

THE DIVISION OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

BOATING ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC)



March 4th, 2025
MEETING PACKET

Meeting Details

Topic: Boating Advisory Council Scoring Meeting

Date: March 4th, 2025 – **Time:** 4:00–6:00 PM – **Location:** Virtual

Meeting Point:

Google Meet joining info

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/nnz-eiov-qvh>

Or dial: (US) +1 562-232-9233 PIN: 400 310 345#

More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/nnz-eiov-qvh?pin=5603582732561>

Council Members: Dewitt Smith, Jenny Knudsen, Jason Taylor, Jeff Salt, Tim Herzog, Zachary Williams, George Sommer, Adam Eakle, John Laursen

Department Staff: Jason Curry, Patrick Morrison, Ty Hunter, Shane Stroud, Jorge Vazquez

Agenda

1. **Information** (4:00PM) – Welcome
 - a. Introduction of the Attendees
 - i. Members – Respective Positions
 - ii. Department Staff
 - iii. Members of the Public
2. **Information** (4:10PM) – Approval of meeting minutes
3. **Information** (4:15PM) – Public Comments

During this time members of the public will be given 3 minutes to inform the Council about boating issues or topics not listed on the meeting agenda. No actions can be taken by the Council. Rules of decorum and respect will be adhered to.
4. **Action** (4:20PM) – Motion to approve recommended BA Grant applications FY25

- a. Boat Utah App - 4:20 PM
- b. Lucerne Ramp Improvements - 4:28 PM
- c. Pelican Boat Ramp Dock Installation - 4:36 PM
- d. Petrified Forest SP Dock - 4:44 PM
- e. Saratoga N. Marina - 4:52 PM
- f. Strawberry Reservoir Renegade Parking - 5:00 PM
- g. Strawberry Reservoir Chicken Ck. E. Erosion Control - 5:08 PM
- h. Strawberry Reservoir Renegade Dock - 5:16 PM
- i. Flaming Gorge Operation and Maintenance - 5:24 PM
- j. Utah Lake State Park Upgrade and Maintenance - 5:32 PM
- k. Utah Division of Wildlife Tech Time Site Assessment - 5:40 PM
- l. Strawberry Marina Breakwater - 5:48 PM

2025 Boating Access Grant Overview

#	FY25	Sponsor	Total Request	Requested Federal Aid	UDOR Match
1	Boat Utah App - proposed the development and hosting of the Boat Utah application ("Application"), available on Google Play and Apple App Store, designed to mutually benefit both the boating public across Utah, and the organizations and departments charged with the stewardship of Utah's natural resources.	Utah Division of Wildlife	\$175,488.00	\$131,616.00	\$43,872.00
2	Lucerne Boat Ramp Improvement Project - The Lucerne Boat Ramp, the most heavily used facility on Flaming Gorge Reservoir, is in urgent need of repair. Originally built in the 1960s and partially renovated in the 1990s, the concrete has deteriorated significantly over the years, creating large potholes and a hazardous surface for both vehicles and pedestrians. Despite increased visitor use, the ramp has not kept pace with demand, leading to frequent safety concerns. The boat ramp in its current condition is one of the most common concerns brought to the attention of the US Forest Service, UDWR, Stakeholders and partners at the Lucerne Recreation Complex. With the recent completion of the Great American Outdoor Act campground remodel, the installation of a new AIS Dip Tank, and the upcoming fish cleaning station, we anticipate even greater demand for the boat ramp in the future. To ensure public safety and	Ashley NF FGRD	\$225,180.00	\$168,885.00	\$56,295.00

	accommodate the growing number of visitors, it is imperative that we prioritize the needed repairs of the Lucerne Boat Ramp.				
3	Pelican boat ramp dock installation - Pelican Lake is a popular boating and fishing spot for locals and tourists to Uintah County. The Bureau of Land Management has purchased a new dock to replace the existing dock at Pelican Lake. The current dock that is in place at Pelican is no longer big enough to suit the needs of the public and is deteriorated and in need of replacement. The new dock the BLM has purchased will fix these needs and give the public better fishing and boating access to Pelican Lake. The BLM however does not have the resources to install the dock on our own.	Adam Lavender	\$8,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$2,000.00
4	Petrified Forest SP dock - Wide Hollow Courtesy dock - Current dock Has exceeded its useful life.	James Hall	\$60,254.00	\$45,190.50	\$15,063.50

5	<p>Saratoga N. marina - North Marina Harbor, Phase 2 - The North Marina Harbor project was conceived to address the growing demand for boating access and recreational facilities on Utah Lake, a body of water historically known for its vibrant recreational use. Dating back to the late 1800s and early 1900s, Utah Lake was home to several resorts, including the Mindock Resort, the Rocky Mountain Beach Marina, and the Loy Resort. These establishments provided numerous amenities such as bathhouses, dance pavilions, picnic areas, and boating facilities, attracting visitors and making the lake a central part of community life. Over the decades, however, the lake's appeal has waned due to environmental challenges, overuse, and pollution. Utah Lake's historical decline can be traced to several environmental challenges, spanning from the late 1800s through the mid-1900s. During this period, raw sewage was regularly dumped into the lake, contributing to severe pollution problems. Even after the cessation of sewage dumping, pollution issues have persisted with elevated levels of phosphorus and mineral salts. In recent years, the lake has become increasingly prone to harmful algal blooms (HABs), which are exacerbated by water level fluctuations and eutrophication. These HABs pose significant risks to human health, degrade the lake's recreational value, and create ecological imbalances primarily in shallow lakes, like Utah Lake. Despite these challenges, Utah Lake has always held a unique place in Utah Valley's history, and recent population growth has renewed interest in the lake's potential as a recreational and conservation-focused site. Efforts to clean and revitalize Utah Lake have been increasing, aiming to transform it into a thriving ecological and recreational destination once more, recalling the days when the shores were dotted with resorts and welcomed visitors from across the region. The North Marina Harbor project is a key component of a larger, comprehensive revitalization effort aimed at transforming Utah Lake into a premier recreational and conservation destination. This project is part of an expected \$36 million investment that, when complete, will include not only</p>	Jeremy Lapin	\$350,000.00	\$262,500.00	\$87,500.00
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<p>6-phase initiative, which will build on the foundational work already completed and continue the transformation of this underutilized marina into a regional destination. Phase 1 focused on creating a conceptual plan and performing preliminary dredging to ensure the harbor can support motorized watercraft. With these initial steps completed, Phase 2 shifts focus toward creating an entry point that will enhance public access and improve the usability of the harbor. In Phase 2, our efforts include the construction of a motorized boat launch, restroom facilities, a parking lot, and a jetty to support both safe boating and improving sport fishing access. A detailed biological assessment has been completed that analyzes the project's effects on federally listed species that may have habitats within the project area. These species include the yellow-billed cuckoo, Ute's ladies'-tresses, Canada lynx, and the June sucker, a fish species native to Utah Lake. The assessment ensures that the project aligns with federal conservation guidelines and safeguards critical habitats while improving public access to Utah Lake. A significant part of Phase 2 is the development of a 12-acre wetland mitigation site on the west side of Utah Lake. This site, which has been significantly degraded and is currently dominated by invasive species like Phragmites and Russian-olive trees, has lost much of its original wetland properties. Our mitigation efforts will use a combination of reestablishment and rehabilitation methods to restore the area's ecological functions, aiming to return the site to its historical wetland state. By restoring this wetland, we aim to improve the ecosystem services provided by the area, such as enhanced runoff filtration, reduction of nutrient loads like nitrogen and phosphorus, and overall improvements to water quality. This restoration project will not only benefit the surrounding environment but also contribute to the long-term health and sustainability of Utah Lake itself. Ultimately, the North Marina Harbor project is about bringing people back to Utah Lake, creating a space that honors its historic significance while addressing modern recreational and conservation needs. With continued investment, this project will provide enhanced boating and fishing access, revitalize the lake, and foster conservation efforts that will protect Utah Lake for generations to come.</p>				
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6	Strawberry Reservoir Renegade parking - Though the actual age of the asphalt on the roadway and parking area at Renegade Boat Launch is unknown, it is likely over 30 years old, and is in very poor shape. This parking lot in particular has been receiving far more boating pressure during the last few years due to the improvements that Wasatch County made to the road connecting Spanish Fork Canyon (Hwy 6) to Strawberry Reservoir. These road improvements now make it approximately 40 to 45 minutes quicker for boaters from much of Utah County to access Strawberry compared to going up Provo and Daniels Canyon. This parking lot is now full much of the fishing season, and the entire facility is very outdated and in want of upgrades, including the asphalt and parking plan. Current parking is largely ad hoc, with little or no parking lines still visible.	Alan Ward	\$392,708.00	\$294,531.00	\$98,177.00
7	Strawberry Reservoir Chicken Ck. E. erosion control - A new parking area and boat ramp were constructed at the Chicken Creek East area on Strawberry Reservoir back in 2022. Near record high water levels during the spring of 2024 revealed that some of the area around the waters edge of the parking lot were not adequately covered with rip rap, and some erosion of the parking area occurred. We also have found that the drainage ditch along the upper end of the parking area can become very saturated in the early spring with heavy snow melt, as we had in 2023 and 2024, and the ditch needs to be lined with cobble to eliminate slumping of the cut bank.	Alan Ward	\$33,700.00	\$25,275.00	\$8,425.00
8	Strawberry Reservoir Renegade dock - With the completion of the road improvements of County Road 042 from Hwy 6 to the Renegade side of Strawberry Reservoir a few years ago, the traffic on the south end of Strawberry Reservoir has increased considerably. The UDWR and the Forest Service have identified projects to help improve amenities at the Renegade marina. Courtesy docks have not been provided to the public at this site (there are private docks managed by the marina owners) in recent years, with only a single divider dock available for the public to use. We are proposing to provide some courtesy docks that will help to alleviate boat congestion for those loading and unloading their boats at the Renegade boat	Alan Ward	\$246,876.00	\$185,157.00	\$61,719.00

	ramp.				
9	Flaming Gorge Operation and Maintenance -		\$30,000.00	\$22,500.00	\$7,500.00
10	Utah Lake State Park upgrade and maintenance - Utah Lake State Park (ULSP) is the largest of 28 public access points at Utah Lake. Over the last three years, it has averaged over 280,000 visitors annually. With this high traffic, there is a need to maintain and improve the park and its boating facilities to keep up with visitation and also improve the accessibility of life jackets for boaters to recreate safely. This project will enhance the access of ULSP by repairing and/or replacing damaged and aged asphalt, restriping boat trailer parking spaces, shoring up jetties against wave action, increase water safety with life jacket loaner stations and provide storage for equipment used for education and outreach.	Sam Braegger	\$332,140.00	\$249,105.00	\$83,035.00
11	Utah Division of Wildlife tech time site assessment	Utah Division of Wildlife	\$102,000.00	\$76,500.00	\$25,500.00
12	Strawberry Marina breakwater - The Strawberry Marina has had a breakwater installed at the end of the courtesy docks for many years. The prevailing winds come from the southwest, and the breakwater helps minimize the large waves which make loading and unloading watercraft at the boat ramp difficult. A breakwater purchased about 13 years ago through Atlantic Meeco has failed, and it has been stored in the bay just to the west of the marina for about 3 years now. We are proposing to build and install a new one to replace it.	Alan Ward	\$195,000.00	\$146,250.00	\$48,750.00
Total of 12 Grants requesting Federal Aid			\$2,151,346.00	\$1,613,509.50	\$537,836.50

5. Adjourn - Close (6:00PM)