: Navigable Waterways

**Subject:** Marina/Boat Slip Permits - Spokane River Permits

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 1:26:34 PM

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

As a permanent resident on Harbor Island and frequent boater of the Spokane River, I believe the amount of traffic on the water is not the issue.

The river and property owners suffer from wakes produced by boats, personal watercraft and their excessive speed. The width of the river does not allow for wake producing boats to maintain a safe distance from existing docks. We would not be opposed to most any marina located on the river as long as the water between the Post Falls Dam and North Idaho College was designated a "No Wake" zone and was policed accordingly.

If the "No Wake" designation is not an option then we are opposed to any commercial marinas on the Spokane River.

Thank you - Rann and Samm Haight

**From:** sue agnew

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 5:58:15 PM

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Dear Department of Lands,

We are opposed to the issuing of Permit #L95S6163A, Atlas/River's Edge (74 slips).

WE FEEL AT THE VERY LEAST, THERE NEEDS TO BE A PAUSE ON PERMITS, AND AN ASSESSMENT/STUDY OF THE MAXIMUM CARRYING CAPACITY, SAFETY, EROSION and other issues impacting the river.

Terry and Sue Agnew

From: Terri Shields
To: Navigable Waterways

Subject: ATLAS/RIVER"S EDGE(74 SLIPS) PERMIT #L955S6163A

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 5:56:22 PM

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I oppose the permit for this encroachment especially with the passing of the PF Hospitality LLC case. More studies need to be done to see what the capacity for boats on the river can be. If businesses apply for a large amount of boat slips and since there are no current studies on what the boat capacity of the river is, they shouldn't be granted the full amount of boat slips.

Divide the amount left that the river can manage safely between the applicants and the possibly future applicants. The river is for the public to enjoy and cannot be enjoyed if the river is overcrowded. This could be why there aren't as many boats on the river this year. In the last ten years the river has seen increased usage with boats, paddle boards, canoes, kayaks etc. The safety of the public has been compromised.

I have been on the river since 1968 and have seen a lot of changes. It doesn't seem to matter what the residents think or know. We all know big money talks. But is it worth the price of safety and increased contamination of the river we know and love?

Sincerely,

Terri Shields a concerned land owner

From: Tim Farrell

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

Subject: Permit request concern - OPPOSITION Atlas/Rivers Edge - 74 boat slips- Safety Issues

**Date:** Monday, August 4, 2025 3:22:03 PM

CAUTION: This email originated outside the State of Idaho network. Verify links and attachments BEFORE you click or open, even if you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact your agency service desk with any concerns.

Dear Idaho Department of Lands and concerned parties.

I am very concerned with SAFETY ISSUES on the Spokane River. I am a resident of Harbor Island located midway between the lake and the dam along the South side of the river. This part of the river is unfortunately only 200 yards in width and is subject to multiple boats and water-craft routinely passing in near proximity at a variety of speeds compounded by large wakes and going in opposite directions. This situation is getting worse and approval of additional boat slips will make the situation worse. I have personally experienced an accident where a boat rescued an injured jet skier who just got lucky.

The number of boats is only one of the issues. Introduction of wake boats has created large wakes, jet skis now exceed 60 miles an hour and their best fun seems to be jumping the wakes, often very close to the wake rider. Weekend traffic often will have 4 or 5 boats passing directly in front of my house all at the same time. This situation is already bad and continued approval of boat slips is only going to compound the problem.

RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT APPROVE additional boat slips on the Spokane River until a licensed survey is completed. All parties need protection.

Sincerely. Timothy Farrell

6579 W. Harbor Dr. CDA, ID 83814