From: Gina Magbee

To: Navigable Waterways

Subject: Protecting the Spokane River

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 12:46:28 PM

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# To Whom It May Concernr:

My wife and I have been to a couple of city council/Kootenai County Commissioner meetings on the subject of safety and overcrowding on the Spokane River. We have enjoyed the use of the river through friends who own river-front property, via their own ski boat and sea-dos.

I don't see the benefit of paying a premium, and higher property taxes for lake/river property if the lake/river becomes hazardous to use, as a boater or a swimmer.

I genuinely hope the dangerous politics/pay-to-play hasn't become a way of life in Idaho like California (where we lived years ago). Integrity is everything.

Respectfully,

Dave & Gina Magbee Post Falls, ID.

From: <u>Eric Hirst</u>

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

Subject: Waterstone HOA, Inc. Application to Install Community Dock, Encroachment L95S6181 OAH Case No. 25-320-08/

Agency Case No. PH-2025-NAV-22-006

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 9:25:08 AM

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Please give consideration to the additional boat traffic this will cause to an already overcrowded river. Between all the out of state boaters, the additional non-powered water craft and the overwhelming wake boats, this river has become dangerous. Thank you for your oonsideration.

Eric Hirst, Post Falls, ID

From: Gary Maddock

To: Navigable Waterways

Subject: OPPOSITION TO Application to Install Community Dock, Encroachment L95S6181 OAH Case No. 25-320-08/

Agency Case No. PH-2025-NAV-22-006

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 11:34:44 AM

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# TO WHOM IT MAY CONCER:

As we live on the Spokane River, I am writing to oppose the addition of boat slips to the Spokane River. The biggest problem on the Spokane River already is congestion. The addition of a Community Dock, Encroachment L95S6181OAH Case No. 25-320-08/ Agency Case No. PH-2025-NAV-22-006 will certainly add to that congestion, the safety of boating on the Spokane River and the erosion to our retaining walls and our docks.

With the Spokane River being an average of 400 feet wide, with a 100 foot no-wake zone on each side, only 200 feet is left in the middle, where we simultaneously have:

- 1) wake boats losing their surfers every 100-200 yard and quickly circling back to get them;
- 2) water skiers losing their skiers every 100-200 yard and quickly circling back to get them;
- 3) boats towing tubes and constantly circling to give their riders thrills;
- 4) one or more wave runners going over the wakes and doing donuts to get their thrills; and
- 5) kayakers and we pleasure boaters trying to access and use the River through all of this.

The Spokane River is TOO narrow for the safe, simultaneous use by all of these activities and the addition of additional slips and will cause greater safety concerns.

Further, studies regarding the impact of wake boats on the River, illustrate how these large, energetic wakes stir up sediments on shallow waterways. That is a very concerning environmental threat on the Spokane River, whose sediments contain heavy metals and contaminants like those found in Lake Cd'A. Field studies last summer clearly show that wake surfing stirs up significantly more sediments than any other activity on the River, a threat to water quality, fisheries, and the environment.

All of this says nothing about the severe damage to our shoreline, retaining walls, boat docks and boats. As above, we live on the Spokane River and watch our pontoon boat get banged

around all summer by the ever increasing traffic and especially by excessive wakes.

I've doubled the size of my bumpers, and still have damage to my dock and boat. One of my new bumpers was almost totally flat by the end of last season and a bolted down roller bumper was torn off.

I have just had to spend \$16,000 to repair damage to my dock, i.e. the deck boards being pushed up and loose, my air barrels under the dock were knocked loose and pushed up and out and my wooden poles cracked due to all of the swaying from the excessive activity and wakes on the River. And another \$10,000 to replace cracked poles that the excessive waves have caused our dock to break away from.

# THE RIVER HAS ALREADY BEEN TURNED INTO AN ATHLETIC FIELD OR PLAYGROUND IF YOU

**WILL.** For we pleasure boaters living on the Spokane River, taking our boats onto the River with all of the present activity, is like trying to cross a football field with a game in progress. You're going to get bumped around and hurt.

We PLEAD WITH YOU to deny this permit and any further permits for slips or community dock on the Spokane River to protect the safety of boarding on the River and reduce the damage to our docks and property.

Gary and Michele Maddock 5418 E Marina Ct Post Falls, ID 83854

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From: <u>Maggie Carli</u>
To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

**Subject:** Objection to additional Boat Slips on Spokane River **Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 10:13:30 AM

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.

> To anyone involved in permitting or protection of waterways,

>

> I am writing to address the new boat slip permits being allowed or considered along the Spokane River in Post Falls, ID and Coeur d'Alene, ID.

>

> I live near the Spokane River and Kiwanis Park in Post Falls. I see the numbers of boats going up and down the river. The speed and numbers of boats cause safety concerns for the swimmers, paddlers, and shoreline. The river is not large enough for what amounts to boat traffic needing a 4 lane highway instead of the 2 lane country road that the river is. I strongly feel that there needs to be a study of the impact of the boats on the riverbank and water health. Some monitoring of the boat slips along the river as well as the number of boats added at the boat launches and entering from Lake Coeur d'Alene all combine to high numbers of boats especially over the weekends.

>

- > There will never be another Spokane River so we need to protect it. Please consider pausing any permits for new boat slips along the shore until a safety and environmental study can be conducted.
- > It is essential someone hits the pause button so we can protect the beautiful natural resource that is the Spokane River.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

>

- > Maggie and Tom Carli
- > 4476 E Canvasback Ave
- > Post Falls, ID

>

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>Michael Kotzin</u>
To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

Subject: Opposition

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 2:51:06 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.

### To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this email is to communicate our disapproval of the continuous approval of additional mooring and dock applications along the Spokane River, i.e., including but not limited to the Waterstone Record.

We currently live on the Spokane River (South) contiguous to Greensferry Park. Said Park is currently under application to remove trees and tree stumps affected by the erosion along the riverbank. It is my understanding that additional armory will be put in place in order to help curb future erosion. Said erosion along the Park shoreline has affected and is now taking away some of our shoreline as well.

I am sure that this is not an isolated incident. We have noticed increased boat traffic especially among the high number of wake boats that literally create high waves and wash away the shoreline. Our concerns for sound boat traffic management are being expressed by many.

The approval of additional applications for docks and mooring is irresponsible and a complete disregard for sound management of the aquatic environment. The shorelines are being destroyed and the aquatic life and the environment is slowly being destroyed.

Therefore as landowners who are affected by these drastic changes, we disapprove of these unreasonable and unwarranted dock and mooring applications and request better management of our resources.

Respectfully,

Michael and Anamarie Kotzin c/o Para Los Ninos, LLC 9013 W. Driftwood Dr. CDA, ID 83814 From: Philip Restuccia
To: Navigable Waterways
Subject: Re: Spokane River

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 6:12:58 AM

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### Phil

> On Oct 27, 2025, at 10:43 AM, Philip Restuccia <restuccia17@me.com> wrote:

>

- > I have lived on the river for 13 years and I have seen a continued increase in boat traffic. There are many daily infractions on the river. Speed, driving on the wrong side, no observer, no flag, no nav lights at night. But the biggest hazard is the wake surfing. They are a 100% hazard to anyone else on the river. Boats, kayaks, paddle boards and a definite hazard to the floating docks and their pier poles. There is a dramatic negative effect to the shoreline as these wake boats surf by. If you encounter these enormous wakes while using the river you need to slow down dramatically and pray the bow doesn't dip under their wake and drench your passengers. Then the boat slams down on the other side. If you are skiing or tubing it's best to just stop and wait for the wake boat to pass rather than try to encounter the wake and risk a dangerous fall. Ban the wake boats on the river. The lake is just around the corner
- > Beyond those river problems. The thought of putting several hundred more boats on the river is unjustifiable. Plus, if nothing is done about banning the wake boats what percentage of the new boats will be wake boats.?
- > Nothing positive can come from ANY more slips on the river. Common sense needs to dictate the decisions moving forward.
- > Not MONEY, POLITICS OR FRIENDSHIPS.
- > Please stop this before someone gets hurt or killed.
- > Phil Restuccia

From: Philip Restuccia
To: Navigable Waterways

Subject: The river

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 6:11:33 AM

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.

We had to replace a dock pole. Cost \$2000. We have another ready to snap. We picked up two floating logs and chained them in front of our shoreline to somewhat mitigate the massive wake surf wakes.

When we have guests with children we do not allow them on our floating dock for fear they may be tossed off and drown. I have been flipped off twice by surf boat drivers as I photograph them.

Without fail, every time we travel on the river for pleasure or skiing we encounter a wake boat throwing up such a huge wake we slow to a crawl to pass and our boat pitches up violently even at minimal speed. If we are skiing we drop off rather than try to challenge those wakes.

In summary. Wake surfing needs to be completely eliminated from the Spokane River. The fines should start at \$1000 for the first offense, \$2500 for the second offense and a confiscation of the boat on the third offense. This will stop the boaters that are willing to pay the low fines and just continue to selfishly ruin the river for everyone else. I also believe if you allow 200+ more boat slips on the river a large percentage of them will be wake boats. So not only will you risk additional damage to the shoreline you endanger all of the boaters that would be enjoying their water activities. This is common sense. No one is better off with more boating activity on the river.

Phil

From: Philip Restuccia
To: Navigable Waterways

**Subject:** The river.

Date: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 6:17:33 AM

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.

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed installation of new boat slips on the Spokane River.

The Spokane River is one of our region's most valuable natural and recreational assets. It supports fish, birds, and other wildlife, provides opportunities for quiet recreation, and contributes to the environmental health and character of our community. Adding additional slips would increase boat traffic, noise, and pollution in an already sensitive ecosystem.

The impacts of more motorized use are well documented — fuel and oil runoff, shoreline erosion, and the disturbance of fish habitat all threaten the river's health. Moreover, expanding dock infrastructure would reduce public access and enjoyment for non-motorized users such as kayakers, paddleboarders, and anglers who value the river for its natural tranquility.

The Spokane River already hosts numerous access points and moorage facilities that meet existing needs. Rather than adding new slips, efforts should focus on maintaining current infrastructure, restoring riparian habitat, and protecting water quality for future generations.

I urge decision-makers to reject the proposal for new slips and instead prioritize conservation, sustainable recreation, and the long-term health of the Spokane River.

Phil

From: <u>Terrie Kavran</u>
To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>
Subject: Please no more docks

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 9:02:35 AM

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Our river is getting ruined. The river banks and falling apart and the fish and game are being disrupted. Sent from my iPhone From: <u>Vic Parrish</u>

To: <u>Navigable Waterways</u>

Subject: Objection to Community Dock Encroachment (L95S6181OAH, Case No. 25-320-08 / PH-2025-NAV-22-006)

**Date:** Tuesday, November 11, 2025 4:13:14 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.

# To Whom It May Concern

I strongly oppose the proposed community dock for River's Edge Apartments on the Spokane River. As the owner of 5432 E. Marina Court, Post Falls, ID—located directly next to the river—this addition will worsen existing problems.

Increased Boating Traffic and Congestion: The Spokane River near Post Falls ranges in width from 549 to 688 feet. Heavy traffic already makes navigation difficult; adding slips will increase the number of boats, creating unsafe choke points in this narrow channel. Google Earth satellite images show that the ~600-foot width leaves little room for safe maneuvering, raising the risk of collisions. Safety Hazards: Larger wakes from more vessels need over 500 feet of clearance, which is not possible here. The Kootenai County Sheriff opposes more slips due to enforcement difficulties and potential accidents. Erosion and Environmental Damage: More wakes will speed up shoreline erosion, harming habitats and riparian zones. My retaining walls and dock at 5432 E. Marina Court—less than half a mile from over 331 existing slips—are at risk of damage from increased wave action. This threatens private property rights and the river's health. Deny the permit to safeguard public safety, the environment, and community residents.

Joseph & Traci Parrish

5432 E. Marina Court

Post Falls