

Valley County Waterways Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes for March 3, 2026

Present: Committee Chairman - **Jally Zeydel**, Board Member - **Jared Montague**, **Phil Moore**, **Grant Mangum**, **Steve Anderson**, Valley County Commissioner – **Neal Thompson**, Idaho Fish & Game – **Jordan Messner**, VCSO Patrol Sergeant - **Danny Pierce**, VCSO Operations Lieutenant - **Jeremy Mitchell**, Big Payette Water Quality Council – **Joe Samer**, City of McCall – **Kurt Wolfe**, Idaho Department of Lands Resource Specialist - **Isaac Gunther**, IDPR Recreational Boating Program Manager - **Phoebe Wallace**, IDPR Ponderosa State Park Manager - **Matt Linde**

The meeting was called to order by Jally Zeydel at 9:01 am.

Jared Montague made a motion to approve the minutes from February 3, 2026. Phil Moore seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business

- **Jally Zeydel** – working group consisting of VCC will meet next week to discuss VC waterways ordinances. Neal would like a representative from the Waterways Committee to be present at those meetings. Point of discussion will involve the use of jet boats (motorized vessels) on the North Fork. Will likely be a long process of discussion (taking at least up to a year, or more).
- **Steve Anderson** – Is concerned about the potential spread of invasive species if increased use is allowed on the North Fork. Steve is on the committee that is meeting to come up with a plan to eradicate milfoil.
 - **Phil Moore** – offered updates on milfoil plan and the committee that is in place to come up with a solution. Plans are being created but have yet to be finalized. Hope to have something to present to VCC on March 9, 2026
 - **Jordan Messner** – clarified that public approval is not necessarily being sought.
- **Jordan Messner** –
 - Will head out to Warm Lake next week and figure out what they can do (will have a forest service representative, Diego Sweet, and a contractor, Chad Jewell with Inland Marine) to assess and make improvements while still working within guidelines. Deferred maintenance will be addressed. Long term goals (5 yrs) will be reviewed. Efforts are supported by VCWC and would be willing to provide funds to help the effort. Strive to get things completed before Memorial Day.

- County will take over management of Horsethief Campground. Test period of 2 years and then hopefully turn into a 10-year contract
- Simplot was going to gate at end of Heinrich Lane at Hat Ranch due to unauthorized activity on their property. Several entities have been working together to try to keep access open. Several options are being explored.
- **Matt Linde** –
 - Kokanee Cove – docks to be installed? Will come later with a plan to present to the Waterways Committee.
 - Old Docks – get as many removed before Memorial Day.
 - Kurt (City of McCall) is willing to assist, as well as VCSO.
 - Widening of parking lot (\$1M - \$2M range)?
- **Grant Mangum** – noticeable damage on docks at Tamarack due to high water from fall rains and the formation of ice. Phil Moore
- **Kurt Wolfe** –
 - Grant in with IDPR to offset cost of non-motorized river access at Deinhard Bridge. City has \$20K allocated out of their budget to assist with this effort.
 - Area north of the marina has been used for illegal dumping of docks and debris. City is attempting to determine who has rights to that shoreline. Will apply for permits to improve that area for the public; take some congestion away from the marina.
 - Marina expansion – installation of breakwater pier will begin as soon as possible.
 - Staff “ambassadors” at the boat ramp this summer during peak hours for boater education and to keep traffic flowing.
 - No change with fee structure for summer 2026
- **Danny Pierce** - Posted Seasonal Positions for upcoming summer season
 - 6 Applications have been submitted – working on staffing
 - Boats are ready to go for the summer – small items need to be addressed.
 - Start in-house training April 1st.

Next meeting April 14, 2026, at 9am @ EOC

Jared Montague motioned to adjourn the meeting. Phil seconded the motion. The motion carried with a unanimous vote, meeting adjourned at 9:51a.