

Valley County Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes for September 2, 2025

Present: Committee Chairman Jally Zeydel, Jared Montague, Grant Mangum, Kevin Turner, Zach Grogan(IDPR Cascade), Dalton Crane, Phoebe Wallace (Recreational Boating Program Manager – IDPR), Chris Bentley (Boise district ranger), Jordan Messner(IDFG), Kurt Wolf(MC Parks&Rec).

The meeting was called to order by Jally Zeydel at 9:01am. Explained function of the committee to those in attendance.

Jared Montague made a motion to approve the minutes from August 5, 2025. Grant Mangum seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Jally Zeydel

- Discussion on wake zones – a main issue is Payette Lake due to homeowners.
 - Current maintained depth is 300ft for all waterways (from the high water mark) – should this be managed on a lake by lake basis vs a county-wide ordinance?
- Bank erosion and damage to docks is one thing
 - Water quality is another concern
 - Wake boats tend to stir up sediment in 20 ft of water and less.
- It was suggested by Jordan Messner that this is more a problem in Cascade because of the shallow nature of the reservoir. Should we reduce the impact of that. Redistribution of nutrients by wake boats tend create more for the algae to feed upon.
- Bank erosion and dock impact should be less of a concern in our discussion verses water quality
- Action should be taken using research and facts and not emotion.
- How does this impact wake zones?
- Economic impacts of any regulation?
- Jet boats also create larger wakes
 - It's a challenge to only call out wake boats. Many other boats throw up large wakes (this was especially emphasized by Kevin).

Motorized Boating on creeks and tributaries

- Practical and good use of particular waterways.
- Law enforcement?

- Can we allow electric trolling motors on the north fork arm above the fishing bridge? Regulation says that is non-motorized area so it is not allowed.
- Warm Lake is managed the same way any other body of water in Valley County is managed. Complaints have increased and often go to the Sheriff's Office. VCISO enforces regulations on Warm Lake, but it is a Forest Service lake.

Chris Bentley

- Boat Ramp at Warm Lake – in rough shape
 - Grant request by the Forest Service (Chris Bentley) to improve the ramp
 - Chris encouraged to work with Phoebe and the others on the committee who have received grants for dock and put-in improvements
 - Chris (or a representative from the forest service) will be on the agenda for October's meeting so that we can discuss his grant request in detail.

Zach Grogan (Cascade State Park)

- Poison Creek will be closed starting October 1 for Tamarack construction.
- Buttercup boat ramp needs to be extended or repaired. Drop off and wash-out at the end of the ramp is an issue.
- NEPA came back for the Tamarack project and it has been approved.
- Needs some funding for dock repair (\$2600) – committee approved this to come out of the budget. Zach makes the purchase and sends the committee the bill (come out of dock maintenance).

Kurt Wolf

- Payette water quality council – herbicide treatment
 - Didn't do the test plot this year– gave up on that
- Community needs to work towards a management plan
 - Funding for herbicide or mechanical removal
- Treatment plot will go forward next year
- RFP for engineering and design for municipal ramp a Mile High
 - Did some dredging last fall – but it's not a permanent fix
 - Ramp fees will be used to create design work
- Launch fees are over as of Labor Day Weekend - ~\$35,000 has been collected this summer.

Jordan Messner – Idaho Fish & Game

- Process of widening, grading, installing drainage at last two miles of entrance into Horsethief.
- Working with county parks and rec to enter into a management agreement for County Parks and Rec to manage campsites at Horsethief

Kevin Turner

- Has a boat back in the shop – developed a very serious vibration.
- All the other boats are running great – got \$18K from the boat they sold at auction
- Inspections are about 150 behind last year – will make that up over the next couple of weekends. Citations are down but warnings are up – this is at the discretion of the deputies
- Boat registrations are up but it is 6-8 weeks out before registrations arrive in the mail. Proof is available via mobile phone or hard-copy documentation.
- Water is dropping at Cascade
- One more weekend of patrol and then Kevin and his crew are pulling buoys.

Next meeting October 7, 2025 9a @ EOC

Jared Montague motioned to adjourn the meeting. Grant Mangum seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote, meeting adjourned at 10:02.