

Letter #: 214
Date Received: 12/20/2022
Sender Names: 685: Will Hayes
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Organizations:
Subject: Proposed SEIS Guidelines

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Dear Project Manager:

I am a resident of Las Vegas for 19 years and have been enjoying all Lake Mead NRA has to offer for over 15 years.

The current proposals from NPS regarding future options for recreational boating are completely unacceptable. I have watched as a void of leadership within the NPS over the last few years has resulted in multiple launch ramps being closed and longer wait times for people to launch and recover their vessels. Furthermore, the few "improvements" I have seen are signs drawing attention to falling lake levels, long wait times for launch ramps, and basically anything to keep people from boating on Lake Mead. I always thought the mission of the National Park Service was to promote public lands for all to use. Apparently at Lake Mead, NPS would prefer people not come so they can on their collective arses and not have to work too hard.

Speaking of which, I'm unsure what BOR is doing with the Lower Colorado. Yes, we are in the midst of a long drought. Yes, there has been explosive growth in the SW. Yes, the Colorado is being overused. And yet BOR seems content to just shrug their shoulders and say, "Welp! Nothing we can do!" Perhaps there is a void of leadership at BOR as well. A leader might promote water conservation efforts like those being done in Las Vegas. A leader might persuade municipal governments to eliminate grass in new developments and plant flora that needs minimal amounts of water. A leader might encourage states to reconsider how much water is needed in an effort to preserve this most precious resource. If this is happening, then it is news to me.

NPS and BOR should work closely with the Blue Ribbon Coalition and various local stakeholders and businesses regarding a future with a sustainable reservoir system for the Colorado. The most important thing you can do is to ensure boating is available for all for future generations.

Please, do not allow any situation that results in less opportunities for boating on Lake Mead or Lake Powell.

Sincerely,

Will Hayes
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]