



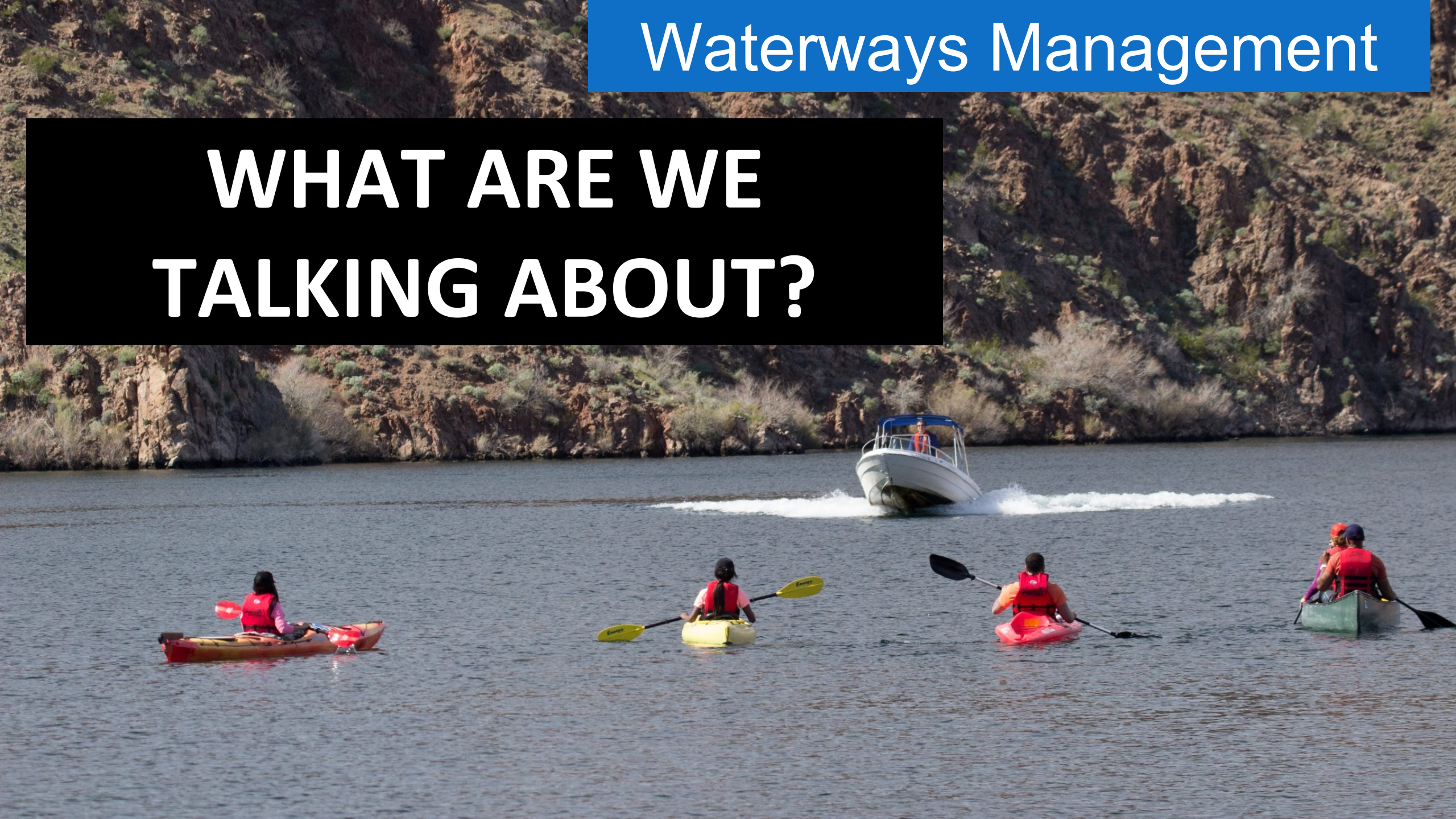
# ***WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT***

**Pamela Dillon  
Waterways Management Project Director  
NASBLA  
April 17, 2023**



# Waterways Management

**WHAT ARE WE  
TALKING ABOUT?**





Waterways  
Management

SHARED  
WATERWAYS

Multiple Use Waterways

**WHAT ARE WE  
TALKING ABOUT?**

Safety

Waterways  
Management

Enjoyable  
Boating

Conflict Resolution

SHARED  
WATERWAYS

User Conflict

Resource  
Protection

Multiple Use Waterways

Access

Capacity

WHAT ARE WE  
TALKING ABOUT?

Visitor Experience

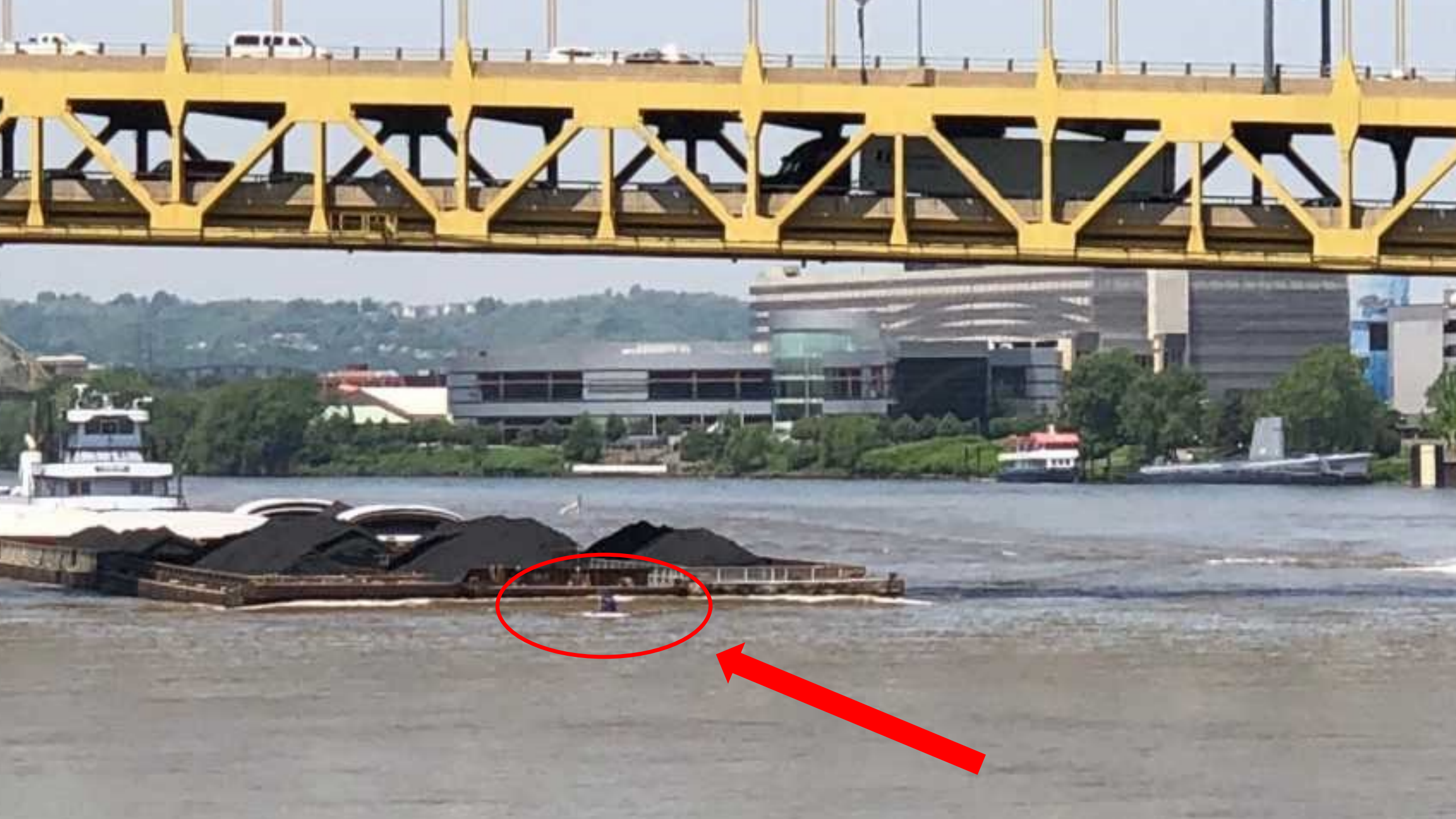
















KAYAK  
LAUNCHING  
AREA













# Waterway Management

- The integrated use of education, technical assistance, regulation, enforcement, and other policies and programs to govern the waters of the state for navigation, public safety and access in ways that reduce conflicts, enhance the experience for waterway and shoreline users, and minimize risks to natural resources.

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# Scenario

A one-lane launch ramp was built with funding from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust fund. The new ramp is located between riprap on a rocky embankment without a beach access.

On summer weekends, paddlesport livery uses the ramp 6-8 times every day, launching 12-18 paddlecraft from a trailer each time. Each launch takes 20-30 minutes to assist people safely into boats on the water.

Powerboat operators have logged several complaints about the need to wait for this lengthy process saying the ramp was built with motorboat fuel taxes. The livery owner argues it is a public access facility.



## Scenario

### *How do you address this issue?*

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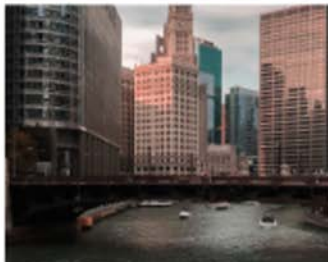
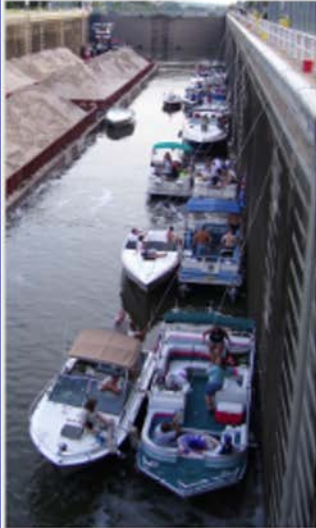
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**A GUIDE FOR MULTIPLE USE**  
**WATERWAY MANAGEMENT**  
Third Edition

*Provides current direction for effective waterway management, including policy development, communication for public understanding, acceptance, and compliance, enhancing enjoyment of the waterways balanced with use.*



# A GUIDE For MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY MANAGEMENT

(THIRD EDITION)

AVAILABLE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD

[www.waterwaymanagement.org](http://www.waterwaymanagement.org)



SECTION 1

# TRENDS & EMERGING ISSUES

WHAT IS SHAPING WATERWAY USE, DEMANDS, AND RESULTING CONFLICT?

















Which of the following create the greatest challenges on your waterway(s)?  
Check up to three.

Answered: 1,795 Skipped: 0

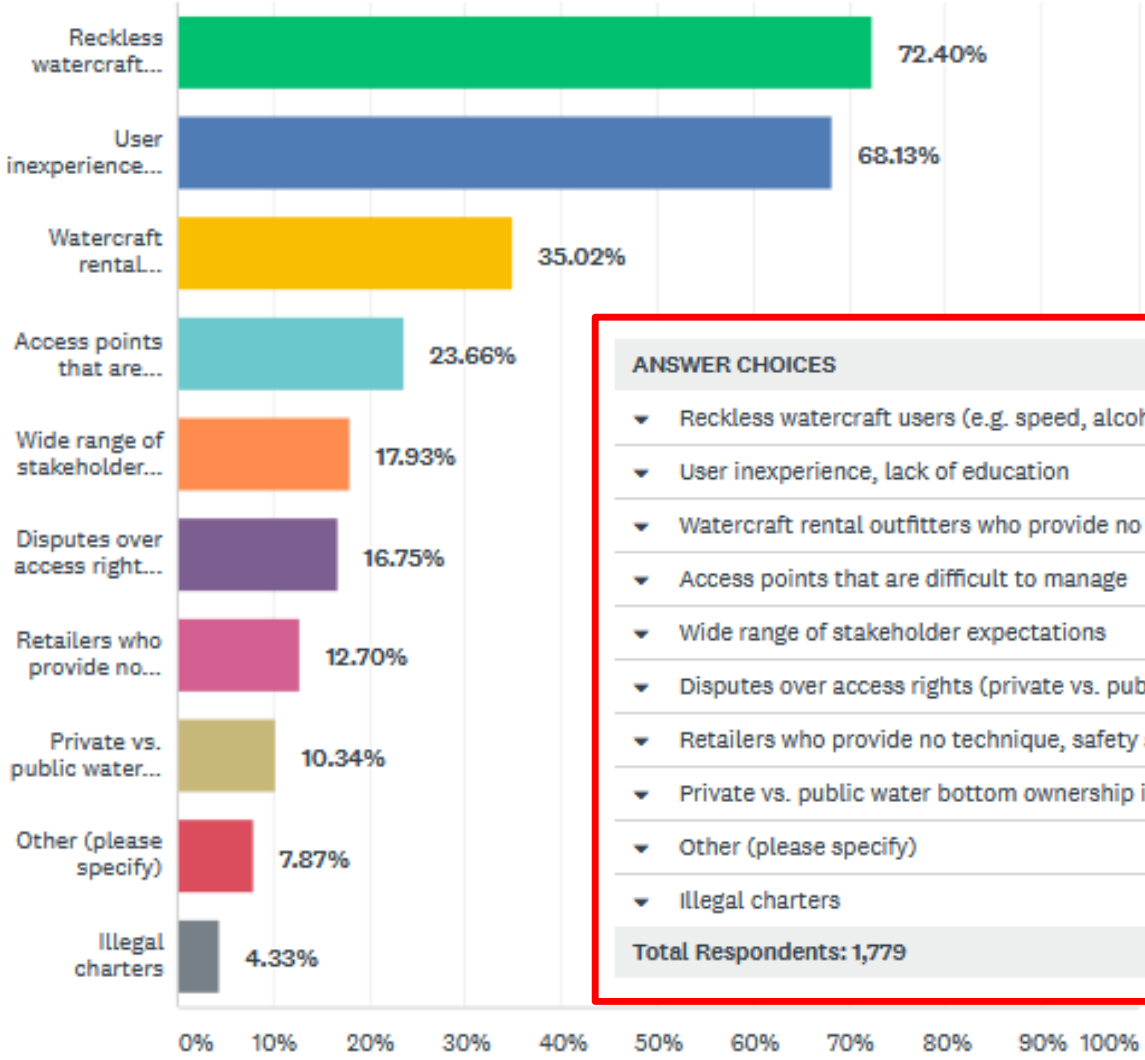


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Large crowds	33.98%	610
PWCs (personal watercraft), air boats and similar vessels	32.81%	589
Motorized boats vs. paddle or rowing craft	30.08%	540
Wakes	28.97%	520
Recreational vessels vs. paddlers, swimmers, snorkelers, surfers, divers, etc.	28.02%	503
Derelict and at-risk vessels	27.80%	499
Navigation, infrastructure, hazards (e.g., dams, weirs, submerged structures)	26.46%	475
Landowners vs. everyone	18.16%	326
Aquatic nuisance species	17.77%	319
Other (please specify)	14.32%	257
Noise pollution	8.58%	154
Transportation of goods/cargo vs. recreational pursuits	6.96%	125
Special Marine Events	5.63%	101
Vessels involved with transporting goods/cargo (with each other)	3.01%	54
<b>Total Respondents: 1,795</b>		

Q5 – All Complete Responses/  
“Challenges”

# Which of the following are the primary drivers of use conflicts on your waterway? Select up to three.

Answered: 1,779 Skipped: 16



## Q6– All Complete Responses/ “Drivers”

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
▼ Reckless watercraft users (e.g. speed, alcohol use)	72.40%	1,288
▼ User inexperience, lack of education	68.13%	1,212
▼ Watercraft rental outfits who provide no safety, navigation, or awareness information	35.02%	623
▼ Access points that are difficult to manage	23.66%	421
▼ Wide range of stakeholder expectations	17.93%	319
▼ Disputes over access rights (private vs. public ownership issues)	16.75%	298
▼ Retailers who provide no technique, safety and awareness information or instruction	12.70%	226
▼ Private vs. public water bottom ownership issues (submerged lands)	10.34%	184
▼ Other (please specify)	<a href="#">Responses</a> 7.87%	140
▼ Illegal charters	4.33%	77
<b>Total Respondents: 1,779</b>		





SECTION 1

# TRENDS & EMERGING ISSUES

WHAT IS SHAPING WATERWAY USE, DEMANDS, AND RESULTING CONFLICT?

- **Participation Data, Boat Sales, Event Trends**
- **Audiences – Waterway Users**
- **Access**
- **Products/Activities**
- **Influential Technology**



The background image shows a wide river with a large, dark-colored barge on the right side. In the foreground, a white pontoon boat with a pink canopy is filled with people. A man in a blue shirt and a tan cap is visible on the right edge of the frame, looking towards the water. The scene is set in an urban area with buildings and a bridge in the background.

SECTION 2

# TYPES OF MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY ISSUES & CONFLICTS



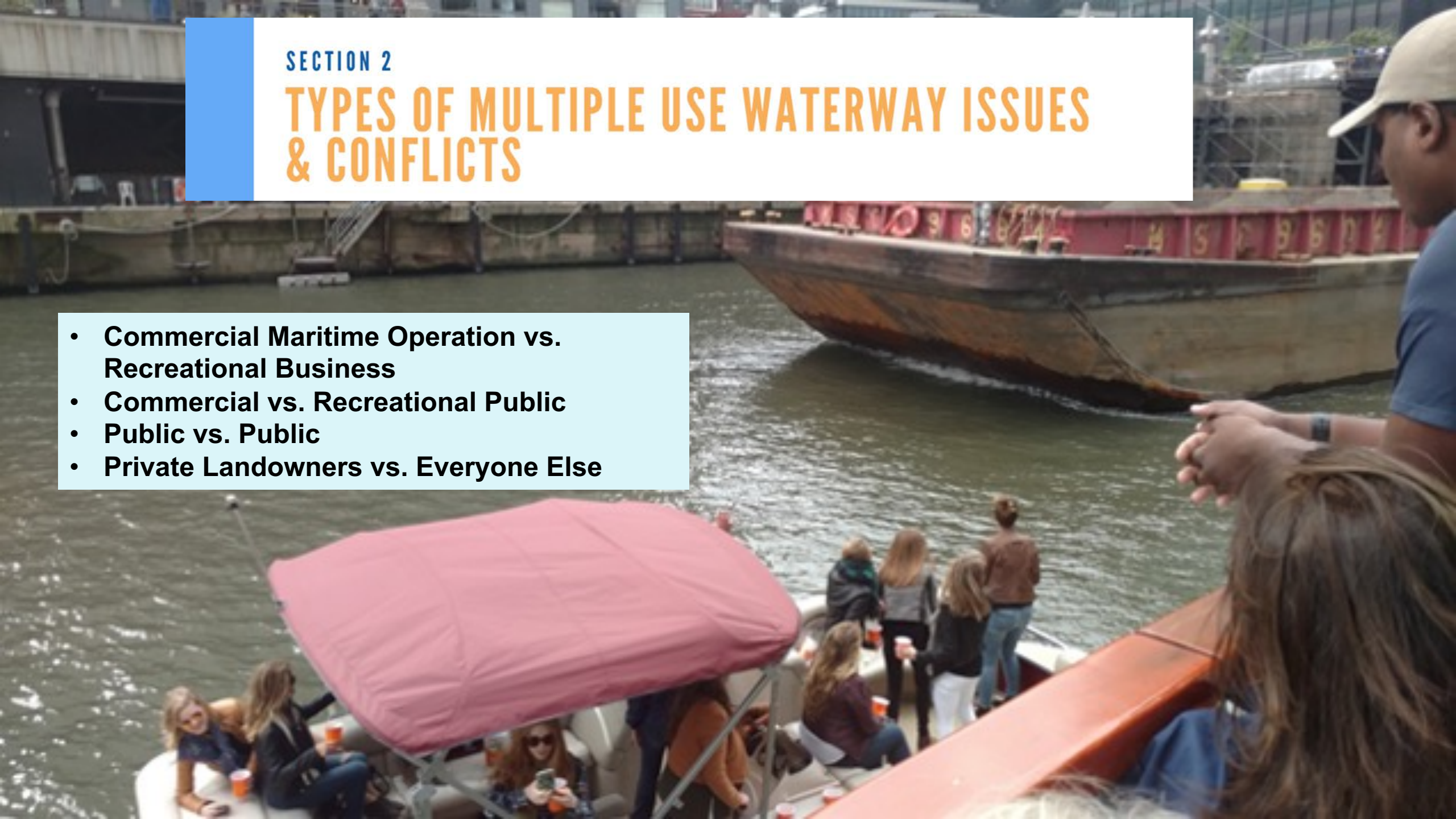




## SECTION 2

# TYPES OF MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY ISSUES & CONFLICTS

- **Commercial Maritime Operation vs. Recreational Business**
- **Commercial vs. Recreational Public**
- **Public vs. Public**
- **Private Landowners vs. Everyone Else**





SECTION 3

# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES







Dirigo



















## SECTION 3

# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES



- ✓ **Comprehensive and ongoing stakeholder involvement is key throughout the planning process.**







## SECTION 3

# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES



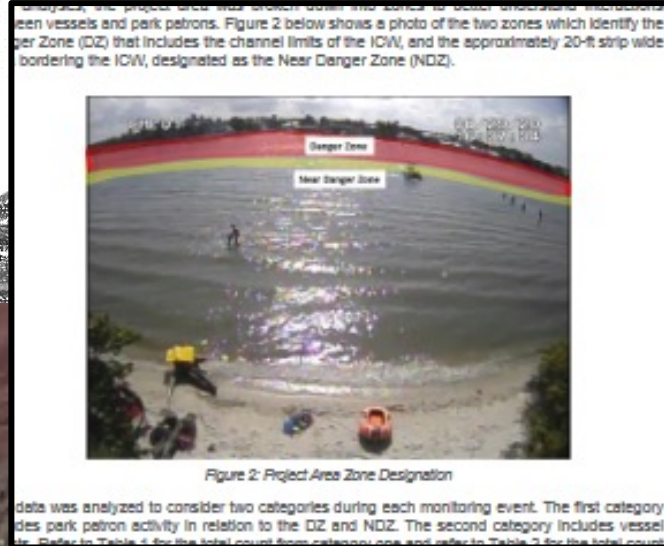
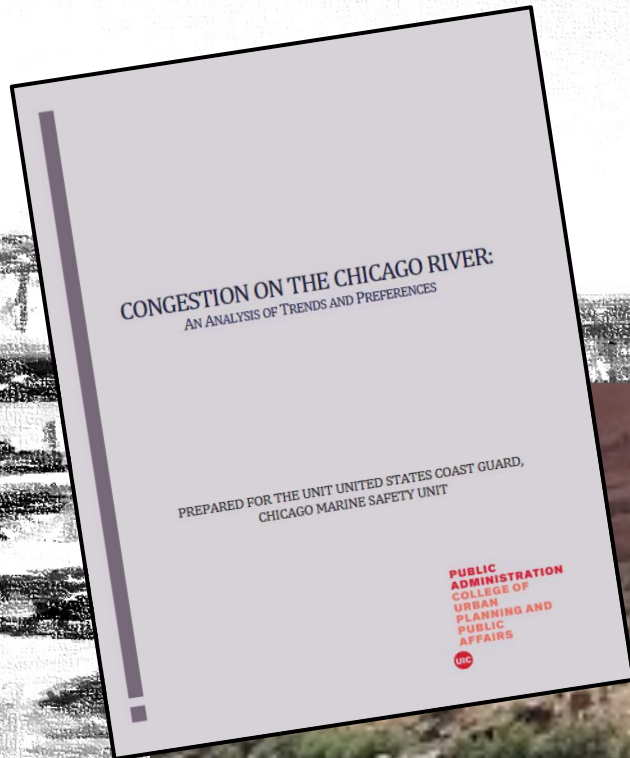
Six Step Planning Process:

✓ Step 1 – ORGANIZE



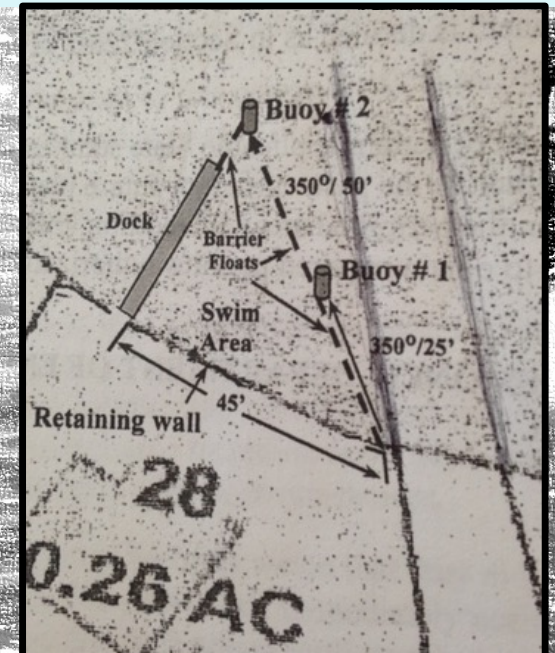
## SECTION 3

# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES



## Six Step Planning Process:

- ✓ Step 1 – ORGANIZE
- ✓ Step 2 – RESEARCH









# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES

- ✓ Step 1 – ORGANIZE
- ✓ Step 2 – RESEARCH
- ✓ Step 3 – PLAN

## RESOURCES WITH HELPFUL PLANNING FRAMEWORKS

### THE RIVER ACCESS PLANNING GUIDE

(2020) – A Decision-Making Framework for Enhancing River Access<sup>3</sup> This is a document that provides a step-by-step process to planning for river access with recreation users in mind. It is a resource for planners, river managers, and users as they approach site selection and design to establish new river access or improve existing access.

[https://www.river-management.org/assets/RiverAccessGuide/03012020%20Layout\\_RAPG\\_FINAL\\_\\_Tags\\_v22.pdf](https://www.river-management.org/assets/RiverAccessGuide/03012020%20Layout_RAPG_FINAL__Tags_v22.pdf)

### PREPARE TO LAUNCH!

(2018) – A resource designed to help facility and trail planners and park and recreation project leaders plan and build or update an access site tailored to the needs of canoeists, kayakers, tubers, stand-up paddlers, or small craft sailors.<sup>4</sup>

<https://www.river-management.org/prepare-to-launch>

### VISITOR USE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

The framework offers cohesive guidance for managing visitor use on federally managed lands and waters. The framework situations vary in spatial extent and complexity from site-specific decisions to large-scale, comprehensive management plans and across multiple, tiered planning efforts.<sup>3</sup> <https://visitorusemanagement.nps.gov/VUM/Framework>





## SECTION 3

# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES

VEHICLE SPEED - SPARKY ON A ROAD

NEEDS in Lake

### BASHAN LAKE STATE BOAT LAUNCH Citizens Concerns

Please place a sticker under the three subjects that concern you the most. The red sticker denotes your highest concern.  
If your subject is not listed, please let one of the Staff know.  
Your assistance in this survey is greatly appreciated.

DESIGN	PARKING	ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES	MAINTENANCE	TRAFFIC	SECURITY	ENVIRONMENT	NAVIGATION	DRAINAGE & EROSION	TRASH & DUMPING	NO CONCERNS
● ●	● ● ● ●	● ●	● ● ● ●	●	● ● ●	● ● ●	●	● ● ●	● ● ● ● ●	

## Six Step Planning Process:

- ✓ Step 1 – ORGANIZE
- ✓ Step 2 – RESEARCH
- ✓ Step 3 – PLAN
- ✓ Step 4 – DECIDE









# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES



## Six Step Planning Process:

- ✓ Step 1 – ORGANIZE
- ✓ Step 2 – RESEARCH
- ✓ Step 3 – PLAN
- ✓ Step 4 – DECIDE
- ✓ Step 5 – ACTION



# DEVELOPING PLANS & APPROACHES

- ✓ Step 1 – ORGANIZE
- ✓ Step 2 – RESEARCH
- ✓ Step 3 – PLAN
- ✓ Step 4 – DECIDE
- ✓ Step 5 – ACTION
- ✓ Step 6 – MONITOR





SECTION 4

# MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY MANAGEMENT APPROACHES & RELATED TOOLS









The background of the slide is a scenic view of a lake. In the foreground, a long line of white and blue motorboats is docked along the shore. In the middle ground, a rainbow is visible in the sky over the water. The background shows a forested hillside under a cloudy sky.

SECTION 4

# MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY MANAGEMENT APPROACHES & RELATED TOOLS

Use a **“Systems” approach** addressing:

➤ **“Users”** - through information and education; signage



The background of the slide is a scenic view of a lake. In the foreground, a boat ramp is visible with several white motorboats docked in a line. The water is dark green. In the middle ground, there are green hills and a bridge. In the background, a rainbow is visible in the sky. The sky is filled with grey clouds.

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Use a “**Systems**” approach addressing:

➤ “**Users**” - through information and education; signage

➤ “**Usage**” – Such as zoning use areas for  
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Use a “**Systems**” approach addressing:

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- “**Usage**” – Such as zoning use areas for specific activities
- “**Law enforcement**” – Targeting patrols in problem or high-use areas



The background of the slide is a scenic view of a river. In the foreground, several motorboats are docked or moving slowly. In the middle ground, a rainbow is visible in the sky over the water. The background shows a town or city built on a hillside across the river. The sky is overcast with grey clouds.

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# MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY MANAGEMENT APPROACHES & RELATED TOOLS

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- “**Law enforcement**” – Targeting patrols in problem or high-use areas
- “**Regulations**” – Designated anchorage zones, speed limits, or traffic patterns



The background of the slide is a scenic view of a harbor. In the foreground, there are several boats docked at a pier. The water is calm, and in the distance, a large body of water is visible. A vibrant rainbow is seen in the sky on the left side of the image. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and scenic.

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- “**Enhancing Management Practices**” – Supporting harbor safety committees, friends groups, or other networks for stakeholder involvement, input, and communication.





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SECTION 5

# ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN WATERWAY MANAGEMENT



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®





SECTION 6

# CASE STUDY #1 – BALLASTED BOATS

(AKA "WAKE BOATS")

#2 – Jupiter Inlet, Florida

#3 – Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

#4 – Oregon's Non-motorized Access Program





## SECTION 6

# CASE STUDY #4 - OREGON'S NONMOTORIZED WATERWAY ACCESS PROGRAM

**Background:** In 2010, the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) began a comprehensive strategic planning process to determine how it could build upon past accomplishments while responding to current and future changes in recreational boating and emerging environmental issues. Seven focus areas were identified, with the OSMB determining 4 areas (label 1-4 below) to be priorities:

- Education, engagement, and outreach 1
- Environment
- Facilities
- Funding and financing 2
- Law enforcement and safety 3
- Operations and staffing
- Organizational purpose and identity 4

Fifty-two strategies were identified in the four priority areas. One strategy was identified as the *Nonmotorized Project*. The goal of the project was to actively integrate nonmotorized boater needs and participation of the nonmotorized community into OSMB agency operation.

**Problem:** Oregon State Marine Board has historically been funded by motorized boat fees, so the agency has focused programs to motorized groups only. The nonmotorized community wanted "a seat at the table" to provide input on facility and other program development for nonmotorized boating and paddling. Because there was no fee structure in place for nonmotorized boating groups, they were not contributing to funding for these specialized projects desired by their community.

## STEP 1

### Formation of a Nonmotorized External Advisory Committee

A process was developed seeking applications from those willing to provide input by serving on an advisory committee. Sixteen participants were selected representing various locations, backgrounds, and gender identity. The selected advisory committee included participants from whitewater, ocean, drift boating, dragon boat/outrigger canoeing, standup paddleboarding (SUP), outfitters/guides, environmental, wild and scenic rivers, flatwater, rowing, rafting, sailing, livery-rental, law enforcement, and parks.

The Advisory Group engaged in a two-year long process which included nine meetings, a statewide assessment, and a national survey of state programs. The survey of state programs had a 100% response from states on how fees were collected (or not collected) from nonmotorized boaters, including a look at titling and registration fees, sales taxes, permits, launch fees, and other funding processes. The Advisory Group and OSMB shared all findings at a series of seventeen public input meetings, with information captured and posted online during this robust process.



## Start - 2010

**Step 1** – Formation of a Nonmotorized External Advisory Committee

**Step 2** – Legislative Attempt #1 (Failed)

**Step 3** – Regroup and Legislative Attempt #2 (Passed)

**Step 4** – Development of the Waterway Access Grant Program

**Step 5** – Transparency of the Program's Implementation

**2020** – Accepted grant proposals for the first time.

**Awarded \$412,082 to 10 projects  
Provided \$25,448 in additional technical assistance**



SECTION 7

# REFERENCES AND SUGGESTED READING

Over 200 notated references  
and full index





# Waterways conjure up a spectrum of images...





## ...and divergent views

- One person's **exhilarating hub** of recreational activity is another's **over-crowded, intolerant, and noisy place**.
- Another's **tranquil refuge** and scenic backdoor vista is somebody's **inaccessible space**.
- Someone's **productive** workplace or corridor of military or commercial activity is another user's **competitive, intolerant** passageway.



# A GUIDE For MULTIPLE USE WATERWAY MANAGEMENT (THIRD EDITION)



*Produced under a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.*

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## 2020-21 WATERWAY MANAGEMENT PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE<sup>1</sup>

### **American Canoe Association**

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### **American Waterways Operators**

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### **Chicago Harbor Safety Committee**

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### **Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission**

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### **Passenger Vessel Association**

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### **States Organization for Boating Access**

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DOWNLOAD at [www.waterwaymanagement.org](http://www.waterwaymanagement.org)

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