

**Letter #:** 108  
**Date Received:** 12/12/2022  
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**Organizations:**  
**Subject:** Proposed SEIS Guidelines

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Dear Project Manager:

I am very concerned at the current NPS initiative to close Lake Mead's recreational usage. At the joke of a public meeting in Boulder City there were a lot of amazing suggestions for redirecting water from Boulder City and other ideas, and from the marina owners themselves for helping keep our lake open. Yet the NPS answer to everything was "that's not us, that's a great question for BOR." I'm extremely concerned that the BOR is not part of the survey being sent to the public and is not privy to these ideas from people who live and work in the areas that will be the most economically impacted by motorized boats being banned from the lake and ramps not being maintained.

There seems to be no answer to the fact that if the ramps are not maintained and the marinas closed that numerous business that service boats, sell boats, boat storage, and outdoor recreational vendors in Boulder City, Henderson and Las Vegas will go out of business. Our area took a huge economic hit due to covid and the closure of the stations casinos causing a lot of unemployment already. This closure would increase that number and cause additional unemployment that is 100 percent avoidable if BOR helps come up with alternatives to the water crisis that keeps in mind our area which is not only impacted by water usage, but like levels. Additionally, NPS and BOR need to remember that the parks were initially set up to maintain the usage of natural areas for the public use. Isn't it therefore their mission to work with the marina owners to maintain the usage of this area for millions of citizens outdoor recreational use?

I was extremely upset hearing some of the amazing ideas one of the owners of Boating Lake Mead had, just to hear them dismissed by NPS representatives as regular ideas by a regular citizen. There are additional alternatives than status quo or full closure, but I feel like those amazing ideas are being dismissed by NPR as an all or none final decision. Why are they not trying harder to preserve what the parks are there for in the first place? Why do we feel that no one at the federal level is fighting for the livelihoods of the citizens who will be economically impacted by all this? Why do I feel that no one is fighting for my mental well-being? I personally am a boat owner who uses my boat year round to fight depression and anxiety, it's better than any medicine for me. Yet here I am not just worried about the massive personal impact this will have on me, but also about everyone else in my area. We need our voice to be heard and there needs to be better solutions than the ones currently being proposed, found and implemented.

What is going to happen to all the boats and boat houses that are currently at the marinas? Many of us can't afford to have them removed and at the Boulder City meeting many we're talking about having to "abandon their investments" if the marinas closed. Who will be responsible for removing these boats then? Will the federal government be paying us for removing and transporting our boats? Has the NPS budgeted for that in this proposal?

I have a small 25 foot sailboat. I currently can't even get it out for repairs via the ramp because of low water levels. In order to have it removed from the marina, if closed, I would have to pay more than or close to the value of my boat just to have it lifted from the water. Then, I'd have to pay the same amount to buy a trailer

for it. Last, I have the problem that none of our cars can tow it. I'm definitely not the only boat owner who would be in this position. What incentives or help will we get to cover the costs of these insane fees to move our boats off Lake Mead? Is NPS prepared to have people go after them for these fees if they close the marinas and we can't afford to remove our boats? Why not work with the citizens so that these concerns are not a problem and the marinas can stay open?

Thank you for reading this, and addressing our concerns.

Sincerely,

Genyne Malin

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]