

Scoping Period : Summary of Comments

Boating

Do not change

ID Comment

- 71 I strongly recommend that Lake Lowell remains open to boating in all forms from fishing to water skiing.
- 133 should have boating,
- 22 Please keep the lake open for boating
- 171 I am writing to let you know that I don't want the lake closed to boaters.
- 205 Please do not inhibit access to the lake as it is a wonderful escape that is close to home without the immense crowds.
- 311 Sailing should be considered an appropriate method of wildlife observation and wildlife photography at DFNWR/Lake Lowell.
- 29 Leave Lake Lowell as is for boat & fishing use.
- 337 Not in favor of closing the fishing & boating.
- 446 Please allow recreational boating (motorized and non motorized) to continue.
- 518 Please do not stop recreation boating and fishing on lake lowell, it can be combined with the wild life as done before. IT IS A GREAT PLACE TO GO FISH AND RELAX.
- 29 I think it would be a big mistake to not allow boaters
- 29 Please keep it open to boaters.
- 29 Opposed to removing non-priority uses. Wind causes more problems than boats

Economic Impact

ID Comment

- 58 This activity is something many in our community look forward to every year and is a way to raise money for the state with motorboating and jet-ski registration.
- 75 The economy will suffer if the lake is closed to boating
- 147 f the Lake was closed to boating I would be required to go to C] Strike, Lucky Peak or Anderson all of which are 30/40 miles away. Grandpa is on fixed income and the cost would be prohibitive.
- 162 There are dozens of businesses from boat dealers. taclde shops. motels. service stations and variety stores that would be greatly affected if boating and fishing activities were restricted at the Refuge.
- 255 Good alternatives for boating, and particularly good places to fish from aboard, outside of Lake Lowell, are some distance from Canyon County. Banning boating on Lake Lowell would seriously limit access to this type of recreation for area boaters and their

families, and would also ensure that, when they are able to engage in such recreation, their dollars do not contribute to the local economy, but to economies outside the county.

More opportunities

ID Comment

- 388 sufficient obstacle removal to allow use of the canal to once again float small water craft (kayaks, canoes, surfboards, paddleboats, rowing skulls, sunfish sailboats, etc); and nonmotorized (except for support, wildlife touring, coaching/safety motorized craft) boating opportunities tangentially or even unrelated to wildlife enjoyment. please consider allowing use of the lake for four and eight person crew boat training and racing. (This, like allowance of a sailing program, might involve allowing a relatively low speed, low noise, perhaps electric, motor launch for coaching and/or emergency rescue purposes.)
- 29 More boating opportunities
- 29 More biking and boating opportunities as well as visitor center.
- 29 Need the lake boating curfew removed

Collaboration

ID Comment

- 473 Just as maintenance of the traditional recreational uses of Lake Lowell is critical to the County's financial and cultural well-being. the continued involvement and support of Canyon County - and the goodwill of County residents - is critical to any effective management of the entire DFNWR. Canyon County provides the infrastructure and community support upon which the DFNWR's mission capability is premised. Parking, law enforcement, restrooms, boat ramps, grant opportunities, educational outreach, and many other incidentals, including annual expenditures of \$300,000 for mosquito abatement, form the very foundation of the DFNWR. Canyon County's continued provision of support should be considered contingent upon the preservation of traditional recreational opportunities at Lake Lowell, including but not limited to, vehicle access to Gott's Point, the Lower Dam Recreation Area and boaters' facilities at the Lake.

General Collaboration and Outreach

ID Comment

- 5 The county & USFW should work together to provide more patrols and cleanup.
- 708 Reach out to the Boy Scouts, YMCA, OREIDA, College of Idaho ornithology department, and NNU.

Development of Alternatives

General Alternatives

ID Comment

29 Would like to see the lake dived in half, one side for hunting, fishing & wildlife viewing and one side for recreation, motor boating, jet skiing, etc.

334 When developing alternatives please remember the bill from 1970

191. A literature review to collect studies referencing recreational disturbance to wildlife on wildlife refuges or similar areas specifically related to waterfowl and shorebirds, songbirds & raptors (migratory and resident), mammals using riparian habitats, and water-related recreation such as motor boating, waterskiing, personal watercraft, canoeing and kayaking, fishing, horseback riding, cycling, hiking, swimming, ice skating, ice fishing, sailing, and other such recreational activity that is appropriate.

2. From the literature, create interim regulations for recreation on Lake Lowell.
3. Conduct an environmental assessment for Lake Lowell regarding the continued generally unregulated recreational use.
4. Conduct a baseline 2-year (minimum, 3 year would be better) survey of recreational activity and wildlife use on Lake Lowell (see environmental assessment above). This could be a thesis project for a BSU or ISU student in recreation, wildlife biology, conservation biology, etc.
5. From the results of the survey and literature review, create interim regulations related to recreational activity on the lake. Conduct a continuing monitoring program of the effects any restrictions may have on wildlife pursuant to the goals and objectives of the National Wildlife Refuge system and make modifications as necessary.
6. Maintain contact and communication with user groups on a regular basis (yearly? Per contact?) for education and feedback.
7. Enforce regulations consistently on and off the reservoir. Other options are: use fees for operating on the reservoir. These fees could go into a habitat management fund to improve wildlife habitat, fund studies or educational programs related to wildlife conservation.

453 I realize that it would not be your decision to make, but has anyone considered doing a study to see how much silt has filtered into Lake Lowell over the years and could be dredged to create a couple of islands that would be off limits to the public but could be made into nesting areas for ducks, geese and other birds?

20 i do have a suggestion .maybe open the lake April 30 and close it sept 15..by then the lake is so green anyways i wouldn't want to take my boat out there .

Environmental Education

General Environmental Education

ID Comment

19 Establish a more formal volunteer/docent program to help with educational programs

44 I realize the lake's original intent was irrigation, but..... The east end is "no wake" and

you have the Osprey nesting area closed which are great tools. Maybe more education and enforcement would be an alternative,

54 We have also enjoyed the wonderful preschool storytime activities and the great visitors center provided.

157 I think education should be a key focus for the future of the unit.

271 **SAVE LAKE LOWELL !**
The Common Sense Big Six: Education for cohabitation for animals and humans
(this person created their own big six)

325 The recreational activities available to local families on the lake also provide a unique environment for learning, and promote an appreciation of nature within the community.

29 Encourage people not to litter and/or pick up litter they see.

490 Removing recreation from the lake would detrimentally impact the Refuge in another way. If fewer people visit the Refuge, fewer people would have the opportunity to learn about the various plant and animal life it hosts. A key component of the Refuge's mission is education, but if there is no one visiting the Refuge, it's difficult to educate them

29 School children can learn a lot by show and tell at places like this.

708 They would like to have more frequent Wild About Life programs.

Fishing

Carp Issues

ID Comment

147 I also see an over population of carp in the lake

- 717
- We recommend that the CCP EIS include an alternative that prioritizes carp removal.
 - We recommend that The Deer Flat NWR work closely with other Refuges that are likewise dealing with carp populations (such as the Malheur NWR) in order to identify potential management strategies.

Fish Management

ID Comment

92 Wants warm water fish like bass better managed

487 Fishing populations need to be controlled in the lake, and frankly the carp need to go. It is irritating as a fisherman to be told that bass and trout are in the lake, but catch everything else but either of those most of the time.

General Access

ID	Comment
147	I would like to see more docks for fishing, the current ones have a sign that says "no fishing." It's not rigidly enforced but does act as a deterrent.
152	This lake is a great spot for all sorts of recreation, especially fishing. I come down 2x per year to fish at the lake, and from what I can observe, the fishermen are the most positive conservation force there. Reducing access to fishermen would be a tragic mistake.
255	Shore access for anglers at Lake Lowell is quite poor. Besides the terraced side of the west dam, the fishing pier near the Visitors' Center, and a couple of spots around Gott's Point, there are vary few places to fish from the shore.
326	Would like to have access to, fishing areas without having to walk so far to get to them.
29	no access to any fishing opportunities for kids. We are not allowed to fish off the docks. I don't like this at all.
29	Easy to get to the fishing spots.

General Fishing

ID	Comment
7	Fisheries, said that the state would be asserting their right to stock in Lake Lowell
32	Promote improved fishing opportunities
60	keep fishing
80	Wants to be able to keep fishing
85	Loves to take his boat out and fish many times a year. Wants to be able to fish the southside to enjoy the wildlife more.
133	should have fishing
22	Keep fishing the way it is.
142	I take kids and my grandkids fishing to keep them off drugs so they need something to think about to have fun.
241	Wants lake kept open for rec fishing.
162	Local Bass Clubs in the 1980s in cooperation with the refuge placed concrete along the northeast banks (East of Gotts' (SP) Point) to enhance fish habitat. I believe it was just two years the Idaho Bass Federation Nation assisted with funds and personnel to add riprap to improve the launch areas at the Caldwell and Nampa ramps. Local organizations and volunteers have worked hard to keep the reservoir a great recreational resource. It would be a slap in the face if they were denied access to a waterway they have worked hard to develop and improve.
313	Fishing. In limited areas only, more restrictive than at present.

- 29 Leave Lake Lowell as is for boat & fishing use.
- 337 Not in favor of closing the fishing & boating.
- 346 Lake Lowell is very close for Ada & Canyon counties for day fishing. I don't feel fishing pressure will affect the abundant wildlife or birds.
- 518 Please do not stop recreation boating and fishing on lake lowell, it can be combined with the wild life as done before. IT IS A GREAT PLACE TO GO FISH AND RELAX.
- 29 A safe place to fish
- 29 Close area to enjoys water sports and fishing.
- 582 Can you please not close Lake Lowell to the public because it is a great place to go fishing.
- 587 Please don't close Lae Lowe Because I like to go fishing
- 658 The closing of Lake Lowell will be very disappointing to all fisherman in the nearby vicinity.
Considering how many local [urw] spots have been destroyed by the earlier flooring[?], it's important to make sure that large bodies of water are open to fisherman.

- 668 Likes to fish at the lake.
- 719 They have been fishing since 1974 at the lake. Wish to keep fishing

Tournaments

ID Comment

- 40 Wants to continue to be able to fish tournaments and for recreation
- 60 wants to keep fishing tournements

Gotts Point

ID Comment

- 231 Years ago they sort of ruined Gotts Point.

Re-open

ID Comment

- 5 Wants to see it re-opened immediately. Said would work with county to improve law enforcement and disabled access.
- 11 Wants to be able to fish at Gott's Point with his granddaughters but he cant walk the whole

way down there.

25 He wishes Gott's Point would reopen so he can fish at his favorite fishing spot

69 He feels that Gott's point should be reopened since it is the best shoreline fishing spot.

69 Wants Gott's Point Open now and does not want to wait for CCP process; good spot for bank fishing May 20, 2010
Gott's point opened immediately

314 Gott's point should be reopened. Our taxes can certainly allow for a dumpster to be placed there.

522 I am an avid fisherman. I have great memories of fishing and boating at the lake from my earliest days. I would like to continue making those memories with my children. Many of those memories were made at Gott's Point which was closed in the last couple of years without any input from the community who used it most. I know it is open to those who can walk to it, but what about my elderly father-in-law who would like to fish from there with his grand kids, but can't walk that far?

5 Gott's point should be fully reopened

29 Wants Gott's Point reopened

Grain Farming

General Grain Farming

ID Comment

453 Areas of refuge should be cleaned up to allow grain crops to be planted. It would provide feed for the wildlife and it would also create areas for sportsmen to hunt.

474 I would also like to see some crop type management on the shoreline of the lake. There is plenty of opportunity here to plant corn or other wildlife friendly crops and not harvest giving better game food and cover than the existing weeds. Cost could be offset with some sort of boating sticker or boating inspection fee.

Horseback Riding

General Horseback Riding

ID Comment

133 should have horseback riding

169 Horseback riding and dog walking are not wildlife dependent. They also leave a lot of poop behind.

29 My input has to do with horseback riding and parking. Seems the only place you can ride is at Tio but the parking lot is very small and paved, neither good for horses and trailers. If you want to limit horses to this area, it would be very helpful to have a place to park that doesn't interfere with cars. Also, is there any time frame the east side of Tio will be open for riding?

Hunting

ID Comment

29 Hunting on public lands which makes private lands out of reach due to cost.

Anti Hunting

ID Comment

18 Wants the refuge to be returned to her original idea of the refuge being a place for wildlife viewing only.

YOU ARE EITHER A WILDLIFE VIEWER WHO LEAVES THE WILDLIFE ALONE TO LIVE IN PEACE OR YOU ARE A WILDLIFE MURDERER.

187 I don't understand how hunting is allowed at a national wildlife refuge--to me that seems like the #1 most non-compatible use in a wildlife refuge!

18 Stop all hunting at the refuge!

313 NO HUNTING. Not ducks, not geese, not pheasants, not deer. Enough get hit by cars or get shot out of the limits of the refuge. Leave a haven for the birds and animals and we overpopulated predators.

Deer

ID Comment

3 Craig would like us to Consider a youth deer hunt at Deer Flat NWR1.
There are a lot of large bucks.

2. The deer get hit on the roadway

3. The farms are being depredated

4. The deer only move off the Refuge at night.

4 Wanted to hunt deer because deer are getting hit on roadway, there are a lot of large bucks, and depredation on farms.

6 Wants a mule deer hunt to prevent depredation of farms

10 Wants the refuge to open up a hunt to help prevent depredation on the farms.

33 Anti Deer hunting

22 Wants to have a hunt open for deer.

219 If the number of deer need to be reduced I think a permitted hunt.

29 Open deer hunting on Deer Flat to thin out deer population

453 I have heard some talk about a deer season on the refuge. I would oppose such a season despite what I see as a healthy population of deer on the refuge. There is too much traffic along the refuge and houses are too close to warrant a season on the refuge.

471 Deer hunting on the refuge should be considered only if deer are a problem in terms of overgrazing the refuge.

502 If it would be a useful tool to maintain a healthy deer population, then it should be used. Somerestrictions may be appropriate for safety, such as short-range weapons or archery.

545 Wants archery deer season.

Expand Hunting

ID Comment

13 Wants to be able to hunt predators such as coyotes and red foxes to prevent damage to other wildlife.

453 I would like to see squirrels (non-native Fox Squirrel) listed as open to hunt. When I first came to Idaho in 1991, I was allowed to harvest Fox Squirrel on the refuge as they ruin the Wood Duck nesting boxes. In the past few years I have been told that I am not allowed to hunt Fox Squirrel on the refuge despite that fact that they are considered a pest in Idaho. While I do prefer to hunt Fox Squirrel with a .22 caliber rifle, I understand and would accept the regulation to use only steel shot.

General Hunting

ID Comment

32 Promote improved hunting

60 keep hunting

113 If further hunting restrictions are needed those can be implemented

29 [Refuges provide a unique recreational experience because]
Hunting on public lands which makes private lands out of reach due to cost.
(Questionnaire Answer)

Waterfowl

ID Comment

14 Establish a water fowl and game bird Habitat Program with area farmers.

29 Wants a daily limit of shotgun shells (25 shells) used to allow others to hunt

40 Wants to be able to continue duck hunting

61 Wants to be able to hunt geese on the refuge

78 Doesn't hunt the waterfowl on the lake himself but would be sad if it went away for others.

169 Do something to stop the skybusting and overcrowding by duck hunters. I suggest a one box (25) shell daily limit per hunter.

200 USFWS and IDF&G need to work to together on a hunting management plan that restricts waterfowl hunting days to three or four days a week on federal and state owned waters.

415 It would be a tragedy to close the lake to duck hunting. Hunter opportunity would plummet and everyone would be more concentrated in already limited areas throughout south idaho.

453 As a duck hunter I would like to see all electronic calling and decoys prohibited on Lake Lowell. I realize that electronic calling is already against regulations, however it would have to be tied directly to the motorized decoys. I believe that motorized decoys gives hunters an unfair advantage over waterfowl. I have watched high flying ducks lock onto a motorized decoy without any other decoys set up or any calling by the hunter. As a hunter and sportsman, I like to think that it was my ability to set up an appealing spread of decoys and my ability to call a duck into my blind and not due to a motorized decoy. Many states are banning motorized decoys and as a Federal Refuge you could impose that restriction

453 IF Duck hunting is continued on the refuge I would like to see the gates reopen in the winter if the lake should freeze and then thaw prior to the close of season. In the past, once the lake freezes the gates are locked and not reopened if the lake opens back up. Being disabled, I find it impossible to access the lake to hunt unless the gates are open and I can launch my boat.

474 I would like to see Lake Lowell stay open to hunting of waterfowl and upland game. This is a great opportunity for many hunters.

Law Enforcement

ID Comment

24 Active patrols to enforce this also.

29 Police only ticket boaters and ignore drunks and fights in family picnic areas.

General Law Enforcement

ID Comment

14 Working agreement with Canyon County Sheriff_s Office, Nampa City Police, and Caldwell City Police to help monitor and stop illegal activities occurring on Refuge property. With emphasizes on vandalism.

32

33 Take better control of poaching and unsafe hunters

37 This man has realized that the water banks have not been enforced like the laws in the homeowners guide says. His neighbors have been destroying the habitat along the banks by their property. Wants more inspections done.

327 Wants more patrolling of lake, especially along shores to stop drinking and littering.

Miscellaneous

ID Comment

235 He also supports the work that the mosquito abatement does.

General Miscellaneous

ID Comment

9 He has a business that rents ATVs, jetskis, and pontoon boats. It's not going to hurt him if he can't rent equipment that ends up at the Refuge. His biggest concern is that one or more of our county commissioners are trying to beat the Refuge up.

223 Lake should open 1 month early and close 1 month later.

31 Here are a few things that I have observed as I have frequented the refuge as a retired biologist and as a refuge volunteer:

Migratory flocks of tundra swans, white-fronted geese, snow geese, and a variety of duck species find refuge in the East End as they pass through, especially on their spring migrations. These flocks generally holdover and then pass on well before the opening of the boating season on April 15.

A variety of shorebirds and wading birds are attracted to the East End mud flats when the lake elevation is down in the fall. These birds appear to be relatively undisturbed because of the low lake level which does not allow for much boating use at that end of the lake.

When the lake elevation comes up in the spring and floods the isolated bays and inlets, causing an emergence of smartweed and flooding of the shoreline willow patches, this is when the Western and Clark's grebes and mallard pairs are attracted to the area for breeding and nesting, as well as white pelicans for feeding. This is true not only for the East End, but also along the South Side shoreline and other areas of the lake. By this time the boating season has started and the bass fisherman are frequenting these emergent habitats in pursuit of the largemouth bass that have also moved back into these more sheltered habitats. The "no wake" rule on the East End helps ameliorate the disturbing effects of boat use during this time, but the very presence of boats and humans during the critical nesting season probably is disturbing to the birds and may affect breeding and nesting success. These emergent habitats on the South Side and other areas of the lake are additionally disturbed by the noise and wake of other boat traffic.

Motorized Boating

Boat Limit on Lake

ID Comment

8 The BASS Federation Nation is taking the stance that there is enough room on the lake for everyone and everyone has just as much of a right to be there as they do.

52 set a limit on boat parking spaces at each damn with no overflow boat parking. This will reduce heavier traffic on the lake maintaining a more peaceful environment for the birds and animals at the refuge.

Boating for Fishing Access

ID Comment

- 1 Wants to be able to use his boat to fish
- 43 Wants to be able to fish from his boat
- 64 There main concern is that they wont be able to fish on the lake from their motorized boats.
- 95 He wants to continue to fish from his powerboat
- 111 I would agree recreational boaters do nothing to further the goals of your agency. However, restricting motorized boats would eliminate bass fisherman, an avid conservation group, from using the lake.
- 255 As you know, fishing is one of the "big six" public uses that are considered appropriate uses of the refuge. I own a 15-foot fishing boat that I use frequently at Lake Lowell. I consider the use of this boat to be vital to my activity as an angler.
- 290 concened with the short fishing and boating restrictions already imposed on the lake now and would like you to address the reasons for curtailing the fishing so early by closing the ramps and blocking access to fishing areas. I believe Closing the lake to boating and fishing will have the unintended impact of increasing the pressure on Arrowrock and other facilities, plus create a hardship on fishermen who don't have the resources to travel farther in order to fish.
- 29 The geese don't seem to have suffered much by their catching catfish and crappie. Boating on the lake enables us to fish, to observe wildlife, and to photograph wildlife. It encourages children and young adults to connect with nature and experience both waterfowl and deer in their natural setting. We have enjoyed watching the ducks and geese fly around the boat and watching deer eat along the shoreline.
- 496 Bass fishing is a popular activity at Lake Lowell. Bass fishing without a boat is nearly impossible.
- 29 fishing & hunting are done from our boat, we need to keep boating an option on all our waterways.
- 699 I would like to comment that use of motor boats at least for fishing purposes should be continued at Lake Lowell.

Decrease Water Sports

ID Comment

- 82 As a neighbor of the refuge during the summer months we often hear extremely loud roars of large power boats racing up and down the south shore of Lake Lowell, loud music being played even in the evening hours, water birds and shore birds disappear during the summer months as wake activity increases with jet skiers and water skiers. The ambiance of 'wildlife refuge' disappears entirely when these types of users are on Lake Lowell. Restrictions should be increased to not allow water skiing or jet skiing.

82 He feels that jet skiing and water skiing are damaging to the wildlife on the refuge.
255 If strong, credible science points to a need to reduce boating activity on the lake, I suggest that the best approach would be to reduce this activity by targeting waterskiing, wakeboarding, jetskiing, and similar activities, which generate the overwhelming majority of the wakes and noise (and which have no relation to the "big six" acceptable activities).

Do Not Change

ID Comment

28 Wants to be able to use his boat on the lake
50 don't close lake to boating, but wants to be able to share with wildlife for conservation

52 Doesn't want to see the lake close to boats
55 Doesn't want boating to stop on the refuge
58 I am against any proposed plan to discontinue motorboating use at the Lake Lowell Unit.

63 He feels that everything in place as far as restrictions is good. Doesn't want any more though.
66 Wants to be able to use the lake for recreation as well as fishing.
72 Uses the lake for waterskiing, jetskiing, fishing, Etc. Doesn't want these things to go away. Proposed the plan to restrict 2 stroke engines
76 Wants to keep boating on the lake
79 Doesn't want boating to go away. Suggests switching to a 4 stroke only engine
81 Doesn't want more restrictions on boats on the lake. Feels that the wildlife are not bothered by them.
83 Doesn't want to see fun boating experiences go away.
86 Wants to be able to use power boats for recreation
92 Leave boating the way it is
113 Let me be clear, in no way should the use of motorized boats be limited in any way on Lake Lowell.
125 My comment with being a boat owner and using Lake Lowell is to for us to be able to still use it. When I drive by the lake during week days I notice that there isn't very many boats out on the water and even when the lake is busy it's not bad.
128 We think boats should stay.
29 Please do not prohibit watercrafts at Lake Lowell.
137 Do not close Lake Lowell to boating - for many this is the only affordable option to go fishing. Many individuals and families enjoy this lake for the 6 months boating is

allowed. I would think those who recreate at Lake Lowell contribute to Canyon County's economy.

- 139 Would be very disappointed to see the lake close down to rec motorized watercraft.
- 159 Just quick comment: Please do not close Lake Lowell for boating and swimming.
- 161 I am an avid boater that frequents Lucky Peak. If you close Lake Lowell down it will crowd Lucky peak even more and hurt businesses to the point of failure. I strongly oppose closing Lake Lowell to boaters.
- 180 I understand the planning process however with all of the factors involved PLEASE Do not close the lake to boaters!!It is my observation over all of the years that most of the game birds are gone by 4/15 and never return before 11/1 and the lake closes on 10/15.
- 193 Please don't make motorized boats illegal at lake Lowell.
- 225 I would like to see boating and waterskiing permitted on the lake.
- 233 We want boat access rights to this lake to continue
- 234 Really upset about boating going away. She lives in Boise. She says humans have a right to use it also.
- 264 Don't shut down Lake Lowell to motorized boats
- 306 Wants to be able to continue boating here at the refuge.
- 316 I strongly encourage the inclusion of motorized boating
- 330 He respects the environment; want us to respect his right to enjoy the lake and boating. Moved to Nampa partly because of lake.
- 335 Against the closing of the lake to boat- don't fix something that isn't broke.
- 29 Keep the Lake Lowell and Snake River Island units open for recreation and boaters.
- 386 I grew up skiing, fishing and hunting on Lake Lowell and I think the reservoir should remain open to motorized boats.
- 387 Please do not limit all motorized boat use from the refuge.
- 414 I am against restricting boating on Lake Lowell
- 455 As someone who regularly enjoys Lake Lowell, both in a motorboat and walking my dog along the lower dam, it would be disappointing to discover that these activities might be restricted in the future.
- 464 Please continue to allow boating
- 474 I would like to see Lake Lowell stay open to motorized boats during the current season that is already in place. This handles concerns on nesting waterfowl.
- 501 Don't close it.....dont do it....Don't close it to boaters. Don't close it....Keep lake lowell for the people by the people.
- 523 Please for my families sake do not close Lake Lowell to the use of motorboats.

- 533 If you close the lake to power boating you close it off to thousands of upcoming youth.
- 536 It would be a sad day if the Jet Boat family were excluded from the lake. Jet boaters are responsible stewards of the water/areas we play in and should not be excluded.
- 537 I disagree with closing these areas because they have been this way for over 100 years. If it's not broke, don't fix it. Stopping boating in this area would just flood other areas.
- 29 Boater and bird watcher and observe wildlife from boat
- 538 Thinks refuge should be open to all power boating. Need studies done to prove that boating harms wildlife before any restrictions.
- 539 Boating in this area is a way of life, we fish, hunt, and enjoy recreation with friends and family. Removing boating on Lake Lowell is a start to remove our way of life as we see it.
- 29 Power boating on Lake Lowell is a window of opportunity a chance to open a persons interest to a whole new world. People observe animals while boating and then go home and research them. Don't close another window of opportunity.
- 29 I hope you keep Lake Lowell open to motorized boating.
- 29 Keep Lake Lowell open to motorized boating.
- 678 Lived in valley whole life. Doesn't want to see boating go away
- 686 Keep boating at Lake Lowell
- 698 Does not support removal of motorboat use from the lake.
- 701 Wants motorized boating to stay open on the refuge.
- 704 Please continue to allow boating on Lake Lowell. It has been my families favorite place for boating for years and we hope for years to come.
- 718 Governor Otter feels that it is unfair to the public to get rid of motorized boating. He doesn't like that federal agencies keep prohibiting access for idahoans
- 687 Keep Boating at Lake Lowell
- 719 Keep Motor Boats Open
- 720 Against taking boating away from Lake Lowell. People should come first

Don't Change Water Sports

ID Comment

- 27 Wants to be able to use their sailboat and skiboat. Also agrees that the seasonal lake use should stay in effect to accomidate wildlife
- 28 Wants to be able to go water skiing

- 45 doesn't want more restrictions for water skiing
60 keep recreational boating
67 They want to be able too keep water sports. It is the reason they moved to Caldwell.
80 Wants to be able to keep water skiing
533 Water skiing & water boarding is a good way to introduce youth to the outdoors.

Education and Outreach

ID Comment

- 52 create a mandatory education program that each boater or boat owner has to complete in order to better understand what the refuge is, where and why we need to be more sensitive, rules regarding use of the lake, and the purpose of the refuge.
57 Mandatory Educational Program. Each boat must obtain a sticker or certificate to show that they have attended an educational class regarding the birds and nature of the wildlife refuge

General Boating

ID Comment

- 15 Is there any way to mark the entry back to the boat ramp from the lake? Last time we were there, some flagging tape had been placed at strategic bushes, but we doubt this is going to hold up over time. Maybe a children's florescent pink ball hanging from a tall tree?After bobbing around for a few hours, we were in desperate need of toilet facilities. And, a trash receptacle would be nice, too.
75 The motorized boats keep the lake 'moving' therefore keeping the moss at a minimum. If they are not allowed YOU would have more problems with the mosquito problems that are already so prevalent to the entire area surrounding Lake Lowell.
466 My family and I boat, fish and do watersports at the lake two times a month when it is open. It is an accessible, great place to be on a summer day. The fishing is spotty, and the water is never crystal clear, but we love the lake!

General Restrictions

ID Comment

- 19 1. Eliminate sport boating & PWC use on the entire lake and restrict motor size on all boats
2. Restrict sport boating and PWC use to smaller area of the lake
3. Reduce motor size on boats, eliminate PWC use
- 89 Wants to know if restricting hours on lake would make a difference to wildlife and habitat.
- 157 Also the noise from the boats (motors, stereos, etc) as well as the exhaust and oils which are deposited into the water concern me. If motorized boats are continued access, perhaps more funds should be available to at least patrol on weekends to ensure they follow protocol, such as observing the no wake areas.
- 187 I think motorboating should be restricted to those few months per year when they won't disturb nesting birds or wintering birds.
- 249 He feels that if boating is hindering wildlife then there should just be restrictions not a complete ban
- 294 it would be preferable to simply establish an all-encompassing no-wake zone within 100 yards of the shores (or something like that). Most fishing does not occur in the middle of the lake, so let the power boaters have that area and fishermen can have their preferred areas without getting knocked around by ski boat wakes.
- 311 A maximum of 10 horsepower should be allowed on outboard motors on sailboats. This is for safety reasons so that boats may quickly get off the lake in the event of a storm or the lack of wind.
- 313 Well, let's see. Certainly ban powered personal watercraft. And those huge, huge boats. Some days the lake looks like a dozen versions of the the Q. E. II trying to sail in a bird bath. To start, maybe allow just canoes, rowboats, small sail boats, and fishing boats with outboard or inboard engines not exceeding 25 hp. That system seemed to work well in the past on some lakes in the Adirondacks and other locations.

- 339 Larger ski and bass boats may make a difference, but small boats won't affect the birds
or
shoreline.
- 391 If motorized boats are allowed to use the lake I would like them to be restricted to the
west
end of the lake. The entire lake should be open to non-motorized watercraft. The east
end
of the lake has more access to walking areas and I hope for a little peace and quiet
when
I'm walking the access roads
- 407 With these mandates in mind, the only non-priority uses permitted should be most non-
motorized activities and motorized activities that support priority uses including fishing
and
hunting. Any motorized uses should be controlled by a boating speed limit, e.g. 25
mph, to
prevent damage to habitat and to prevent disturbing species that are using the habitat
for
nesting, resting, feeding and escape cover. In addition, many of these boats are
equipped
with high powered stereo systems which may drive animals out of their habitat or
prevent
birds from nesting. To further protect the water quality and habitat, no filling of gas
tanks
should be allowed on the lake or shore line. These activities should only be allowed in
parking lots marked and designed for this activity to prevent spillage from washing
directly
into the lake or habitat
- 408 I would definitely favor restricting the use of motorboats and jetskis. If they are allowed
at
all, they should remain in zones that are shown not to interfere with the breeding and
nesting
of the grebes and other birds.
- 417 Our boat has ultra low emissions and doesn't put pollutants in the lake, so why not
have a
emissions requirement that you have to meet to put
your boat on the lake? The Federal Government mandates it on the Highways so why
not
on the Lake?
- 488 Motorized Boating - We believe motorized boats should be allowed for fishing.
However,
motor size should be limited. Perhaps only allow use of trolling motors.
Personal Watercraft (jetskiing) - this activity should no longer be allowed
Waterskiing/tubing - this activity should no longer be allowed

In the event motorized watercraft continue to be allowed, we believe it would be of great benefit to shorten the season for use to reduce the impact on the lake and surrounding environment.

529 We find that many of the proposed new regulations are excessive, overbearing, beauracratc and for the most part excessive. Of course the proliferation of ever more powerful and loud ski boats with their obnoxiously loud stereo systems, the annoying jet skis, etc. are certainly not in keeping with a wildlife refuge and this problem needs to be addressed. Perhaps a speed or horsepower limit would solve the problem

29 We need the lake boating curfew removed. No one else make you get off water at a certain time.

575 I believe you should limit the size of boats, the size of motors and eliminate jet skis. Large and loud motorized vehicles and wildlife do not get along.

716 changes that could be made to protect the shoreline for wildlife. One of these would be to limit boats access to the lake by putting barriers well out into the lake. Another would be to limit the number of motorized boats on the lake at any one time.

Horse Power Management

ID Comment

14 Restrict boats to 35hp maximum. No Jet Skis.

21 Doesn't want a restriction on size of engine

27 because of the low level of the water she feels there should be a horsepower management in place

32 Restrict Horsepower on boats to Max 35 hp, More no wake zones.

46 Wants to know if use of cleaner boat engines could change the mind to allow boating on the lake.

82 Feels there should be a motor size restriction on boats

140 There could be some consideration as to limiting the horse power rating of the larger boats.

- 189 Option 1. No Motors
Option 2. Very Small Motors on Specific Craft, electric possibly
- 190 I'd like to see a decibel level or horsepower rule enforced on the lake. Too many loud boats on the refuge.
- 143 Limit size of motor on boats.
- 419 I would like to see a horsepower limit on watercraft some of the time, but not all of the time. My suggestion would be a 2-hour window at sunrise and before sunset, limiting boat motors to 25hp
- 429 max horsepower of boat motors or electric motors only

Impacts to Wildlife

ID Comment

- 189 The character of the Refuge has undergone gradual changes, primarily due to increases in boat numbers, sizes and types. Each contributing factor has increased noise levels, which now may be considerably beyond those appropriate for a wildlife refuge."... much larger motors also enabled a new recreation: water skiing...not even remotely possible behind a rowboat. Unfortunately today, even miles away from the lake, one can usually hear highly powered, even V-8 driven boats racing to and fro on Refuge waters. Another recent development--jet skis--now make noises impossible to avoid by everyone within a mile distant. Without a doubt, large boat motors, water skiing and jet skis are not recreational activities compatible with enhancing wildlife and the stated mission of the NWRS.
- 189 f no data already exist, it may be necessary to conduct new studies to establish noise, proximity and wake levels certain not to negatively affect wildlife. It is important to understand that such studies would need be done at more pristine sites than Lake Lowell and other places where current uses may have distorted the sample of wildlife population by having already driven off members intolerant of even minor intrusion levels, leaving behind (for study??) just those that were better able to adapt. Until non disruptive intrusion levels are somehow quantified, it is only safe to raise the level of wildlife protection to the level that existed for some fifty or so years on this refuge after President

Teddy Roosevelt wisely took a stand which was, history tells us, unpopular to some of his contemporaries as well.

29 I feel that the animals have not been affected by the boats on lake Lowell. Are you going to close lakeshore drive also since I am sure that lots of animals and bird are hit by cars which is more damaging then the boats. The birds have adapted to the recreation on the lake and the numbers have increased not gone down so there should be no reason to even have this discussion.

31 I believe that a healthy wildlife population and recreational boating can co-exist: Extend the "no wake area" farther up the lake to Gotts Point. Exclude motorized boats from the "no wake area" until after the nesting season, e.g. May 15. Exclude motorized boats from within a specified distance from shoreline and emergent habitats, e.g. 200 feet.

I have not seen any direct effect of boating activities on the success or nonsuccess of nesting raptors around the perimeter of Lake Lowell, i.e. bald eagles, osprey, redtailed hawks, etc., although there may be occasions when this could happen.

Increase impact to other resevoirs

ID Comment

147 Not only would I be penalized everyone who owns a boat would be on the road going to one of those options. The additional usage on those areas would be a problem plus the added fuel needed would not be going "green."

181 it will put more congestion on Lucky Peak and I think we all know that the weekend traffic on Lucky Peak is too heavy as it is.

535 Closing lake would over crowd other boating areas.

705 As one who has witnessed first hand the horror of a boating accident, I believe closing Lake Lowell to boating will eventually lead to overcrowding on other lakes and a fatality.

No Boating

ID Comment

175 banning all motorized vehicles and camping from the surrounding land areas as well.

- 177 The East end of the lake which is now a “No-wake zone’ would be closed to all boats, except paddle craft.
- 29 Opposed to boating on the lake
- 29 Wants use of motor boats and jet skies banned on the lake.
- 391 I enjoy spending time walking the access roads or just sitting along the shore (or dam) watching and enjoying the birds and other wildlife that live at the refuge. And then a boat comes roaring by and kills the silence. I would like to see the lake closed to motorized boats but I think that is wishful thinking on my part. I do think that jet skies and other personal watercraft should not be allowed to use the lake.
- 579 This was originally designed as a refuge and needs to be left that way, with no motorized recreational use! It wasn’t designed to be a water park for jet skis, water skiers, and all around abusers of wildlife!

No wake zones

ID Comment

- 111 If there is a specific negative impact that boats are having on wildlife, or fish, I would suggest alternatives....
- Additional "No Wake" zones.
-A Shorter Boating Season (May 1-September 1)
-
- 177 Create a No-wake zone that extends 100 ft or 200ft from the weed line for the circumference of the lake. Nesting waterfowl/wildlife would not be bothered. Payette Lake already has this in place and it works well for all concerns.
- 52 no wake zones can be expanded if necessary to protect sensitive nesting grounds. It should be noted that the lake already has built in no wake zones in all the vegetation around the perimeters of the lake.
- 57 Introduce more "no wake zones" in the lake. This will create less wakes and movement where the wildlife are living in the edges of the lake.
- 224 Boating and water sports are a priority for me. No wake zones on south side of lake and equalization channel could help
- 508 Zones or areas of the lake can be designated as “No wake”,
- 710 I also noticed that there is a lot of silt in the water I think that if from heavy boat

traffic, you
can limit this as well with "no wake" zones

Seasonal Restrictions

ID Comment

21 He wants to see no restrictions on season meaning he wants the lake open year round for boating.

29 Fishing boats 25hp or less Apr 15 - Sept 30
Non- wildlife oriented power boat and large fishing boats May 1 - Sept 10

111 If there is a specific negative impact that boats are having on wildlife, or fish, I would suggest alternatives....

-A Shorter Boating Season (May 1-September 1)

52 reduce hours of operation during the day, or reduce the open season.

224 Do not restrict by time as it crowds lake more.

Speed limit restrictions

ID Comment

22 Feels if wildlife is being hindered by speed of boating then it needs to be limited.

111 If there is a specific negative impact that boats are having on wildlife, or fish, I would suggest alternatives....
-Lower Speed Limits

52 speed restrictions on the lake to 35-40 mph. This will allow most boating activities while decreasing noise and disruption.

57 Reduce speed of boating to 35-40 mph. A speed restriction at this level still allows for water skiing but will reduce noise and speed on the refuge.

203 There is concern that you might limit motorized use based on the horsepower of the engine in the vessel. If this is one of your proposals, I would highly encourage you to consider implementing a speed limit, rather than regulate by the amount of horsepower.

Non-Motorized Boating

Do Not Change

ID Comment

16 He feels that non-motorized boating does not affect wildlife

187 I think that kayaks, rowboats and other non-motorized boats could probably be allowed on the lake most of the year.

294 All non-motorized activities can take place without harming wildlife or wildlife-related activities. Jogging or walking a dog in areas already open to human use is not going to cause a problem. People seriously engaged in wildlife activities would likely be in areas where most people engaged in non-wildlife activities would not be anyway.

Increase Sailing

ID Comment

311 Sailing regattas should be given a special use permit for no more than two events per year, to be conducted in the spring. This would be considered a secondary use of the Lake and is consistent with appreciation and enjoyment of the natural resources.

Non-motorized only

ID Comment

127 What part of wildlife refuge do people not understand. My compromise non motorized boats.

175 I propose allowing all non-motorized boat traffic on Lake Lowell

Non-wildlife Dependent Uses

ID Comment

175 keeping trails open for running, walking (dogs/pets MUST be leashed), hiking and horseback riding,

208 We understand and respect the intentions of the wildlife sanctuary, but we feel it can be used as both a reservoir for recreational purposes, while also respecting the local habitat of the many birds, fish and other animals which reside there.

287 I have never witnessed anyone on the lake or in the picnic area that have caused problems for the wildlife.

Anti-federal government

ID Comment

70 Hates Government. Thinks they have no right to do this.

168 Hates government regulations

295 Hates the government for allowing special interest groups to run the decisions.

305 This is our state and land , to enjoy as we please . Why
has this been a pet project for special interest groups ? Why don't you let the people
who
live
there and play there vote on it ?

182 have lived in Nampa for 12 years. I live 2 miles from Lake Lowell, and have a 26 foot
sailboat. If (they) whoever these people are, close the lake, I will move. How some
federal
clerk can change the lifestyle of everybody in so. Idaho, with the swoop of a pen, is
beyond
me. Nampa is the 2nd largest city in this state, please tell me we can fight this. We
the
people, want to keep our lake. this is the USA, I voted for you sir, please, assure
me,----all
of us you will go to the matt with this!!! I know you believe in this Sir, please
help!!!

29 Does not like refuge management

362 Kick the U.S. Fish and Wildlife off the lake – go back to irrigation district & public.

371 Get your head out of the dark place. There are people besides bird lovers.

383 i have scene some changes that has been a long the snake river and it is very stupid
of what
you have done.we all pay taxes and i know that you get some of that so i think that
you
work for us.so let the people make the changes.

394 Lake lowell is for irrigation. They have used it many times for swimming because it
was very
close. Don't want the government controlling their land

397 I can not see why boats should be banned on Lake Lowell! I was the
manager in the mid 80's and we had no problems with boats! I think there
are to many working for theFish & Wildlife Service these days that want to
control everything! Mainly females!

29 If this goes away I hope that the refuge loses any tax money from our county and city
taxes.
I will no longer support the refuge.

443 I strongly object to any proposed plan by US Fish and Wildlife that would further
limit or
eliminate boating or recreation at Lake Lowell in any way. I am in favor of
eliminating the
US Fish and Wildlife and all the waste that goes with it and turning all responsibility
back to

the people of Idaho. What a great plan!
445 They wish they had a say to what decisions were made for the wildlife refuge.
447 I cannot even think of releasing this recreational area to the federal government.
Look at what they did to the farmers in Klamath Falls a couple of years ago.
29 They are animal-centered and humans are invited, as opposed to the opposite.
215 WHY-----IN THE WORLD WOULD ANY GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY GO
OUT OF THEIR WAY TO DESTROY RECREATION AT LAKE
LOWELL??-----
-----BECAUSE YOU CAN?????

558 Closing the lake is stupid. Environmental idiots get a life.
29 They don't care about the people
560 Lake Lowell is owned by tax payers not the Federal Government. Be careful of
what you are doing.
565 I don't think the govt should be interfering with it. You're going to make a lot of
people mad at the govt. It's not going to do the govt any good at all.

680 Hates the federal government
489 Hates the federal government control. They are taking over everything about the
freedoms citizens deserve.

29 Hates Federal government
722 No more Federal Control. Anti-Feds.

Bicycles

ID Comment

29 Bicycle lanes would be an excellent addition and increase safety for cyclists
immensely.

29 More bike paths.

29 More biking opportunities

Do not change

ID Comment

12 Concerned about some of the Non-priority Public Uses, such as Biking, Jogging,
Dog- walking, Picnicking, these things I fell should be Priority Uses. Doesn't want these to
go

away

- 17 Wants to be able to use the lake for rec uses on the water
- 12 Wants lake lowell to be balanced and for everyone.
- 38 The current list of compatible non-priority public uses appears both reasonable and compatible with the mission and goals of the refuge and should be allowed to continue.
- boating Expanding fishing opportunities is fine as long as its not reduce current recreational and swimming opportunities.
- 42 Wants regulations to stay the same they been for years.
- 47 In support of keeping the lake open to rec uses
- 49 Wants the lake to stay open for rec use.
- 51 Doesn't want recreational uses to go away. She doesn't understand how some of these recreational uses are worse than hunting or fishing.
- 52 Doesn't want the lake to be removed of recreational uses
- 54 They really enjoy using the lake for recreational uses. They don't want to see it go away.
- 57 Doesn't want to lose the ability to use the lake for Rec purposes. Feels that the economy of the community would diminish if the lake closes.
- 59 Doesn't want the recreation use ability to go away
- 62 Feels that it would be a shame if the public would not be able to spend their days at the lake like they used to. They do not want the lake to close to recreational uses
- 65 Wants the refuge to stay open to all recreational use
- 67 They want to keep the current rec uses. It is the reason they moved to Caldwell.
- 76 Wants to keep rec uses
- 77 Doesn't want the lake to close or change its recreational use policy
- 84 Lake Lowell is needed for recreational activities for families in the surrounding area.
- 87 Waterskiing, Wakeboarding, Kneeboarding, playing in the sand, tubing, etc is a major part of my family's life. We could have lived anywhere in the valley and because of the easy and quick access Lake Lowell has, we chose to live HERE!

- 90 Deer Flat is a valuable resource for public recreation. Hunting, fishing, boating and allied outdoor activities such as bird watching and photography should remain as part of the recreational activities at the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge.
- 91 Wants to keep public uses the way they are
- 93 Uses many of the recreation uses at the lake and doesn't want to see them go away.
- 94 Wants the public to be able to keep using the lake for recreational uses
- 95 Feels there is a good balance between wildlife preservation and man's recreational use.
- 97 She feels that the refuge is fine how it is. She loves both the wildlife and the recreational uses but wishes we could keep both.
- 98 Please do whatever you can to influence CCP to allow continued recreational use of Lake Lowell.
- 98 I implore you to help "non-priority" recreational uses to be continued on Lake Lowell
- 99 Feels there shouldn't be any restrictions, nor does he feel the wildlife refuge is necessary.
- 100 Against closing the lack to rec uses
- 103 I do not want to see ANYONE taking away my access to these or any other resources we taxpayers paid for. These waters BELONG to us, our kids, and their kids...NOT to any governmental Bureaucrats.
- 105 Please consider my opinion a vote AGAINST closing down Lake Lowell. I think it's a place for the community to just enjoy being outside and having fun in the water, please don't shut it down.
- 106 I understand there is a federal comprehensive conservation plan (CCP) that might ban opportunities that we now take for granted, I would hope that such a plan not be implemented.
- 107 I am strongly against the removal of water sports and boating on Lake Lowell it is a family

heritage that I would like to keep going for my kids, and eventually my grandkids. Please

Please don't shutdown the Lake for us residents of Canyon County.

109 Only the Federal government would want to fix something that ain't broke until it is..

Lake

Lowell has been doing very well for 90 + years. Leave it alone..

110 We hope to continue this for quite some time. I am aware that recreational use is at risk and am acutely aware of how the political climate controls

this. I

hope science and common sense prevails in this case.

116 We all, as taxpayers bought the use for the lake and putting restriction on the use of

the lake

is taking away our rights for boating recreation.

117 Please don't take away one of our few free pleasures of life.

119 Please leave the lake open to swimmers, bikers, boaters, fishermen, and folks that

want to

picnic. Why would you not?

120 I do not agree there should be any changes regarding the usage of our Lake Lowell.

Closing

off this recreational area to our community, will be awful.

121 Please do not restrict the recreational use of Lake Lowell. The lake has been a focal

point

for recreation for many decades.

123 Do not ban Lake Lowell to everything from all motorized and non-motorized water

sports,

to picnicking, jogging, dog-walking and more. This is ridiculous.

124 Lake Lowell needs to remain open for all to use!

126 This is nothing but a government takeover over of the Lake. Let's try to save the lake

for

our enjoyment.

129 Please don't change the Lake operation.

130 Do not change any part of the current usage at Lake Lowell. This body of water is a

key

recreation spot for the poor segments of the population.

132 Please Leave Lake Lowell as it is.

135 My feeling is that we should leave it alone so the recreation we've enjoyed can

continue

29 services I've used the lake for boating, jogging, walking. I wouldn't like to see any of those shut down.

136 Please do not limit these activities.

138 Strongly opposed to closing Lake Lowell recreational activities.

57 Please keep lake activities.

140 have I believe that the multiple use of the facilities at Lake Lowell should remain as they been for many years

141 are. We do not need to restrict the recreational uses of the lake anymore than they already are.

145 of the . There is no need to change the use of the lake. The lake is closed for 6 ½ months out year already.

152 I am writing to strongly oppose proposed changes to access to Lake Lowell.

155 appropriate I believe the lake is already being managed correctly, it closes and opens at the times, allowing for wildlife nesting, hunting, fishing, water sports, and allowing irrigation for the farmers.

156 of birds What a pleasure to take a child fishing or boating and to point out the various types flying overhead. Educating your family about nature is a true joy and unforgettable to the whole family. Picnicking and swimming enter into the whole experience. Please do not take away an opportunity that costs our citizens very little and makes wonderful memories.

158 I do not feel closing the Lake to any or all the existing uses would truly benefit the management area's habitat.

160 We would like to see that DFNWR remain a mixed-use resource area.

29 many I can't believe it are you guys rely going to close lake Lowell? Do you not see how covered with people use this for recreation. Even during the week go there at 7 pm and it is these boats of all shapes and sizes doing everything you can do with a boat. What will people do when it's gone?

29 I have been boating on Lake Lowell for the past 25 yrs. and it has been a great source
of recreation for me and my family and I don't want that to be taken away from me and
my family. Also some of Priority Public Uses can be done from a boat, like fishing,
wildlife viewing and photography. The Comprehensive Conservation Plan should include
Non-priority Public Uses activities by using what is already in place; the limited boating
season, the no wake area and closing amenities at certain times and or dates.

163 We would hate to lose all of that. It was a major reason for us choosing to live in this
area and having the lake so close to us.

166 SHARE THE LAKE, SHARE THE FUN, SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY.
Don't take away what we have, give to the rising generations!
Leave the lake the way it is NOW!

79 Closing the lake is ridiculous. It provides fun activities for all of us, not just our kids.
I love to go down to the lake with my dogs and go on long walks with my husband.

170 Please do not close Lake Lowell... There is no need
With so many against this idea.. is amazing how
those in charge do not go with what the majority of
the people want.

172 I can't see where closing the lake will make any difference to them. It will have a big
impact on our community. The farm land is being gobbed up lets, at least keep the lake.

173 Please help bring this issue to the public and stop the closure of Lake Lowell!

174 My vote to make no changes regarding overall use.

178 Lets leave things alone. People need places to be also.

179 We boat, walk, picnic, meet friends, walk our dog, (cleaning up responsibly) and
close the appreciating the beauty of the lake and views. I strongly object to the proposal to
lake to these pleasures.

183 We are horrified that Lake Lowell may be restricted to boaters and recreational users.
It is a fine place for the residents of Canyon County to visit. We are the taxpayers. Please
do not close Lake Lowell to recreational use!

185 Please leave things as they are currently.

187 I don't think activities like walking, jogging, swimming, or picnicking should be
banned; that
would be too extreme and engender a good deal of public hostility.

188 please do not close Lake Lowell to boating it would me a shame and make me very
upset!!!!

191 Please allow this area to remain a multiple use area

192 Allow us the decency to oversee and use local resources in the area in which we live.

194 Please don't try to fix something that is not broken.

196 Strongly feels that the lake should never be shut down to boating or any other
recreational
activities.

201 It should be left as it is. Best place to waterski in the spring. Should be left alone.

203 I highly recommend that you do not make any changes to the use of this
refuge area, especially motorized use of this resource.

204 DO NOT CLOSE LAKE LOWELL TO RECRATION – WE PAY EVERY DAY
FOR
THIS LAKE WITH WATER TAXES AND I VOTE NO TO RESTRICTION LAKE
LOWELL.

208 We are againt any restrictions on swimming, boating, fishing and waterskiing on our
local
resevoir Lake Lowell.

209 KEEP LAKE LOWELL OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC FOR RECREATION, SWIMMING, FISHING, ENJOYMENT, ETC.

210 Please let the lake continue to belong to the PEOPLE of Canyon County.

212 FOR YOU TO EVEN CONSIDER CLOSING THE LAKE FOR PUBLIC
RECREATION USE IS INSANE.

213 I truly hope that current use rules are allowed to continue at Lake Lowell.

214 I am against closing Lake Lowell to non-Priority uses.

215 Now you want to take all that enjoyment away.My proposal is to halt what you want
to do,
give control to the IDAHO FISH AND GAME and we can all (birds, animals and
people)
watch the lake return to what it once was.

218 I am now 79 years old and hope to see the people use the lake. I hope a plan will
be made

to all exceptability.

220 Vote to allow everything as is so people can swim, fish, or do whatever you'd like to
do. If

it ain't broke don't fix it.

221 For boating and irrigation. Everything else is been done right.

222 Boating hasn't hurt area. Hunts and fishes lake. Intends to continue fishing,
hunting, and
enjoy the lake. Doesn't want change.

29 Hates to see it closed

226 I would be against boating, water skiing and access regulations to Lake Lowell! It
would
be a disservice to change these recreational opportunities.

29 I feel the current usage of Lake Lowell should remain as it has been for many,
many years.

228 Said he was against any restrictions put on the lake.

229 Believes it is totally wrong to shut down boating. Doesn't understand why it is
being shut
down since it has been multipurpose lake for many years. Wants us to leave it
alone.

231 If it is not broke don't fix it.

232 Leave it alone.

236 Been here for 70 years. Doesn't think we should close the lake.

237 Prefers rec uses and boating

239 Kids and family go to the lake, they love the wildlife. Doesn't want lake closed to
public.

They don't use boats, but they swim, picnic, and catch bugs.

240 Lived in the valley his whole life. Against shutting down lake.

29 Please do not ban or restrict recreational activities on Lake Lowell.

244 The lake was made for irrigation and recreation... LEAVE IT THAT WAY!!!
The wild game has adjusted to it...WHY CAN'T YOU!!!

245 In the last 100 years the wildlife has flourished. The boating doesn't bother them at
all.

246 please keep lake lowell open to boating, fishing and general recreating.

247 Local people need to decide these issues! Let the local people who use it, be
responsible

Lake for it not someone who has never seen it, used it, and loved it! Life has been good at

Lowell since its inception!

I say share the lake! Let the activities on the lake continue as they have in the past!

248 We, the taxpayers, have paid for this wonderful facility and it would be so very
wrong for you, the wild life officials, to rob them of their opportunity to use this also as a
recreation area.

250 I sincerely hope that all non-motorized activities will continue to be allowed. I am
referring to walking along the roads & trails, horseback riding, jogging, bicycling, sailing, etc.

251 Please do not ban recreational activities on Lake Lowell.

252 Please consider the senior citizens that enjoy this beautiful location. SAVE LAKE
LOWELL.

254 PLEASE leave the status quo! WE have lived here for over 30 years and enjoyed
boating and picnicing at the Lake. We do not feel that there should be restrictions for the use
of Lake Lowell.

258 So please do not ban all recreational activities from the lake and snake river, it is part
of what makes living in the valley and out in the country so great.

259 on behalf of the people that need and want access to the lake for recreational
purposes, it is their right to do so. Look to who pays for it! Not the NMI district! So, keep it open to
the public. PS: If you built a handicap facility, even I could fish!

260 I am against the closing of lake lowell,
please leave it alone.

29 DON'T CLOSE LAKE LOWELL TO CIVILIAN USE. DO NOT VOTE TO CLOSE
LAKE LOWELL FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES.

263 Please ensure us the opportunity to continue enjoying Lake Lowell.

265 We go boating, fishing, and hunting. We use Lake Lowell for many purposes. We
appreciate the Lake and the wildlife. Please give my children the opportunities that
Lake Lowell gives me. Please don't shut down Lake

266 I am writing to show my support in maintaining the current recreational uses at Lake
Lowell.

267 Therefore, I recommend you follow the age old adage: "If it ain't broke, don't fix it!"

268 Mark me in the column AGAINST the conversationists proposal to limit usage.

269 Please do not further restrict any uses of Lake Lowell. There is no need to change
anything about it's current operation.

270 There is no need to change anything about it's current operation. Should you decide
to restrict recreational use of Lake Lowell, that would amount to a 'taking' of an asset
from the people of the State of Idaho by the Federal Government for which we should be
forever compensated.

271 SAVE LAKE LOWELL !
The Common Sense Big Six: Protect the rights of boaters and family recreation
(this person created their own big six)

272 Hi, we need to save lake lowell for public recreational use.

273 My hope is that you can find a way to allow as many uses as possible to continue.

274 He feels the lake should stay open because there are no problems needing to be
addressed.

275 am definitely opposed to restricting or closing LL to recreational
activities.

277 We are against any changes in the management of this beautiful resource.

278 Please do not punish our native citizens for the garbage that "others" leave to harm
our environment.

279 Stay away from our lake.. People have rights, not just birds....

280 his lake is ours, leave it alone. I suggest you worry about problems that need your
attention instead of creating problems that didn't exist before they existed.

281 I see no conflict, and since "we, the people" have been enjoying all of these
activities, and still the wildlife exists and multiplies, they must be compatible. Please do everything
in your power to make sure that the Mis-Managers of lake lowell just leave it alone and not
change anything.

284 Please, please do not take away the motorized and non-motorized use of Lake Lowell

by
people.

285 It has come to my attention that government intends to shut down boating and
picknicking at
lake lowell. This is absolutly un acceptable.my entire family stand behind saving the
lake
from over zealous government wack jobs and environmental nut casses

287 Please do not change the useage of Lake Lowell

288 Please leave the Refuge the way it is. Do not lock the taxpayers out of this area. I
have a
boat and my family takes it out several times a year to knee board, shi and just ride
around
ane enjoy the scenery. We also have used the picnic area often.

289 Feels like it is a waste of money to be considering issues which can't be avoided like
not
allowing people on a lake which is practically within the city limits.

291 Lake Lowell needs to be kept as a multi-use recreational area. This involves biking,
boating,
canoeing, picnicking, and refuge to bird species.

296 The regulations are fine just the way they are.

298 This lake was designed as a storage for irrigation, why can't we
continue the status quo and all of us who have enjoyed the lake
through the years pass that enjoyment to our families.

300 I ask that you please vote to keep this area open

301 I see no reason why Lake Lowell can't continue as it is as a multiple use area. Please
Keep
Lake Lowell as Multiple Use Ares.

302 I strongly urge you to maintain most, if not all, of the recreational use at Lake
Lowell.

303 Help continued recreational uses at Lake Lowell (Nampa)

29 to take away somthing I've got to enjoy my whole life makes no sense, have the
people
taking the lake ever spent a day fishing or swimming? for me it is a way of life, I'v
fished out
there sense the day i could hold a pole.so to take that away is like taking away a
peace of
my life..don't you think the government takes away and controls enough of our
lives??

!!!sad, very sad!!!

29 we need to keep Lake Lowell open to all..

304 I have enjoyed recreating on the lake and I do not beleive we need any more government jurisdiction with regard to Lake Lowell than we already have.

307 I urge you to keep Lake Lowell open and the Snake River Islands open for public use.

Limiting or restricting use is not acceptable to the people of Idaho.

310 I think that the lake should be left pretty much as it is. A lot of the people that use the lake don't really have any other place they can use, and afford to go to.

312 Please leave our lake just the way it has always been.

315 Concerning the use of Deer Flat I suggest we keep it the same

317 Locking up this valuable resource, in the heart of Canyon County will not expand the value of the Refuge to its citizens nor the wildlife it hopes to protect. It is a natural and cultural resource proven throughout the years that use by people does not detract from wildlife protection.

318 I think it is a negative idea to close Lake Lowell.

66 PLEASE do not restrict the OUR FAMILY'S FISHING , BOATING and USE of OUR LAKE.

321 Lake is important to him and his kids. Wants everything to stay the same

322 I write to support the existing priorities for use of Lake Lowell, of irrigation and recreation. I am supportive of wildlife on the reservoir, but not in changing the priorities.

323 They are hoping to be able to still access the lake to learn about wildlife as well as recreation at the refuge

324 I would like to go on record of keeping Lake Lowell open the public. Please let us continue to use the lake and enjoy the activities of bird watching, boating, fishing. It is a part of our geographical heritage.

29 Lakes need to be for all to enjoy, motorized & non-motorized boating, fishing, educational wildlife, & for family enjoyment/ time together.

29 feels the lake will be closed to boats and recreation will be restricted.

29 Feels Lake Lowell is important to recreation in this area for all to enjoy.

29 Boating, hunting & fishing are less important than wildlife conservation.

329 Doesn't feel taking recreation away from the general public will save the our birds.

331 Boating in season does not interfere with waterfowl & wildlife. Leave the plan that
has been working for years along.

332 Keep as is.

29 Don't take the lake away from people who use it the most. Family goes every
weekend.

338 Wants lake to remain a multi use facility. Lake should be used for recreational
purposes as well as a wildlife refuge.

143 Regarding list of priority/non-priority listed in CCP flier – wants non-priority public
use items listed as priority public use items.

341 There is no reason a few birds should be a reason to take a man made body of water
away from the people. Let the people decide the future.

29 Keep Lake Open

29 Birds & wildlife have plenty of places to play & feed. Do not shut off the water or
stop the families from playing in the water, the community needs this playground.

343 Keep multi use.

344 Strongly oppose the changes that are currently being considered. Closing any part
of Lake Lowell or the Snake River to recreational use is totally unacceptable for the people of
this area.

348 Keep open

350 Leave it as is – for the people too

351 Please leave Lake Lowell open to the public.

352 Please keep open, it is a fun place to go. Keep it as it is.

353 Public does not want this closed. Do not close the Lake.

354 What is wrong with it the way it is now?

355 I love “my” Lake, can’t stand to see it shut down. it’s a great draw for the
community, it’s
a Canyon County heritage

358 Leave as is!

359 Please don’t take this away from us. Family uses it for fishing, boating and
geocashing.

Blue green alge does more damage than anything else.

360 I am a local angler and Bass member, we have put 100,000 dollars in lake to improve
fishing. Community spend 10’s of thousands of dollars to play on lake. This is
wrong and it

is our water!!!

361 You the boating community only has a window of 4 months, it’s not fair that you feel
you

need the lake all the time. Why can’t everyone use the lake?

364 Please Leave it alone.

365 Leave things the way they are. You can’t change the world for (can’t make out
word) or

any other threatened species. Stop playing God and let us enjoy what he has given
us.

368 Do not close the lake any more than you have, it needs to be open more.....

369 No changes necessary.

372 Leave nature alone – Please do not ruin Lake Lowell.

373 This lake was built for irrigation & recreation. Has been hunting, fishing and
boating here

for 40 years and want it to say that way.

29 I feel the lake should stay exactly the way it is now. Family has used it for it’s
recreational

facilities for over 20 years and have not bothered any of the wildlife. Government
needs to

stay out of things that run smoothly.

374 It is absolutely absurd that the refuge wants to close the lake. I have enjoyed it for 43
years

and me and my family go boating and jetskiing out there all the time. We also do a
lot of

fishing and swimming as well.

375 She wants the lake to stay open to recreational use.

376 Feels we have no right to shut down the lake. He said this was never President
Theodore

Roosevelt's intention.

378 I support keeping Lake Lowell Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge accessible to
fishing,
wildlife hunting, wildlife photography, wildlife observation, environmental education and
wildlife interpretation similar to what they are today

29 Keep the Lake Lowell and Snake River Island units open for recreation and boaters.

379 I think it could be left as is if anything open more of the access areas don't make it
were the public can you it

381 Please allow our community the use of this lake; it is a weekly destination for many
families.
Lowell I know a number of people who choose to exercise in the serene setting of Lake
over the indoor recreation facilities. Please leave it be.

382 Do not restrict or close Lake Lowell to boating or any thing else on your list.

384 I strongly believe that the public and the wildlife animals, fowl and fish can continue
to live in harmony at Lake Lowell. Please do not restrict the public from accessing the lake
and all its amenities.

389 My family would like to see Lake Lowell used for recreation in the future as it is
used now and has been use the past.

390 If a fee per use is needed for that type of recreation, I would support this.

392 Please help us keep Lake Lowell open for recreational activities. please help keep Lake
fun for Lowell open to all recreational activities for the continued attraction and wholesome
our residents.

393 It is our sincere hope that you will continue to allow public recreational use
at Lake Lowell.

396 while I have great concerns as well about keeping noxious weeds, trash, etc. out of
the area,
I don't believe limiting public use is the answer

398 Why fix what's not broken! wildlife is doing good, bigger population all the time. so
why take are back yard away from us?

130 DO NOT CHANGE THE USES OF THE LAKE LOWELL REFUGE. I HAVE
COME
100'S OF TIMES TO THE LAKE ON THE WATER AND LAND AND NEVER
DISRUPTED A BIRD. PREPOSTOROUS !!!! STOP THIS CHANGE OF USE

AND

RESOURCE GRAB.

130 He feels the people are being cheated out of a recreational spot that their ancestors
built.

399 There are now set dates for use of motorboats on Lake Lowell, to further restrict
them or
other recreational activities would be a further detriment to the local economy and
sportsman. For over 100 years Lake Lowell has provided generations of local
residents
with recreational and sporting opportunities. I support Save Lake Lowell and
encourage
your support as well.

400 We've got a wonderful resource in Lake Lowell and the refuge; the public should
have
access to it and enjoy it. It's been a blessing to our local area to use this man-made
resource. We hope, and pray, that it will continue to be made available to the public.

406 There should not be any new restrictions on motorized watercraft, recreation, or
fishing as
the refuge.

409 Let's allow the people who live here and recreate here to continue to enjoy Lake
Lowell the
way they have for many years.

410 . I think it's a shame that someone wants to take this great part of the outdoor
summer
activities away from myself and others.

411 Please keep the refuge open for recreational activities

70 Feels like it is unfair there is a refuge here and believes no changes should be made

413 Please do not put restrictions on the lake. It is the one and only
way to enjoy the outdoors on this side of the valley. I have lived here all my life and
enjoyed
boating, swimming, picnicing, and jogging around the lake. PLEASE DO NOT
PUT
RESTRICTIONS ON THESE ACTIVITIES.

29 We feel like the disusing of the closing of the lake is absolutey appalling
414 human trail access should be allowed.

416 taking the opportunities away from everyone because some are spoiling
it, is not the answer. I am willing to speak in public too, if so needed to save Lake
Lowell!

421 It is imperative that Lake Lowell remains open to all recreational activities.
I am a Realtor and have many clients living around Lake Lowell. They love the
wildlife and
recreation. The community and SW Idaho only flourish with Lake Lowell's wildlife
and
recreation. I appreciate your help in this matter.

424 Closing Lake Lowell to all types of recreational activities should not be done.

425 Please allow recreational uses on Lake Lowell and the Snake River as has
traditionally been
done in the past.

427 I am writing this letter in opposition to the closure of Lake Lowell. As a recreation
source it
keeps people in our community for these activities rather than spending there funds
in other
communities.

428 I am greatly concerned about the talk of closing Lake Lowell in Nampa to boating
and other
forms of recreational activity.

431 Please keep it open to public access and recreation.

432 I definitely favor keeping the lake open for recreational purposes for
use by the people of this community.

433 The uses should be left as they have been.

439 Our family has been part of this community for 75 years. We enjoy recreation and
water
sports at Lake Lowell. We enjoy the convenience of Lake Lowell it is less than an
half mile
from our home. Please continue to allow public use of Lake Lowell.

440 I am strong proponent of conservation, however, I have seen no impact on that area's
wildlife out of all my years of spending many summers
fishing, jogging, picnicking, etc at Lake Lowell. It would be irrational to propose
such a ban
on this important part of citizen's lives.

441 I spend countless hours at Lake Lowell and the Islands hunting, fishing and boating.
It would
be a shame to loose any more public access. I respect and want to actively
participate in
wildlife and habitat protection. But not at the risk of loosing more access.

442 As constant source for many hours of education and rec the current economic
situation
facing people today, denying access to a "PUBLIC OWNED" treasure li this one

with its
it. convenient location is rare and should be accessible for everyone who wishes to use it.

449 Thinks its crazy to close the lake

451 I use the lake to Swim,boat,fish,picnic and Cub Scout day camp. It would be such a shame
to not be able to use it any more.

453 I believe that closing the lake off would be a public relations nightmare for you. I would urge
you to take every step possible to maintain access to all.

454 Restricting the use by the people who created the lake so it can be used by the wild life who
moved in later does not seem just. I wonder if this proposed restriction is a product of
more control by the federal government or the will of the people who are affected locally.

457 Many happy hours have been spent teaching my grand children how to fish at lake Lowell
both from the bank and from the boat. Please fight to leave it open for the public use.

460 There should be no new restrictions on the activities allowed at Lake Lowell. It has been
utilized by the public for many years for recreational uses and should be able to continue
doing so. NO NEW RESTRICTIONS!

461 I believe ALL the recreation activities should be allowed to continue. This includes Boating,
Water Sports, Fishing, Hunting, etc.

467 I register my desire to maintain boating and other recreational uses of Lake Lowell. As a
patron of the lake and its activities I do not want to see restrictions enacted. I live four miles
accessible from the lake, and believe the citizens of our community need a nearby and
facility for recreation.

468 Please do not close Lake Lowell.

470 Please do not close it for public recreation!

159 I urge you to not close Lake Lowell for human use. My family and I, along with thousands

skiing, of others annually, have enjoyed Lake Lowell for decades: from boating & water to swimming, fishing, picnicking & jogging.

473 Canyon County's continued provision of support should be considered contingent upon the preservation of traditional recreational opportunities at Lake Lowell,

476 PLEASE DO NOT DEEM HUMAN RECREATION AS A NON-PRIORITY USE OR
ACTIVITY IN DEER FLAT NWR'S CCP

479 If Lake Lowell is shut off for people out for fun, it will be a shame. It looks like everyone respects the lake and takes care of it.

480 This is based upon my observations. Boating, swimming and other activities in particular has a beneficial impact on the lake by oxygenating the water via the churning of the water during these activities.

482 Wants recreation to stay the way it is. It is important to their family as well as other families in the treasure valley

484 Do not close Lake Lowell.

488 we believe the following activities should continue to be allowed:
Biking, Dog-walking, Geocaching, Horseback Riding, Jogging, Picnicking,
Swimming, Non-motorized Boating (canoeing, kayaking, sailing), Winter activities (ice skating and other ice activities, cross-country skiing)
Kiteboarding - no opinion

491 The lake is a place for FAMILIES to play, as opposed to sitting at home playing stupid video games. My family has been going there for 16 years. We do not have a boat, or a lot of money to travel to Cascade or Anderson. You close the lake, you steal our only swimming hole.

493 My family have enjoyed Lake Lowell for over 50 years. We have ice skated, water skied and had family gathering there. I hope you consider the long history and multiple used that Lake Lowell have offered the the farmers and citizens of Canyon County.

495 We use this lake for boating, fishing, swimming, barbequing, etc. It would be

devastating to

close the lake for recreational use.

497
the

We would like to strongly express our desire for Lake Lowell to remain accessible to

public for

recreational use. With times being hard now, there are too few places for families to

go to

have a good time without spending a fortune. We are hoping you will listen to the

will of the

people and leave the use of the lake as it has been for 100 years!

499
negative

My family and I feel that this would impact the Canyon County community in a

way. Lake Lowell has been a recreation area for family and friends to go for many

years

now, in fact, Lake Lowell played a large factor as to why my family and myself

bought

property within a relatively close proximity to the lake

503
Flat

This is an email in favor of keeping public boating access for Lake Lowell / Deer

National Wildlife Refuge

504
will

Please continue to allow activities on the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge that

encourage the public to enjoy the wildlife and scenery that the refuge provides.

505

I am writing to plead with you to please DO NOT CLOSE LAKE LOWELL!!

507
shutting

I was extremely disappointed to find out that the US Fish and Wildlife is considering

down Lake Lowell from recreational use. To me and the vast majority of my

constituents,

this is simply unacceptable.

9

Wants the refuge to stay open for public access.

512
adapt to

Don't take any more recreation away for animals that have an inherent ability to

their environment.

514

PLEASE leave all boating as they are on lake lowell and every where else. NO

DECREASES

IN ACCESSES ANY WHERE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

516
other

My wife and I are NOT boaters and use the lake rarely. However, we like to see

friends and neighbors use the lake for recreation; such as boating, swimming, hiking,

etc. I

am sure recreation and wildlife can co-exist, as they have done for dozens of years.

517 As a small business
owner and a boater I am against any plans restricting use for both personal and
financial reasons.

520 Please keep Lake Lowell as it is. This should be for the public use as in boating,
swimming and for irrigation as it was established.

29 Do not close Lake Lowell Please!!

522 I would like to encourage you to continue allowing the current recreational activities
that we can participate in at Lake Lowell.

525 To limit access or close the area would be wrong and benefit absolutely no one. To
only address what's best for the environment is myopic

529 PLEASE DO NOT STOP RECREATION ON LAKE LOWELL!!

529 the restrictions regarding dog walking and bike riding on existing trails and roads, as
well as ice-skating, are ridiculous and over-reaching considering that they have been allowed
I presume for the 100 years that the refuge has been in place. I doubt that these have
had any serious impact on the wildlife.

530 doesn't want Lake Lowell to close to recreation uses. Wants his future kids to be able
to use it.

532 I have used lake to water ski, picnic, and watch birds, thinks it would be a shame if
his nephews and family would not be able to enjoy it in the future.

29 Boating is not hurting the refuge now, why change it.

29 Leave it alone.

541 No restriction for use of Lake Lowell. The hunting, fishing, boating, wildlife,
photography and wildlife observation have been going smoothly for many years. Do not shut it
down to boating and fishing, they have been part of the lake since its inspection.

542 Recreational use has not harmed the lake, chemical run off from farmers has.
Nothing to do

interest in valley, lake is one of few things to do. We need to stand up and run special groups out of our great state. Keep Lake Lowell for ourselves.

544 Lake should be left as is for recreation

546 Man made this lake for fishing, hunting, irrigation, etc. To take this away is uncalled for.

Close for locals to get to. Bird watching isn't for everyone, just a select few.

547 No changes necessary

548 Please don't – We need the Lake

29 Leave the lake open to all recreation.

550 Please keep open, have used Lake Lowell for 30 years.

552 Don't Close

553 Lake should be for public use. It can be used just like it has been in the past, wildlife & public.

554 Lake Lowell should not change. If you take boating, picnicking, dog walking & swimming away it would hurt Idaho. Our right as a tax payer should allow us to keep the Lake. You should talk to the people of OUR state, it is our lake, not just the refuges.

555 Lake Lowell should continue to be a public use area. Little by little our rights to the use of the great outdoors is being taken away, what is happening to this great state of Idaho. Do not do this.

29 Do NOT close Lake Lowell anymore than it already is. Want kids and grandkids to be able to enjoy it .

556 Lake Lowell has been a wonderful recreation spot in this area. The lake being open for use in the summer and closed for the migrating birds to use and nest the rest of the year works great. Why change something when it's working so well.

557 Open up for all people

29 This refuge is close to home and provides easy access to the lake and public land,.

29 We use the refuge about 5 days a week. My wife and I enjoy the peacefulness of the refuge. The refuge as unique blend of recreation for exercise and observation of

wildlife.

29 I and my family will be very upset if you take away our rights to swim and boat at
Lake Lowell. More and more of our rights and freedoms are being taken away... quite
frankly I for one am sick of it.

29 We need to keep open to all uses.

29 Close area to enjoys water sports and fishing.

559 There does not appear to be a documented negative impact to the wildlife resulting
from past public use of the Refuge. Until the US Fish and Wildlife has irrefutable
evidence that public use is harming the Refuge, please do not change the public use policy.

563 I am visiting from California and absolutely love this area especially Lake Lowell!!
Please do not close this facility!!!

567 Its wrong to close it because of a few stupid people who live close to it. Screw
them.

569 Lake Lowell is a valuable asset to the local community and sportsmen. The lake is
already over regulated with special hours and regulations. The lake needs to stay open to
public use.

571 Lake Lowell should remain open as it always has been Conservation has its place but
requires common sense

573 Please don't shut down the recreational uses at the lake

574 Lake should be for the benefit of everybody, not just wildlife. But want to work out
something to allow waterskiing.

577 I strongly object to the possible banning of any of the "Non-Priority Uses" of Lake
Lowell.

581 Closing the Lake would be a true shame. We've used the Lake, both for boating and
just enjoying a beach picnic. Please don't shut down public use.

583 Please don't close down Lake Lowell. It has good recreation, fishing, family picnics
etc. If

spot to Lake Lowell gets closed down people would be lost and not have any other great fish or anything. Thank you.

584 My family has gone boating there in the past and it is a very nice area. The location is good for boating, fishing, picnics, camping, trails, bird watching, and day use. I would be highly disappointed if Lake Lowell was closed. Please reconsider.

29 Please do not close Lake Lowell because there is a lot of family picnic, is to have fun swim drive boat's all that kind of stuff. There is a lot of bird watching, bird hunting, fishing with family and friends. So please do not close Lake Lowell. Please!!!

589 Please do not close Lake Lowell. For example, boating, fishing, family picnic, walking paths to explore, bird watching and bird hunting.

590 Please don't close Lake Lowell to the public. It is a great place for people to go. It's a great place for family picnics, fishing, boating, and swimming. It's also a good place to bird watch.

591 I'm asking you not to close Lake Lowell because is a very neat place to go with the family and have a picnic. It's also good for fishing and boating and having a good time. It's good for going for a walk and look at the birds. So I would really really appreciate that you wouldn't close lake Lowell.

592 This is saddening to me and my classmates, because Lake Lowell is an attraction for boating, fishing, bird watching, hiking, and recreational purposes. I would rather like to inform who ever might read this that we all would LOVE it if Lake Lowell wasn't closed

594 I have just recently been informed about the closure of my personal favorite, Lake Lowell. This greatly disappoints me so please do not close the Lake.

594 Please do not close Lake Lowell to the public. I for one love to swim and boat at Lake Lowell and I know tons of others who attend the attraction all year long. It's a free fun

place to be with your family/friends. So please I ask again, do not close it.

595 Please do not close this Lake would take a lot away from a lot of people.

597 I am writing this letter to request that you do not close Lake Lowell to the public.

598 Please don't close lake Lowell to the public me and my family visit their 3 times a year for boating, for a family picnic, fishing , having a competition, bird watching. It's a great place for a walking and swimming. There is a lot of room so everyone there is not all bunched up.

599 I would greatly appreciate if you would not close Lake Lo9well to the public. It is a great place to go swimming and boating

600 Please do not close Lake Lowell to the public.

601 Save the Lake! PLEASE DON'T CLOSE THE LAKE!

602 it's great for boating, fishing, family recreation, etc. So please do not shut down Lake Lowell.

603 I don't want Lake Lowell to close. I've never been there and it sounds like a fun place. I hunt and I fish, so if I couldn't go there some day I would be robbed of a great experience.

604 Many of us would truly miss having this location to njoy the recreation and the great picnics.

keep It would be greatly appreciated to keep Lake Lowell open to the public to create and many great memories.

605 It has been brought to my attention that Lake Lowell might be shut down to local access. I would like you to reconsider from doing this. Hearing that it will be closing crushes my heart.

606 I truly would appreciate if Lake Lowell would not be shut down for public use.

607 I heard that the public access to Lake Lowell is closing and I would like it if it would stay open. Lake Lowell is a great place to go boating, skiing, or swimming. Families enjoy picnics there, along with bird watching, and paths to walk on. Tons of people use it for

recreation. Please keep it open to the public for the public.

608 I don't think it should be shut down because of all the recreational activities available
there,
like bird watching, picnicking, walking, boating, ect. Many people would be
unhappy and
dishearted about the loss of such a useful place.

611 Please don't close Lake Lowell because my family and I like to have picnics there.

613 I just think its such a shame to close this lake. So many people use it for; recreation,
boating, fishing, picnics, the lakes trails, bird watching ect. Please do not close the
Lake
Lowell.

616 Please don't close lake Lowell. Lake Lowell is one of my favorite places to go
boating.

617 Please don't close lake lowell. Fishing and pickicing are enjoyable things to do there.

618 Please do not shut down Lake Lowell. I personly know very many people who do
recreation up there. If you close Lake Lowell, many family's will be very
disappointed. So
please don't close it.

619 I wish you would keep it open.I love the duck hunting and its wonderful boating.

621 Please don't shut down Lake Lowell. I love to fish, boat, and have picnics there.
Lake
Lowell is one of my favorite places to go and just relax.

622 I wish for you to not close Lake Lowell because my family and I love to fish, boat,
and have
family picnics there. So please do not close Lake Lowell.

623 Please don't close lake Lowell. Me and my family go down there to boat, fish and
have
bbq this is our family day trips and we go to the place you want to close.

624 Please do not close Lake Lowell because it is a good place to fish and I really enjoy
fishing.
It is also a really good place to go boating which I also enjoy.

625 please keep Lake Lowell opening to the public. Thank you.

626 I love duck hunting and fishing at Lake Lowell. My family love boating and
camping out
there. Please don't close it down. My family loves the lake and if you guys close
the lake
we could really go duck hunting his hunting season.

627 Please don't close Lake Lowell. My family and I hold a reunion there every year. It

would

be disappointing to have to change location for that. Please keep it open.

628
Please don't close Lake Lowell. Many people use this lake for fishing, boating,
picnic, and
walking paths. It would be a bad thing to close it because many people would not be
very

happy they would be very sad.

629 I really hope that you consider not closing the lake it would really be appreciated.

630 Please don't close Lake Lowell.

631 I think by closing Lake Lowell you will lose many fun activities such as recreation,
boating,
fishing, hunting. These are fun and important activities that are important to me,
and a lot of
people in Idaho. I think the local lake should stay open to the public.

632 For the sake of who depend on your lake, consider keeping it open.... We're
losing earth
contribute to the humans...don't take away.

633 I would like it if you guys didn't close it because it is a great recreational lake. It's
great for
boating, fishing, family picnics, has good walking paths, great bird watching areas
and also
great for Bird Hunting when its in season.

634 I write to say please don't. Lake Lowell is a great place for boating, fishing, and
picnics.
Its one of my favorite places to be. Lowell has some of the best walking paths I've
ever
been to. If Lake Lowell was closed down I'd lose one of my favorite places to be
and
great memories. So I ask please don't close down Lake Lowell.

635 Please keep the lake open for recreational uses

636 So all I'm asking is for you guys not to close Lake Lowell to people. It's a part of
nature
and why not let people enjoy it?

638 I 'm writing to ask you to not close the Lake to the public due to loss of funding.
The Lake
provides an excellent source of activities such as fishing, boating, picnics, and bird
watching
ect

639 Lake Lowell is a great and pretty Lake where we can go fishing, bird hunting, family

picnic

and more, that's why we want to tell you please don't close this pretty lake to us.

640
down

Even though I live in Payette I would gladly appreciate it that you would not close

Lake Lowell. Many of us enjoy the pleasure the lake gives us whether it be just for spending time with family and friends or just visiting the lake. Once again I would like to see

the lake stay open.

641 Feels like the lake needs to stay open to recreational uses for the public.

644 I just happened to learn that they were thinking of shutting Lake Lowell down to the public.

I really believe that is a bad idea

646 Don't close Lake Lowell because it is very important to the public to have recreational areas

647 Ever since I was a little girl I have been boating and jet skiing with all my family. So I'm asking please do not close it down.

649 Lake Lowell offers boating, fishing, bird watching, outdoor beauty and much more. I ask that you keep this open to the public and keep it enjoyable to everyone.

651 Please do not close Lake Lowell. There are many people who enjoy the things you can do and the Lake. They enjoy things like boating, fishing, picnics, the walking paths. So you should really consider keeping it open to the public.

652 Please do not close Lake Lowell. Many people have enjoyed the recreation, boating, fishing, family picnics and walking paths, and bicycle paths. If you close Lake Lowell many people will be disappointed.

653 I ask of you to keep this great resource open.

654 I would appreciate if you did not close Lake Lowell from the public. All kinds of people have fun there. It is not only me that wants this. My whole class wishes that you keep it open.

655 I sincerely ask that you do not shut Lake Lowell down to the public. My family enjoys going there every year, and it is a great place for recreation, fishing, boating, and many more

655 spectacular sights. So I am asking. Please do not shut it down it is one of our
656 familys greatest fishing and boating areas.

657 Lake Lowell has been an enjoyment as well as a privilege to visit. Closing it to the
658 public would take that away from generations to come. Please keep it open.

659 From a recreation lovers POV, the plan to close off Lake Lowell to the public is a
660 bad one. With all of the recreational activities it provides. It would be a shame to close Lake
661 Lowell

662 Please don't close down the recreation. We really like it. Its so fun and cool.

663 Please don't close Lake Lowell. It's a very important recreation site for families all
664 over Idaho. With its closing how can we teach generations to enjoy and appreciate the
665 wonder and beauty of nature?

666 I'd ask that you think about keeping it open because with the new generation we
667 need more activities that keep children entertained. With all the boating, fishing, and the
668 walking paths people are more likely to stay away from bad stuff along with all the terrific things
669 offered by this lake. I think shutting it down would just be uncalled for.

670 Please don't close down Lake Lowell. A lot of us go there with our boats and go
671 fishing. We go on walks and we can have family get togethers. I would appreciate it if you
672 would it if you would not close it down.

673 do not close it!

674 I my opinion I think you should not close down Lake Lowell. It's a great place to
675 hang out, fish, go boating, walking on a lovely path for exercize and be with your loved ones
676 and have a picnick and much more!

677 Please keep lake Lowell open because I think that is the best thing to do. Also you
678 can spend time with your family and have a great time like go fishing, boating, barbecues
679 and enjoy nature. There is also a walking paths for all the athletic people who like
680 runnin or

walking. Well again I would really like to ask you this favor because I think I the best thing to do.

670 I ask that you not close Lake Lowell to the public. It is a great place for boating, fishing, family picnics, walking paths, bird watching, and other recreational activities.

671 I would like to ask you not to close Lake Lowell for the public. It's an awesome place for doing fun stuff like recreation, boating, fishing, family picnics, walking path, bird observing and a lot more. That's why every body would really miss this great opportunity.

672 We the public ask please do not close down Lake Lowell. It been a recreational place for friends and family where many people do picnic, fish, swim and even boating.

673 Lake Lowell is an amazing fishing and hiking area, the wildlife and recreation are great. I know scores of people who enjoy boating and especially enjoy bird watching in that area. I've picnicked there before and I had a great time and will be sorely irked if Lake Lowell is closed off.

674 All the fishing, boating, family picnics are good activities to do there. So please I ask you to reconsider this.

675 I would like to tell you guys to not close down Lake Lowell. I think it's a good place for people to enjoy and have a good time. It's a good area were people are able to do many activities like boating and fishing. Please do not close this lake down.

679 Keep lake as is

682 I believe in maintaining status quo on how the refuge is currently being managed.

684 Please consider this letter as strong support of continued public use at Deerflat National Wildlife Refuge. Specifically, boating (motorized and non-motorized), swimming, and picnicking.

685 We oppose the loss of shared use of Lake Lowell that our family and many others have

enjoyed for several decades. We appreciate a safe place for families to use.

29 I am strongly opposed to any action (government or private) to alter the use and
enjoyment (access) of this resource to canyon county, Idaho residents in any way. Please leave
it as it is!!

689 I say leave the Lake Lowell and Snake River Islands as they are. It is ridiculous for
you to think that people are effecting the wildlife adversely.

690 It's closed to boats 7 month out of year that's enough

691 I think it should be open because it's a fun lake that you can go swimming in and
recreation.

29 I am against any additional restrictions for sportsmen, irrigators, pilots, boaters, etc.

695 Don't restrict what we can do there!

696 Would be a shame to loose such a asset to our community and state and for other to
enjoy please keep this the same as it is.

382 Leave the Lake open to everything.

706 I would like to ask that you NOT close the Lake Lowell.

709 I am totally against further restricting usage at Lake Lowell.

711 We strongly feel that recreational boating and all related activities have long been
and should always remain a compatible activity with the wildlife conservation goals of the Deer
Flat National Wildlife Refuge.

712 Please do not hurt our economy, put a strain on families and take away from our
future generations, keep Lake Lowell open to the public!!!!

715 Please keep the lake open to recreation.

716 It would be beneficial to the population of people in this area to allow Lake Lowell
to be used for recreational purposes in addition to that of wildlife preservation.

688 It's closed to boats 7 month out of year that's enough

29 Rules and regulations currently in place need to go away.

460 No new restrictions on lake. Lake has been fine so far. Leave it alone.

722 No more recreational restrictions.

- 29 Opposed to closing lake from rec use.
- 29 Don't want Lake Lowell rec uses to be taken away.
- 727 Wildlife has done well for 100 years. My opinion is to keep it the same.

Economic Impact

ID Comment

- 40 There are many rumors of motor restrictions on lake lowell. I believe that, if implemented could have a large effect on many local businesses.
- 71 He feels that limiting recreational use to the lake would cause a huge economic downturn for the surrounding businesses. He taught his kids to fish and love water sports and want to pass that knowledge along.
- 87 Taking this away will hurt Canyon County's economy heavily.
- 98 Last point being Canyon County residents need Lake Lowell to enjoy in all the ways it has been. Both as quality of life and fiscal health as well.
- 106 With the current financial condition of the country, Lake Lowell provides daily multi use opportunities for individuals and groups to have a place to go.
- 115 I have had people purchase a home in a Canyon County just to be able to enjoy the recreational activities on the lake. Many households have purchased boats and other motoroized vehicles for family fun on the lake. With the drastic change in the economy it would be a burden for these families to enjoy their recreational vehicles in other areas, ie., fuel cost. There would be a considerable loss of income to area businesses.
- 125 Also what about all the business that depend on boat owners for theyre income in canyon and we cant afford to have less jobs in the area!!!
- 129 The Lake serves mankind in many ways – jobs and recreation.
- 29 Many families recreate at the lake as it is close. Taking the Lake away may cause youth and parents to do less activities together and youth and peers to do more activities together.
- 136 Lake Lowell is a wonderful asset to our community and has attracted us to use it and attracts others from around us to the community that bring revenue. It would have a

huge
impact on a already struggling economy.

138
economic
loss
Activities at the lake are good for the economy. Believes Nampa can't afford this

57
The lake closure would be detrimental to the local economy

150
Don't ignore the economic impacts on the local area. These should be analyzed and weighed into any decisions.

155
The closing of Lake Lowell will NOT benefit the people, it will NOT stimulate the economy, and it will definitely NOT help create jobs. It will hurt the economy of
Nampa, it
that are
will take away jobs and add to Idaho's unemployment, It will lower property values,
already dropping dramatically.

160
of the
current economic decline.
The economic impact this affords to Canyon County is necessary, especially in lieu

29
family
In these hard times when there isnt enough cash flow for people to evan take there
out to the movies they can put a few dollars

29
Uses on
ways.
Also the community has build many resources to support the Non-priority Public
Lake Lowell and the loss of those resources and amenities would be great in many

29
what about the revenue it generates for the surrounding businesses
arnt they having a hard enough time making ends meet without this hard ship.
what about all the people who bought there house because of the convenience

176
These activities have also contributed to the economy of Canyon County.

202
fees on
Towing
Reservoir. If
Misc ~
they do they will be helping OREGON OUT since they will purchasing Fuel &
OUTSIDE OF IDAHO.. I really hope Lake Lowell stays open it SERVES A
VITALFUNCTION FOR THE LOCAL ECONOMY & COMMUNITY..

Boats & trailers would decrease as well..Not to mention the tax's on fuel for the
Vehicle. Many people on this side of the valley may go to the Lake OWYHEE

The ECONOMY would take another hit with loss of sales taxes (on New & USED
BOATS , Boat related GEAR & snacks & Picnic Stuff)). In addition Fuel taxes &

206 It seems to me that after all these years of non-wildlife related activities taking place
on the lake, putting restrictions on the lake would not have much affect on the wildlife but
would have a huge impact on the people that enjoy the non-wildlife activities...not to
mention the lose of tax dollars received from the licensing of boats. In

210 Many local folks just don't have the time or means to travel to McCall or Bruneau,
etc., to enjoy the water.

226 As a elected official of the city of Nampa it would also be harmful to commercial
boating enterprise.

232 I spend a lot of time on the lake and have very little money to go very far away to
fish, swim and boat.

243 The economic impacts that will result from boaters not being able to use this resource, will burden an economy that is already struggling. Local stores will suffer because purchases of food, beverage, fuel, water-toys, life preservers, and watercraft will all be adversely affected by the new proposed regulations

29 IT WILL SERIOUSLY IMPACT THE COUNTIES FINANCIAL WELLBEING.
262 Restriction of the many so-called non-priority activities will make major changes to families and, especially, to related businesses.

271 SAVE LAKE LOWELL !
The Common Sense Big Six: Create income for local businesses

(this person created their own big six)

272 It is a great asset to the entire treasure valley both economically and for recreation.
274 By closing this lake you are doing nothing but hurting the community and it's economy all around this area.

287 Without access to the lake with our boat there would be no reason to keep the boat. We would no longer shop at the boat shops or stop at the businesses to pick up fuel and snacks for our outings.

288 This would be a big hit to the local economy if the people are not allowed to use this area.

294 Boating and other non-wildlife recreation is important to the population and economy of Canyon and nearby counties.

298 In a time where the economy is bad and there are a lot of families without jobs why do you have to shut down a lake that provides close in recreation.

325 Recreational activities such as boating, swimming and picnicking have historically proven beneficial to the viability of Lake Lowell as a center of economic activity for Canyon County. This economic activity also provides greater resources for preservation activities.

334 Recreational activities on the lake have a great impact on the city both economically

and

culturally

329 It would be a great loss to the community and revenue to the local business owners.

377 The revenue it generates, as well as businesses who depend on those who use it, will suffer

and likely not recover, if we can no longer use and enjoy it as we have.

401 The Lake brings a lot of economic value to the area. People buy boats, fishing equipment

the area

and picnic supplies in Nampa and Caldwell. Family and friends come from outside

to lose

using motel, restaurants and other things in the community. It will be a great hardship

the Lake for recreational purposes

402 I am writing to ask you not to close Lake Lowell. I am concerned about what it would do to

activities

the local economy. We will lose revenue brought to our town from recreational

everyone enjoys at Lake Lowell

404 I know that is not a lot but if you look at the potentially hundreds or possibly thousands of

impact

registrations in Canyon County that do the same, well you can imagine the financial

that could have on the funds available to this area.

407 A Canyon County commissioner has stated that motorized uses of the lake generate over

the

20 million in economic activity but provides no basis to support this claim. I doubt if

include all

economic activity by this lake exceeds a million dollars per year, and that would

of the uses, including priority uses.

29 The county cannot afford to shut down the lake it will cause great hardship on the people

who over the years have helped with the refuge.

419 Except as described above I believe current uses should continue to be allowed and provided for, in consideration of the financial impact and spiritual well-being of the surrounding community that supports wildlife management funding through the

purchase of

licenses and hunting/fishing gear.

424 The money that we put into Marsing's economy will stop due to the fact we will have to

anymore.

resort to hunting water fowl out of the fields, and will not have a need for our boats

462 By closing the lake you just add it to the area's of no use for humans and great harm
to the local economy.

466 I feel that the economic impact of sending boats and other
water lovers elsewhere with their dollars would be very deleterious to the Nampa
area.

473 maintenance of the traditional recreational uses of Lake Lowell is critical to the
County's financial and cultural well-being.

475 I disagree with your plan and I think your plan will impact Canyon County's
economy greatly without seen benefits to the Refuge.

476 The economic impacts of discontinuing recreation on the NWR would also be
disastrous to many small businesses and individuals. Jobs and revenues would be lost. I know the
Lake Lowell Market and gas station on Riverside Rd would struggle to stay open without
recreationists coming to the lake.

171 If you close the lake, we will lose money to the economy and families, churches and scout
activities will have to look elsewhere or have nowhere else to have their big events.

490 to lose boating and other recreation at the lake would be a crushing blow to county
businesses and families

496 Limiting or prohibiting activities that require motorized watercraft would deny local
residents of several of the objectives the agency supposedly considers "priority uses",
as well as cripple the local economy.

507 Recreation is crucial to the economy of Canyon County. At a time where the nation
is in a recession and Canyon County is experiencing an unemployment rate of over 10%,
this seems a particularly bad time to discuss eliminating an entire industry in our area.

508 Not to mention the negative economic impact that this area now faces with the
current recession.

515 Also, the local gas stations would definitely loose money without the revenue
generated from

Lake Lowell's visitors.

29 If you close it you will put more people out of work and cause a hardship to the community.

522 I would also like to address the loss of income to our valley if these activities are banned from the lake. There are numerous businesses that will cease to exist without the recreational users to Lake Lowell.

524 One could say that the local economy may go down because of people like myself would have to find other areas for my hobbies which could cause small businesses to shut down.

527 This will affect ALL of us. That will result in losing businesses. We will lose revenue—revenue that residually affects the refuge. That will affect your budget dollars.

29 Economic and social impact will be felt all over the valley.

540 Leave lake open to the public and minimize the impact to the local economy.

543 Community & economy depend on this resource.

29 Financial impact will be great.

614 Recreation may be one of the primary sources of income in Idaho. We would be losing a valuable resource in the closing of Lake Lowell.

682 If the boating and other uses are shut down this will have significant economic impact to canyon county.

685 We agree with others that the economic impact will damage our local communities if this privilege is lost.

692 I have grave concerns with the local impact that closing Lake Lowell to boating. Not only will this effect our economy but it take away many of the activities that our family enjoys doing here locally and have been doing for the past 40 years of my lifetime.

29 I believe any further restrictions would not improve conservation of fish, animals, or the environment but would reek havoc on our struggling economy.

129 Access to this lake is very important to the people of this Valley! It means jobs in
additions to recreation.

712 Many businesses in the area depend on the lake for revenue

713 The lake generates important revenue. Many businesses that are dependent on those
who utilize it, will suffer and likely not recover, if recreation as we have known it, is
terminated.
The trickle down effects will devastate this community which is already suffering,
given the current economic climate.

715 My family and friends visit the lake many times each year. It is a staple to the
community and the economic health of the area.

Education and Outreach

ID Comment

114 Swimming, boating, and most anything else that gets people and especially kids out
on the water is promotive of wildlife and the environment. The exposure to nature will
engender an appreciation for it.

165 Providing recreational fishing, boating activities, picnicking, biking, jogging in
community and urban environments not only provides wholesome recreational opportunities, but also
provides exposure and involvement with wildlife and their habitats that leads to greater
awareness and appreciation for the need to conserve our natural resources

203 I would highly recommend that you provide education and outreach to all user
groups in promoting responsible shared use of the refuge, which will not negatively impact the
wildlife that is already abundant at the refuge

Fee Implementation

ID Comment

39 As much as I love the free boat ramp I would pay a few dollars to launch. That
money could be used for conservation related activities and fish stock. Better yet, use that
money to find a way to control the algae growth that happens every summer. Build a picnic
pavilion

the and charge to use it. Have paid, organized bird watching expeditions on and around lake. Have a significant fishing tournament to draw attention to the lake.

54 They wonder if a fee station would help with the decision?

35 Would rather pay fee than see it closed down.

111 If there is a specific negative impact that boats are having on wildlife, or fish, I would suggest alternatives....

-Boat Launch Fees (To generate money for habitat enhancement)

35 If it becomes difficult to justify swimming & boating on the lake, then it may be advisable to establish a low fee for such use whereby the fee is used for the benefit of wildlife .

148 I think with some changes, additional money could be raised and service hours provided to help manage and support the Deer Flat Refuge. Although it may not be popular to charge for boating, it probably needs to happen

151 I believe a fee for access similar to Lucky Peak (2-5) dollars per car that use the lake would be a satisfactory compromise, not only for boats but park users as well. The money could be used for the wildlife management and refuge improvement.

177 Create a yearly launch fee or usage fee for all boats and jet-skis (motors above 25 hp). A pass (a sticker on the hull) must be purchased in order to use the lake or a launch fee. Proceeds will go to wildlife preservation and refuge improvements.

250 Perhaps if a fee pass system were implemented for use of areas like trails & picnic sites it would help limit traffic and pay for habitat improvements in less accessible areas of the refuge.

271 SAVE LAKE LOWELL !
The Common Sense Big Six:Continue receiving revenue from recreational fees

(this person created their own big six)

278 We are willing to work with all involved to come to a solution to keep Lake Lowell accessible to those of us who appreciate it. Perhaps officials could charge a fee for entrance. When you pay for something, you tend to appreciate it more!

391 If motorized boats are allowed to use the lake, an annual fee or license should be
required.
An annual fee should be charged for anyone accessing the public areas of the refuge.
Too
many people leave their trash around and this fee would help offset the cost of
cleaning up
the garbage

417 The refuge itself said that we are not hurting the wildlife by being out there, but that
we don't
contribute either. Why not charge a parking fee to use the lake?

429 maybe a a day use fee for upgrades to buildings boat docks wildlife habitat. closing
the lake
for activities people use the area for everyday a pay to play area gets my vote not
stopping
most activities

453 I believe that a permit be required to use the refuge for recreation and hunting. I do
not
believe that a user fee would be unreasonable.

492 It is my suggestion that Lake Lowell charge \$5.00 per registered vehicle. This means
that in
my case I would pay \$5.00 for my truck and \$5.00 for my boat, or \$10.00 each time I
go
to lake Lowell. If I was pulling two jet skis I would have to pay \$15.00 each time I
came to
the lake.

508 Additional fees can also be used to expand and ad educational opportunities for not
only
children but for the general public.

511 I believe that there should be a fee to go to the lake for recreational purposes, That
way it
keeps the community in the area safe from people who abuse and cause problems.

521 I strongly disagree with the proposal to stop recreation on the lake and the
under-handed
method with which this whole process has gone about.

29 If it's about money let me pay a boat fee to fish.

575 I also believe you should charge for use of the Lake and save irrigation.

588 If it is because there is not enough money then maybe you guys can charge like a five
dollar
fee for parking, and maybe also another five dollar fee for a day pass.

590 If you really have no way of getting funds, you should charge \$5 a car. That isn't
too expensive and it's a good way to earn enough money.

724 Opposed to any charge for recreation.

Impact to agricultural

ID Comment

159 gain - the water belongs to the farmers - if you place the wildlife above that first
priority - it could damage the availability of water for our land and for our food. Agriculture is
critical not only in the Treasure Valley, but worldwide.

Increase impact to other resevoirs

ID Comment

128 Not fair to close Lake Lowell and not other water places such as Lucky Peak,
Arrowrock, Cascade, Payette Lake, Black Canyon, House Thief and CJ Strike.

158 Rather a closure would force existing users into other areas
thereby causing more potential damage to those other areas.

246 The next closest body of water for boating is Lucky Peak and that place is already
out of control with the wake boarding and wake surfing boats.

258 Closing the lake will not help "save the environment" it will simply transfer the
problem to a new lake or wild life reserve, and along with the new problem will be another
problem of larger gas consumption and car emissions just to get to a further away lake.

713 Neighboring lakes and reservoirs can not adequately accommodate the overflow.
The results could be catastrophic, greatly impacting our area, which hurt the people who
live here and benefit from it.

726 Any additional restrictions on Lake Lowell will only increase the danger levels for
people at these other lakes. How about thinking about and putting the value of actual human
lives and families ahead of animals for a change.

Increase Restrictions

ID	Comment
48 that as the	Likes the idea that we put wildlife first. Said that people will have to understand that as the population grows there will be more restrictions.
104 motors	I would like to see Deerflat compromise by eliminating noise IE radio, cell phones, of all kinds and thus providing peace, an escape.
189 meet that	Plan must include strong reductions in some types of current recreational uses to meet that compatibility requirement.
238 was	Thinks the lake should be shared but there needs to be restrictions. Said in 1978 there was thousands of ducks and now there isn't near as many. Not as many deer around either
390	Would like to see an increase of restrictions to keep lake better managed.
419 refuge systems that they	I would like to see a restriction on the use of audio sound systems within the entire at all times. Sound carries extremely well across the water. If the mega-sound systems that are common on powerboats these days are disturbing to other people (and they are) they must surely be disturbing to wildlife.
471 motorized dog-walking, related to	The following non-priority public uses should not be allowed on the refuge: boating, personal watercraft, kiteboarding, geocaching, paintball shooting, horseback riding, biking, sailing, and waterskiing/tubing as these activities are not related to the wildlife.
498	We need to limit the use of this once great refuge by allowing only certain types of boats on it, and the number allowed on the lake at one time. If it is to be a refuge, then let's respect it as such. There are other places not too far off where people can take their large boats to accommodate speed and noise. If it is indeed a wildlife habitat refuge, then let's get back to the basics and respect it as such.
29 they should	People don't understand what a wildlife refuge means. Public is being selfish and they should think about sharing with wildlife. Lake Lowell should be left for the wildlife.

Kiteboarding

ID	Comment
102 totally interfere for	I am a local Boise resident as well as a Kiteboarder. I believe that Kiteboarding is compatible with the CCP plan. It is a safe, non-motorized recreation that does not with any other recreation or wildlife on Lake Lowell. I hope that the plan will allow continued kiteboarding on the lake.

Lake Important for Family Activites

ID	Comment
29 peace,	Lake Lowell has been an intricate part of families for generations. It's a place of education, and fun. Do not take away the lake from our local families.
40 outdoors.	It also allows people the optortunity to spend quality time with there families in the outdoors.
54 wading in	Our family has enjoyed outings to the Lake for picnicking, walking, biking, and the Lake on hot summer days.
65 times	Lake Lowell is one of the best places to have fun with your family regardless of the and It should stay that way.
71 perch Lowell, Lowell.	I learned the basics of boat fishing at Lake Lowell catching yellow belly catfish and and likewise I taught my children the basic of boat fishing and water skiing at Lake and my son is teaching his children the basic of both fishing and water skiing at Lake Lowell.
80 skiing	.It is the closest body of water that provides both recreational activities such as water and fishing in our area. It is a tradition that serves as a foundation for many families.
87 them to go businesses.	Chose to live in this area because of the recreation uses at the lake. Doesn't want away for the sake of the community and impact it will have on the recreational businesses.
112	Last weekend, we had a wonderful family reunion at Lake Lowell. Our activities

included
waterskiing,
and tubing. memories were made that will last all of our lives.

115
Closing
Not to
anymore.

There are not very many outdoor activities for families in the Canyon County area. Lake Lowell to motorized boating would be very disappointing for our community. mention that some families would no longer be able to use their recreational vehicle anymore.

138
create a
for

Lake Lowell is a great place for families to build relationships which in turn can better and safer community. Many outdoor lessons can be learned ex: appreciation for wildlife, spending time outside, being active.

57
the lake
activities

Families working and playing together is what keeps a community strong. Closing the lake would stop the main activities for families in Nampa and Caldwell. Lake provides for their church and many cant afford to travel but they can go to the lake 3x a week.

139
lake.

Safe place to bring family. Provides safe activity for families. Please do not close lake.

147
for the
school

I have two grandsons and we have been fishing Lake Lowell 2 to 3 times per week last 5 years. Both their parents work and I get the privilege of being with them during vacation. Time with your grandchildren equals memories that last forever.

148
Recreation
raise not
while at
opportunities

I and my family have enjoyed numerous activities for decades at Lake Lowell. at Lake Lowell such as water skiing, wake boarding, and swimming has helped us only our own children, but has helped us spend quality time with numerous children while at the lake. Spending time in a boat close together provides important teaching opportunities that seem aJmost impossible anywhere else.

153

It is such a wonderful family place and I would hate to see families not able to have that outlet of such a wonderful place to have fun.

154 Lowell has been a place to have fun family events to many families. It_s also a great
place where several community have the opportunity of enjoying it_s waters. My family
and I use it all year long with several other families. Please don_t close it to!!!

155 Above all, It will take away another opportunity for families to spend quality time
together while enjoying outdoor activities.

188 My family and I have been using the lake for many years. We are boaters/water
skiers and were crushed to hear about possible plans to eliminate boating. Our family has many
fond memories of family time, great celebrations and water play connected "

210 Lake Lowell has been a wonderful place for families to enjoy the water for years and
years

213 I often take one of my three grandchildren to fish with me. I feel it is important to
pass on the joys of the outdoor life to my grandchildren and their friends.

216 If Lake Lowell is taken away from the public you will diminish everyone's quality of
life including the animals. Any and all animals that live in this area are there knowing
full well that humans are around.

29 Family uses the lake.

29 The lake is used by so many families for boating, fishing, and picnicking that not
being able to use it for these purposes any more would be devastating to our community.

Using the lake is a pretty inexpensive way for families to be able to enjoy some recreation that
is inexpensive.

246 This is very close and accessible to my home and has brought thousands of hours of
family fun for me, my wife, four daughters, my father, mother ... the list goes on and on.

253 we determined that one of the best ways to provide a wholesome recreational activity
for our children and their spouses would be to take them boating.

263 My family enjoy stopping by Lake Lowell on Mother's Day especially. Watching the
ducks,
etc swim in the darkening shadows and the children tossing stones in at the water's
edge is
a great family time.

266 There have been only a handful of years that my family has not schedule an activity
at the
lake. This equal to the 100 year history of the lake and spanning four generations of
my
family. Growing up around and on Lake Lowell I have watched both wide life and
recreational uses flourish.

272 Me and my family use the area at least twice a week for boating, swimming, and
fishing
through out the summer

299 Please don't take another activity away from our families that enjoy it so much. In
this day
and age we need places like this to take our families.

312 We enjoy our lake and all it has to offer our families,don,t take that away from us.
316 In other words, outdoor recreational opportunities are important to the health of the
family
unit.

318 If you look every weekend during the summer there are many families enjoying the
shaded
park grounds or playing in the water to cool off.Families unite to take the boat out or
to Jet
Skii a place close enough for easy access without driving thirty minutes to do so

29 for family enjoyment/ time together.

29 Don't take the lake away from people who use it the most. Family goes every
weekend.

329 How can people justify the shutting down of Lake Lowell for wildlife refuge when
so many
people use it for family gatherings, boating, picnicking and fishing.

395 Please do not enact any laws or regulations which would wreck my
relationship with my family members as we have enjoyed the Lake for many years
and
would like to for many more.

410 . I have a family and every weekend of this closing summer we have been there
enjoying the
water, barbecue's, boating and water activities.

417 Lake Lowell gives our family the opportunity to spend quality time together and
teach our kids about nature and the fun of a recreational sport. Please don't take that away
from a future generation that is
excited growing up on television, computers and video games. Let them grow up being
about nature and our natural resources!

422 Please do not close Lake Lowell. We enjoy going there with our grandchildren. The
lake is wonderful for fishing, picnicking, swimming and just all around family enjoyment.
Please, please do something to repeal this decision to close the lake.

426 This lake is more to our family than what meets the eye. I would stand up for the
rights to have people and wild life living together at Lake Lowell.

428 Please do not take this away from our family

436 Should recreation so close to home be taken away our family's
recreational quality of life would be severely affected. Please reconsider any banning of
activities

437 My family and I have enjoyed boating and picnicking at Lake Lowell for many
years. We really like how close to Nampa and Caldwell it is. It's very nice to go out there after a
long day of work and unwind and enjoy the scenery. Please don't take that away from us!

463 We have many wonderful memories of boating and picnicking here at Lake Lowell.
It would be wrong if boating was limited or restricted. Our opportunities to enjoy the wildlife
with our children would be eliminated and it would be a great loss

476 spending an evening at a picnic at Lake Lowell is one of the last affordable activities
for large families to do in the area. Lake Lowell is culturally important to me, my
family, my community, and all of Canyon
County.

171 I am writing in regards to the Lake being closed permantly to boaters and picnicians. I
feel it would be a terrible thing to do this, because there are alot of church, family and

scouting

activities that take place on that lake and the park.

489 The lake was put in by the public, for the public and should remain with the public. To label the use of Lake Lowell "non-priority" is unacceptable. For the many generations of families who have enjoyed the lake, and for the many visiting family members and friends who have enjoyed it, its use is certainly a "high priority"

492 Since moving to Idaho two years ago, we have spent many hours as a family enjoying the lake. I have also taken many teenage youth and young adults to this lake for good clean fun.

495 Please keep it open so all of our families have some place that's affordable, and not only that but enjoyable and convenient!

507 My family has used the lake for fishing and water sports for three generations.

510 The lake affords our family, and many others, low cost activities that are essential to a good quality of life.

515 Lake Lowell provides us with convenient access to quality family time, and memories that will last forever!

29 If you take away the lake you take away time with family and friends .Every summer since i was little we went to the lake. We would go swimming, boating, fishing, and enjoy a nice lunch off the beach.

536 Families enjoy the outdoors, the lake and have a strong awareness of the value the refuge provides to waterfowl.

543 Lake Lowell is very important for family activities.

29 It's a great place for family outings.

29 Family will be very upset if you take away our rights to swim and boat at Lake Lowell.

566 My family uses the lake for walks, picnics + swimming. It would be a real tragedy to have it closed down. I even saw familys using the beach to do easter this year.

582 There are great picnic spots for my family.

585 I think that you should not close Lake Lowell to the public, because there's good places for

family picnics. And family is important to me. We do everything together.
Boating is a good family activity, it get's everyone involved.

588 It would be horrible if you closed Lake Lowell to the public, because we love to go
there and swim, and have family picnics, and I see so many people there all of the time

597 It is a great place for families to come together and have a picnic, or go bird
watching. Closing Lake Lowell is depriving us of a place where families can go to enjoy the
beauty of nature and enjoy all of the activities that the park offers. Please keep Lake Lowell
open to the public.

599 a lot of families enjoy having picnic and fishing and just walking around the area and
enjoying the beautiful view. So please do not close Lake Lowell to the public.

600 The Lake there is beautiful, and it's a great place for a family to spend a day. It's a
fun place to swim at, and go fish on the water.

609 People go to watch birds in the spring, have family picnics in the summer, and also
to play out in the water on boats and to fish. My entire family has been to Lake Lowell. So if
you would please take my letter and everyone's eles in consideration to keep Lowell open
please and thank you.

610 Many people do use this area for family activities. This keeps families together
whether it is fishing, boating or families coming here for picnics. Please keep it open.

612 Please don't close lake Lowell. It's a place for families to bond and have fun with
nature. Lake Lowell is a place for families to kick back and relax and do thinks like go bird
hunting, bird watching, tubing, boating, fishing, go on walking paths and have family
picnics.

615 Please don't close lake Lowell. It's a place for families to bond and enjoy what they
love doing like boating, fishing, and hunting.

620 Lake Lowell has been a place of fun for my family for many years. We use it for
boating

and fishing all the time. It would be a shame for it to close down. So please keep it open.

624 please don't close it. It is also a good place for family picnic.
636 A lot of families also like to get together and go have a family picnic there. Some families have been going there for a while and maybe it's the only place they really enjoy.

637 The things that were interesting were the recreation the boating because who doesn't like to boat and the fishing. The nice picnic places to hang out with family and friends and the walking paths for those people that like walk and have a nice day out in the sun.
The other things were the birds which you can see a lot of them so please don't close Lake Lowell its looks like an interesting place to go to and just have fun.

642 I'm asking you to please not close Lake Lowell to the public because there are so many people that enjoy going there. The best thing about Lake Lowell is that families always get together there and hang out because it is very pretty and peaceful there. I'm asking you to please keep it open to the public because people will miss out on fun things

642 I'm asking you to please not close Lake Lowell because I love the place there is so many thing I do there like boating, fishing, walking, hunting, and just hanging out there with my family.

645 I would like it if you wouldn't close Lake Lowell because a lot of people like it there and I would like to keep fishing their.Me and my famlie love to go for walks and go fishing their.
loose We love to have picnics there and it would be horrible to have us and many others that privlage.

648 Please do not close down Lake Lowell. This a place that a lot of people have had memorys at. My family has had a lot of family picnics there and it would be very depressing to see it close down. Please don't close this wonderful place down.

650 I believe that Lake Lowell should be kept open because it's a good family place for recreational activities such as swimming, boating, fishing, and the occasional family picnic.

fun so By taking this away from the public you will be putting a stop generations of family please don't take it away.

656 Pleaase do not close Lake Lowell. It's recreation is so great. I love boating while I fish.

And end it And when our family gets off we all love to picnic there. Enjoying the birds fly. with my husband on the walking path.

663 I think you should keep Lake Lowell open because it's a good place for families to camp and to have picnics because there aren't very many dangerous animals up there.

665 Every weekend me and my family goes to the Lake Lowell, to play, fhishing, watch the birds flying etc...So, please don't close the lake.

674 I ask you please that you don't close down Lake Lowell because it is a good place for the people to have with their families

676 It's a great place for families to spend time together. They can have picnic's, they can go fishing, they can even take the boats out on the Lake. It's a place that a couple can take walks together and make their relationship grow. It's great for bird watching.

689 People built it they should be able to use it for a place to take there family's for a day of enjoyment it is close for people to go there from town.

692 I have grave concerns with the local impact that closing Lake Lowell to boating. Not only will this effect our economy but it take away many of the activities that our family enjoys doing here locally and have been doing for the past 40 years of my lifetime.

706 My family and many many others have grown up on that Lake and enjoyed the beauty and recreation that is provides. This is the only recreational spot that is close to Caldwell and Nampa and we enjoy having it in our back yards for use. PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE IT

DOWN.

700 My family and I enjoy Lake Lowell several times a month. We have spent hours with
our family boating, picnicking and watching the wildlife.

723 Lake is important to her for family activities

Man-made lake, not a refuge

ID Comment

29 .So who really thinks this is a good idea sure it may be great for
the wildlife but is that what lake Lowell was built for I mean it is man made
is it not.

192 It is a man-made reservoir built for the needs of the surrounding community.

207 This lake was made for irrigation, not for being a refuge.

29 It is a man made lake,

262 The original purpose of the dam was for irrigation; the secondary purpose, dictated
by the government, was to save the wildlife.

268 The lake is man-made and was originally built to provide irrigation to farmer. The
wildlife refuge was added later.

275 This lake is a man made lake (so we are letting the wildlife use our lake) and is just
fine as is and the recreationists are only on the lake 5-6 months at most

452 Please let's remember why Lake Lowell was created in the first place. It was to serve
PEOPLE'S needs. Like farmers who NEEDED to irrigate their crops. It wasn't
supposed to place animals & wild-life ahead of the interests of HUMANS. Please let's keep it
that way.

enjoying Realize HUMANS are more important than wild-life. Allow PEOPLE to continue
what their taxes pay for.

576 Let's not forget that the lake was built for farmers and irrigation first, not for birds.

679 Lake should be kept for irrigation. Should be controlled by BOC

683 Lake Lowell was built for irrigation purposes, not for a wildlife refuge.

712 This lake was built for irrigation purposes not wild life.

725 Defends the farmer's lake. They have the right to use the lake however they want.
Refuge should consider families and people before birds.

No wake zones

ID Comment

225 Perhaps more “no wake” zones could be established in areas where nesting occurs
and fines be incurred when boaters do not adhere to that.

Partition Uses

ID Comment

29 The lake in 10,000 acres - it can be partitioned to accommodate both people and
wildlife.

111 If there is a specific negative impact that boats are having on wildlife, or
fish, I would suggest alternatives....
-
Close a portion of the lake

153 really hope through all this we can find a solution that benefits people and
animals I feel there is no reason to close it down to the public use but many reasons
to keep it open.

158 f it were possible to isolate real man caused impacts on the area than a partial closure
may be order whether it be anarea of closure or a time related closure. But to shut down
the whole area to all uses seems
like a major overkill.

188 If there were an area that was off limits to boats that left we humans somewhere to
play and supported the refuge, but to eliminate boating all together would be outright
WRONG!!!

208 Although we disagree with the final intentions of closing the resevoir down to all
recreational uses, we would not disagree with a compromise to try and maintain contentment with
both parties. We would be okay with an expansion of the "no wake zone", with the
intentions of having less disruptions on the shores for the wildlife that live there, and having the
mid portion of the lake for boating and other vehicals going fast enough to create a wake

Picnicking

ID Comment

24 Wants people to be assigned to picnic areas so they can be fined if they litter.

171 I am writing to let you know that I don't want the lake closed picnicens.
233 Also rights to picnic on shore area.

Swimming

ID Comment

45 Doesn't want restrictions
60 wants to keep swimming

159 Just quick comment: Please do not close Lake Lowell for boating and swimming.
29 Please do not close lake, enjoys swimming and letting dogs swim in lake.

408 I do favor keeping the swimming area open if possible. There are almost no free,
public outdoor swimming areas around, and this is a place for low-income families to come
and cool off on hot days.

29 A safe place to fish and swim without disturbing the natural order of life.
29 Would like to see improvements at swim areas.

Wildlife and man are or have been coexisting

ID Comment

44 I strongly feel Lake Lowell can be a viable resource for EVERYONE to enjoy
people and animals alike without restricting use completely.

83 he wildlife and humans have been doing just fine in all
half a those years, and it is one of the closer places for people to go and not have to drive
day.

87 There is no reason why we need to shut the lake down because for years we have all
been compatible with the wildlife that is on Lake Lowell.

96 He believes the boating and recreation has been coexisting with the wildlife. He feels
the weather and weeds do greater damage to the wildlife.

98 Feels like the refuge has been doing a great job being a multipurpose lake. She
doesn't want the refuge to do away with recreational uses. She believes that the priority uses
versus non-priority uses do not impact each other in a bad way.

98 The recreational use is why the majority of the public goes to Lake Lowell. The
recreational uses are compatible with the educational, reservational and even irrigation uses as
well.

peacefully
There is enough area for people and animals to use and enjoy Lake Lowell together. Priority use and Non priority uses benefit and coexist there successfully

101
elsewhere.
Wildlife and human beings have co existed for thousands of years here and
Lake Lowell has done just fine for the last hundred years and will continue to do so
for the
next.

108
area. It can,
DO NOT stop human use of the lake/area. Return it to a animal/human friendly
and should, be enjoyed by man & animals alike.

110
The needs of wildlife and recreation can
exist in harmony. Please keep this in mind when making your decision.

118
recreational
I believe that for over 30 years now that I've included Lake Lowell in my
activities, that we have done a great job of co-existing with the wildlife in the area. I
have
not seen a decrease in wildlife population, even with an increase in motorized water
craft on
the lake.

138
Still sees geese and deer like she did when she was kid.

145
urge you
The wildlife and sportsmen have done well together at Lake Lowell for decades. I
not to make any changes as to the use of Lake Lowell.

149
the same
I feel there can both be significant public use of the refuge and wildlife protection at
time. I support continued use of the wildlife refuge by the public including all of the
Non-Priority uses that have been identified. I also support taking limited sections of
the
refuge and making them off limits to the public at certain times of the year when they
are
most needed by the wildlife. This would include having buoys out in the water that
mark the
closed sections and the dates they are closed for PART of the year.

29
really do
It seems to me and others that the Lake has been doing rather well
for the past 48 yrs. That is how long I have been enjoying and fishing the
Lake. It seems that the lake has been shut down to public use when necessary. I
not fully understand what is trying to be done in the way of changes.

159
For the past 100 years, both wildlife and man together have utilized the water

successfully.

29 The Lake has been open to those activities for decades and it has been compatible
with wildlife conservation.

174 Coexistence has worked so far. Little changes, such as closing trails during nesting
season makes sense. I have seen boaters violate areas closed to boats to protect nesting birds

176 After 100 years of people and animals co- existing, the wildlife is thriving at the
refuge.

178 I think Lake Lowell has been just fine for both the birds and the people interacting
with the wildlife.

182 Please explain yourselves, the quality of the wildlife has been fine
for over 100 years. what about the quality of life for the 350.000 people that
live in so. Idaho?

184 These uses don't seem to be in conflict, especially when the restrictions that are in
place with regards to motorized boat traffic are factored in.

194 I would submit that there are many more varieties of wildlife in the refuge today
than in 1967. Some examples are Western Grebe, Bald Eagle. Wood Duck, Pelican and
other bird types. I never saw these in the 60's and they are there today.

195 Birds have also proven adaptable when it comes to co-existing with human activities.

198 This letter is to show my support for recreation, swimming and boating to co-exist in
the comprehensive plan that is being established

206 We have been living in Nampa, ID for 12 years and have not seen any adverse
affects on the wild life due to non-wildlife related activities.

213 In my years of visiting Lake Lowell I have seen no significant conflict with
current use rules and the fact that the area is a wildlife refuge.

216 I believe Lake Lowell is a place where both humans and animals have a chance to
coexist.

223 Lake should be shared with the wildlife and people

224 Birds have been plentiful and the summer time boating season is long enough for
adequate use but does not intrude on hunting season. Bird migration is generally done by
April as I understand it.

227 As for the birds, their population and diversity in migratory and nonmigratory
varieties has grown very noticeably in the surrounding areas as well as in the refuge. In short
what we have in place now seems to be working well so I feel it would be best to leave it
alone.

29 The wildlife refuge seems to have been okay for all this time so why should things
change now.

232 I grew up on this lake – its where I learned to swim, drive a boat and learn to fish.
The wildlife was there when I did this and it's still there today.

234 Wants there to be a compromise for wildlife and humans.

29 and it's PUBLIC resources can be managed responsibly so wildlife and the
public can coexist.

242 We have been in partnership with the lake and the wildlife there since its conception
and all has done fine. Boating has not been a problem in the past. Wildlife has done just fine
with the current uses of the lake.

243 The time frame for uses that are supposedly need for the waterfowl are exactly
opposite those needed by the boaters and recreationalist; therefore, it should be easy for both
interest to have their needs met without impeding the other. The recreationalist and boaters
can still continue to utilize the lake during the summer with
migratory minimal impact on the waterfowl and the waterfowl can continue to use it as a
stop.

253 To the layman, no adverse issues seemed to present themselves as our
examples of boat and others used the water while the fowl were feeding or resting. Many
combined activity/mixed use of water bodies for recreation and conservation exist
across

this country.

254 The fishing, boating, wildlife photography and wildlife have co existed for many
years and
we feel that should not change.

257 All of the current activities from bird watching to boating have worked in harmony
over the
last 100 years so I don't see a need to change it now.

258 There is no reason that we can not coexist on the lake with the wild life as we have
been
doing since the lake was built.

261 The wild life and current activities have coexisted for decades and seem to be getting
along
just fine.

266 This is proof that the recreational uses and wild life are compatible at Lake Lowell. It
is also
important to note that most of the current wild life present at the Lake would not be
locally
financed reservoir.

267 I have enjoyed the fishing, boating and wildlife of Lake Lowell throughout my
limited
lifetime. Please pardon my poor observation, interpretive, and communicative skills,
but I
have never been made aware of this problem for which you are seeking solutions.
Nothing
that I have read, heard, or observed indicates a problem . Man and wildlife have
coexisted
and complimented each other, on and around this refuge for far more years than you
have
walked this Earth.

268 Birds and animals don't seem to be suffering from sharing the lake.

270 the game reserve has thrived for decades with all forms of water recreation on Lake
Lowell .

275 This lake, the wildlife and the recreationists, can co-exist as it does now since there is
not have
already a restricted area for their protection and one can make a case that that may
any adverse affect on the wildlife as well.

277 For years irrigation needs,recreation, hunting and and all types of boating and
swimming
have co-existed with the wildlife needs.

282 Biking, dog walking, geocaching, horseback riding, jogging, kiteboarding, motorized
& non- motorized boating, picnicking, swimming, fishing and hunting, and much more have
been all accommodated for all these years and the refuge purposes have not been hurt any at
all as far as what can be proven.

283 I support the multiple use of Lake Lowell and I believe that it is in the best interest of
rather Nampa and Caldwell and the entire state of Idaho for the facility to be developed
than closed.

284 Three weeks ago we taught our two grandchildren to water ski at Lake Lowell. It
was a perfect, smooth, beautiful day they will remember forever. We saw a variety of birds
and fish, which made the day even more special.

286 Outdoors men and the wildlife protection can coincide together they have for years
and now you are trying to say that we are destroying the animals and their habitat.

145 Boating has been active on the lake for nearly one hundred years and there hasn't
been a problem with the compatibility with the wildlife. In fact there is a wider variety of
wildlife now on the lake than in the past

296 I've swam, hunted, water-skiied, fished this reservoir for 50 years. Nothing much has
migratory changed.
The deer, raccoon, bald eagle, quail, etc., have thrived, except for the numbers of
ducks. And that has nothing to do with the current management of the refuge.

297 The human uses and the wildlife uses of the refuge have been compatible for the last
century and will continue to be compatible for the next century.

298 I happen to live south of the lake off of lakeshore and in both the
spring and fall I see thousands of ducks, geese, and other migratory
birds flying over my house. I have not seen a decline in the bird
numbers, if anything there are too many birds in the area.

301 haven't seen anyone disturbing the wildlife. It seems to me most birds, that use Lake
Lowell as a refuge, are migratory and use the lake in the
early spring and late fall. During those times the people usage is way down. The
areas that I

have seen the birds use are not in the main boating lanes or picnic areas.

310 I think
on. Maybe that most all the wildlife around the lake accustomed to all the activity that is going
put a limit to some of the boating during some of the nesting times.

314 Recreation on Lake Lowell has coexisted with wild life for 100 years. Boats do not
cause damage like the wind can. Newer designs of boats have very limited emissions
compared to older designs, especially 2-strokes. The refuge has issued permits to kill seagulls on
the lake. It would seem that shooting birds does more harm than driving by them with a
boat.

317 They have been compatible for 100 years and will continue with this refuge using its
mission to educate the population

331 Believes refuge should be multi-purpose, people & wildlife can co-exist.
333 Has used the lake since the 1970's for fishing & boating, is not aware of activities
that would harm the lake & surrounding areas.

342 Wildlife & recreation has co-habitated for several years, leave it alone.

357 Birds & people can co-habitat.

363 Wildlife and recreation have co-existed for 100 years, why stop now!

367 Lake has been a major part of valley recreation for many years with no harm to
refuge.

369 Birds & wildlife have learned to co-exist together.

370 Can be used for recreation and wildlife both.

377 We have over 100 years invested of proving that this lake with its recreational uses
along with the wildlife we honor are compatible, and have, and can, coexist together.

380 The Lake and Refuge is a multi-faceted resource that has played a key role in
recreational opportunities for the area, while at the same time, serving as a valuable wildlife
refuge and irrigation source. All of these uses have successfully co-existed for decades. Any
attempt to close the area for recreational use is misguided and unreasonable

386 I don't believe that using motorized boats on the water harms the waterfowl population.

393 Please maintain shared use!!

399 These multiple uses of the lake have not deterred the migratory or local waterfowl or other birds from continuing to pass through or nest around the lake with its many trees and thick vegetation. Local deer thrive in this area with adjacent farmland providing feed during the early morning and late evening and the lake's vegetation providing cover during the day.

401 I believe animals and people can both enjoy the use of the area, as they have for 100 years.

405 It is obvious that wildlife has thrived in the lake for a hundred years with essentially no consideration whatsoever.

417 We don't feel like we have caused any damage to the Lake or the wildlife while being out there. Humans and wildlife have co-existed on the Lake for a hundred years and we don't see any reason why we can't co-exist for another hundred years.

418 I believe the current uses are compatible for both wild life and recreation.LEAVE IT ALONE, IT WORKS.

420 The power boaters, hunters, and fishermen have always respected the "no go" restricted zones.

423 I have seen more birds coming through all the time. I don't see how closing the lake would be beneficial. We have lost more feed ground by new development than the boating at lake lowell.

424 Recreationalist and Lake Lowell have co-existed for many years

428 Wild life and boating have co-existed for decades and there is no reason this should not continue.

432 There is no reason why people, birds and animals cannot live together in harmony as they have for 100 years

435 We always see birds on the lake and our kids enjoy the ducks
and geese. I believe we can use the lake and enjoy the wildlife at the same time.

438 The wild life and the public population have been living together since
the upper & lower dams were built, TELL ME , why does the STUPID BABY
BOOMERS who are POLOTICIONS think every thing NEEDS TO BE FIXED
when IT
AINT BROKEN ??

443 My family's boating and recreation activities over many years have benefited wildlife
at Lake
Lowell many ways for example, license and stamp fees.

448 I believe non priority uses are not hurting the refuge and infact the recreational use
adds to
the preservation causes at deerflat refuge. The people are brought to Lake lowell for
the
recreation ad then they learn about the preserve and the wildlife there.

450 Let us keep on sharing together.

455 I also believe that prudent management of the lake is essential in order to preserve
the
multiple uses it sees today.

459 The lake has been used for recreation for over 80 years.....are you folks nuts? Most of
the
wildlife are migrating flocks of ducks and geese that arrive after the recreation
season is
over. The local people and the wildlife, have co-existed all of these years.

465 Apparently “non-priority”, wildlife and irrigation uses have worked fine, and in fact
existing
complimented one another. If the system’s not broke, don’t fix it. Continue with
years.
management plan that seems to have satisfied every need over the last 100 plus

469 Farmers, recreationists and all users of Lake Lowell have lived in harmony with the
wildlife
at Lake Lowell for over 100 years and it
needs to continue exactly as it is

473 The ecological integrity of the DFNWR is not dependent upon the cessation of
recreational
use of Lake Lowell's open water.
to the
The CCP should direct that Refuge management continue to give full consideration
agricultural and recreational uses of Lake Lowell's open water, just as full

consideration

open must be due the "wild" use of the wetland edges and sagebrush uplands around that water.

476 In this case it is only natural for people and animals to co-exist in this un-natural environment. I sustain the seasonal closures on the lake and feel like that is an excellent way for people and animals to share the place.

477 Lake Lowell, Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge and recreational activity at Lake Lowell have been woven into the social, cultural, emotional, intellectual, environmental and economical fabric of the people and lifestyle in the Treasure Valley for 100 years.

This compatible and symbiotic relationship existing for a century is proof that all the present activities can co-exist for the benefit of all presently and for future generations.

481 I believe the Refuge was established for both wildlife & recreational use and if there is not scientific data proving that we can't cohabitate, we should use the lake for all users to educate and enjoy, not lock it away for no one to use.

483 Believes there is a form of compromise that the refuge and citizens can come to.

485 I understand saving wildlife but we can co-exist just like we have been doing for several decades. Just in my lifetime i have seen more wildlife there in Lake Lowell then when i was younger. Why Change???? Seems to be working out great now.

486 Please please reconsider the use of Lake Lowell, we have cohabited with upland birds for over 100 years and can continue to do so.

487 Wildlife is and are thriving in the area. I ride my motorcycle around the lake several times a week, as well as use the lake with my boat for fishing, family recreation and sightseeing. There is no problem with what us humans are doing in and around the lake.

490 For more than 100 years, wildlife and humans have co-existed peacefully at Lake Lowell. Boating, and other forms of recreation, have become almost part of the ecosystem, co-existing peacefully with wildlife since the lake was first filled with water.

492 In the case of Lake Lowell, boaters are using the manmade lake and are sharing the environment with the Fish, birds and other wildlife

493 Over the years we have seen more and new wildlife, herons, pelicans and the return of eagles.
We all seem to coexisting well.

494 Co-EXistence is good. May it continue.....

496 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is questioning whether recreation can coexist with refuge management. The answer is a very firm YES.

499 The geese and human use of this lake has taken place for many years and I really do not see any devastating effect that it has caused on the geese population. I strongly feel that the lake should remain a lake for both human and geese use, not restricted to one species either way.

503 Science is often used to support just one side of a argument. In this case, history has shown it is certainly possible to have a thriving National Wildlife Refuge and recreational boating on Lake Lowell.

506 It has worked fine for all these years, and is (and has been) enjoyed by many. All users and uses seem to co-exist just fine.

508 Everyone can enjoy all of the functions of the lake without having a negative impact on the refuge. If there is a problem or an issue, there is resolution. We can coexist with the refuge present.

509 I can't help but believe that what has occurred over the last 50 years has benefited both the Refuge and all the people who have experienced some aspect of the Lake and the wildlife.

515 For years now, we have coexisted peacefully with the birds and other wildlife at the refuge, and being able to be on the water has gotten us closer to the birds and nature.

519 The refuge and the wildlife have gotten along with the public in the past and I don't see any reason to stop boating, swimming and the recreational use of Lake Lowell.

524 I think it's absurd due to the fact that Lake Lowell has been around for many years
and during those years hunters, boaters and recreationalists have co-existed.

526 I don't think the answer is to close the reservoir off to boating and fishing. Certainly
both activities can co-exist.

531 We have utilized the lake recreationally for over 100 years and respected and
appreciated the refuge and the wildlife.

534 Lake Lowell has always been a great family retreat. We have always taken care of
the lake and the birds, deer, fish are not bothered by the people.

543 There is a beneficial co-existence with the wildlife & recreation. Wildlife seems to
do well.

5 I feel recreation can co-exist with wildlife on refuge.

376 We have all co-existed together for many many years, and to our knowledge it has
not been detrimental to anything.

561 We have used the lake for years and it has not hurt the wildlife we have co-existed
and I think this is great.

564 The lake has provided good clean fun for young people. We might have more time
for kids to get into trouble without water recreations. I don't think we bothered the wildlife.

75 We have all used the Lake both boaters and wildlife it work good. So don't mess it up
and manage the wildlife and rec at same time.

576 I believe that there is plenty of room at the lake to accommodate all and shutting it
down would be a terrible thing for all.

578 I see no reason to change the way the lake was used. Irrigators, recreation, and
wildlife have got along fine for many years.

682 I believe in managing wildlife for future generations, but also maintain the balance of
public use of the refuge.

697 Please don't take away our freedom to use the lake for recreation. We respect
wildlife but they are still living here as well. Both can enjoy and use the resources.

698 Feels we are coexisting but would rather see half the lake closed for wildlife than the
whole thing

165 As population increases throughout the years to come it will be equally important
and beneficial that wildlife has adapted to human surroundings therefore creating a
mutual respect for each other.

702 The Senators feel that the refuge has been manging the coexisting wildlife and
recreation sector very well and feels these nonpriority recreational uses are compatible with the
Refuge's mission.

146 I strongly urge that you maintain a Multi-Use environment for all to enjoy.

713 We have over 100 years invested of proving that this lake with its recreational uses
along with the wildlife we honor, are compatible, have, and can, coexist together.

715 Both can enjoy the lake and have for decades

29 Multiuse is fine. Wildlife should come first though, then recreation

721 Feels the wildlife and the people have been co-existing

723 She doesn't see the disruption from boaters and recreational use

726 The current usage plan for the lake has worked just fine as it is. Boaters have
coexisted with the wildlife at this lake for decades and decades.

Will decrease opportunity to enjoy outdoors

ID Comment

167 We are seeing too many of our citizen rights repealed right now, recreation is one of
the highlights for our Idaho heritage. Water activities in this desert region are vital. I am
sure safeguards are in place to protect the wildlife in the area, education will help keep
them in place.

456 To limit or eliminate these opportunities would be felt by many. To many the refuge
may be the only recreational opportunity they get to enjoy. Swimmers, boaters, water skiers,
and fishermen all have had the opportunity to enjoy the lake and the benefits it provides
to the area.

500 The recreational uses of the area have helped to make the Treasure Valley a more

desirable

place to live and, for many people, have been a major source of entertainment as well as wildlife education and preservation.

Off-refuge Issues

ID	Comment
213 be well	I would think that restricting future development of housing and road building would be well advised.

Planning Process

Definition of priority and nonpriority

ID	Comment
150 (non- foremost activities listed boating the carry a simply a categorize	2. The classification of recreation pursuits into priority (compatible) and non-priority (non-compatible) categories appears to bias your planning against the majority of public recreation activities on the refuge from the onset. While wildlife issues should be of foremost concern in your planning, there is no evidence presented that most of the recreation currently taking place on the refuge is anything but compatible. Many of the activities listed under priority and non-priority overlap and are inseparable. For example, when boating the lake, cross country skiing or jogging on a trail people are viewing the wildlife. If they carry a camera they are participating in wildlife photography. The non-priority activity is simply a means of access for the priority activity. You simply confuse the issue by trying to categorize them.

General Planning Process

ID	Comment
16	He is happy we have elected to take on this management process
109	Doesn't feel like we have any real information to make our decisions for the planning process because of the lack of biological data for the last decade or so.
472 are not	AWA wants to make sure we are complete in all our findings for this report so they taken advantage of when the new laws of the refuge are made.

Predator Management

General Predator Management

ID	Comment
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441 And I never understood why the refuge is closed at night. That is when some of the
best fishing is, and the only time to efficiently remove predators. Please take this into
account when considering new
regulations. We need more opportunities not less. I'm sure if we work together we
can come up with a responsible predator management plan that involves public
participation

Public Safety and Health

ID **Comment**
202 If Lake Lowell closes many people will begin to launch in local
Rivers where boating can be a lot more serious. The county will be handling many
more

HIGH RISK river rescues & DEATHS.. I

Domestic Animals

ID **Comment**
24 doesn't think dogs should be allowed
29 Doesn't think dogs should be allowed on the refuge due to public safety

Fire Management

ID **Comment**
29 Clean up refuge in order to help keeps fires to a minimum.

Trash/Hazards

ID **Comment**
29 Concerned about the smell of dead fish permeating the water, and the amount of
broken glass on the beaches.

Trash/Hazards/Outbreaks

ID **Comment**
29 Watch out for ecoli.

Refuge Access

ID **Comment**
29 Close area to enjoy water sports and fishing.
29 stay open for night fishing,
29 Open up closed areas,
29 Keep gates open as much as possible for visitor usage.

Refuge Administration

ID	Comment
308 just fine	I seems to me that the plan is very unlikely to see many changes. The refuge is doing the way it is now.
308	If there impacts on wildlife they should be addressed.
29	Encourage volunteerism by have specific tasks.
473 use of activities on	Application of the appropriateness and compatibility analyses necessary to approve "nonpriority"public uses can be avoided. An implied easement for public recreational the surface of Lake Lowell clearly exists, dating back to 1906. Alternatively, Canyon County is willing to voluntarily assume certain obligations incident to fee simple ownership in exchange for the public's continued access to recreational Lake Lowell.
473 Lowell preservation hand, a agricultural realities	The DFNWR is geographically and conceptually fragmented. A one-size-fits-all approach to the management of the Snake River Islands and Lake will fail. Management of the former, a truly "natural" resource, should center on of its uniquely favorable wildlife habitat. Management of Lake Lowell, on the other habitat whose characteristics are wholly incidental to its engineered purpose as an irrigation reservoir, should commensurately reflect the economic, social, and cultural that form its very existence.
29	Need areas where birds & animals are not polluted and exploited by humans.
29	Not human priority, but environmental.
<u>Anti-government</u>	
ID	Comment
144 the	Not only does the government have no business on the Deer Flat Refuge, it also has worst record out there for taking care of business.
345	Is this just to get a better job with our government?

General Refuge Administration

ID Comment

26 Would like more public announcements on what activities are being promoted at the different seasons and times when wildlife are most prevalent.

34 Happy with the way the refuge has been managed so far and wishes to see that the refuge remain managed well.

64 They have tried to work with us in helping wildlife but we have refused their help in the past.

21 Make some reasonable rules that allow all users including runners, boaters, fisherman/hunters, bird watchers and the rest to enjoy LL. Then you will have supporters who treasure our resource. Cut off the resource to everyone over idiocy coming out of Washington DC, then you will have nothing but lawbreakers to deal with everyday because people just won't stand for it any more.

147 I feel that limiting current usage of the refuge would have immeasurable negative results. I feel the focus should be on how the Refuge could benefit the community; this is the ideal time for the government to show the people how their tax dollars are working to benefit all of the resources. I think the current management is making an effort to reach out to the community, especially the children to provide education of the refuge and its mission.

73 To assure compatible species and their habitat is being maintained I propose the Idaho Fish and Game should be an equal team player on the proposed management program being drafted. Better yet and save the tax payers a ton of money, turn the entire refuge, it's goals and mission over to Idaho F&G for competent management.

29 I was pleasantly surprised by the availability of refuge volunteers. They were very

Jurisdiction

ID Comment

116 The whole point of lake Lowell was to supply water during the driest part of our season!

Putting restrictions or banning irrigation would also make it harder for farmers to grow their crops.

131 Dam was first constructed for irrigation and boatin and recreating came second.
150 Just how is the jurisdictional issue resolved? Does irrigation trump fish and wildlife
in the lake itself?

192 As I see it... the federal government has no authority to claim oversight over this
area and should leave management of this region to the local people. Uses of the reservoir
include agricultural and recreational.

256 Lake Lowell is not a natural wildlife habitat. It was built for irrigation and rec. use.

258 Since the lake was not made to originally be a wild life reserve but to be a source of
irrigation I see no reason why it should be closed to public use.

277 Lake Lowell was built as an irrigation reservoir many decades ago. It became a
wildlife reserve all on its own, with a little help from its friends.

287 This lake was used for the local farmers for irrigation and then the Wildlife Refuge
was started.

Lack of Administration

ID Comment

281 This lake has been mis-managed for many years, and despite their non-efforts to take
proper care of th is lake, the wildlife has prospered.

29 Wants government to spend more money on hiring more employees to cover the
large Deer Flat area.

29 Feels refuge needs to be better taken care,

694 The number one problem is the lack of management over the last twenty to thirty
years.

Purpose

ID Comment

473 The application of the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997
does not

demand a radical re-imagining of the history. purpose. and use of Lake Lowell.
birds The purpose of DFNWR is to provide a refuge and breeding grounds for migratory
and other wildlife. The physical, biological and seasonal suitability of the DFNWR
primarily benefits wintering waterfowl. The purpose, according to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife

Service, is

"management for wintering waterfowl" See 1987 MOU between USF&W, DFNWR, and

Canyon County, attached.

Numerous resident, breeding and migratory species will benefit from the existence of DFNWR regardless of federally imposed design or management.

Supportative in managing as a refuge

ID	Comment
122 best if they	Dear Refuge Management, I support management of Deer Flat Refuge to provide the protection of all kinds of wildlife and their habitat. I support recreational uses only if they do not interfere with wildlife breeding and related activities.
29	Just do the job with which you have been tasked. It's your responsibility to do what is best for this asset.
29 wildlife and not	I don't understand why the public feels they are being robbed of the lake. It is a refuge. This man made it clear that people need to understand it is a wildlife refuge and not a recreational area.

Special Use Permits

Fee Issues

ID	Comment
8 permit in	IBFN is concerned that smaller fishing groups can't afford the cost of the special use order to have a tournament on the refuge.

Trails

ID	Comment
235	Doesn't want to see walking paths go away.
29	More access to south part of refuge.
29	Again the roads leading nowhere is quite annoying.

General Trails

ID	Comment
14 Cannel and	Establish trails for fishing access and bird watching and hiking along New York

around lake.

19 Jogging & dog walking, mountain biking, horseback riding should be restricted to roads.
would Walking (individual and small groups) maybe not – except for sensitive areas which restrict all access.

26 Wants more walking paths or even a "green belt"

32 More wildlife viewing paths

35 Wants to see trails put in around the refuge for exercise and viewing. He thinks the trails could serve as a fire barrier as well.

36 Lastly, I would like to see some sort of pathway for walking/hiking/horseback riding/biking be introduced in our area, or through our area. Nothing fancy, but as I understand, our area is closed off to any activities at this point.

38 Increased interpretative trails / expeditions to view bird habitat by refuge personnel would be a nice enhancement feature both on the reservoir and on the islands.

74 He and his son love to run on the trails every morning. Don't want these trails to go away.

283 We should examine the opportunity to put in a paved walk/bike path around the entire lake

322 Paths around the Lake should be made more available to the public.

327 Wants More garbage cans along trails

388 trail improvements in and around Access No. 8 so that pedestrians or boat portagers can reach the lake from the access parking lot;

419 It would be a good thing to have better access at Gott's Point for (human-powered) paddlecraft. The current parking area is good - but the available paths to the water are either too long or too steep. Currently, the most direct path is steep and loose dirt - prone to slipping and tripping when carrying even the smallest paddlecraft. The trail is also too narrow, making it difficult to get through the opening in the rock curb without damaging the average canoe or kayak. The most logical improvement - and also likely the least expensive

area to - would be to install steps in the path leading directly from the middle of the parking the water.

430 He is concerned that running these trails will go away because the cross country teams are no longer allowed to come here.

434 I know a lot of support has been given to the water uses at the refuge, but I would like to see the refuge stay open to people wanting to use the trails there for things like walking their dogs, jogging, etc.

444 I would like to see a policy change to allow reasonable group use of the refuges' trail system, specifically to local high school and college Cross-Country teams, for on-trail practices. Therecent exclusion of these teams' ability to occasionally run these trails as a team practice contradicts decades of history and essentially eliminates the only off-road training area of this kind in the county. This team activity has virtually no impact on wildlife, and exclusion is not in the best interest of the public.

526 Last, but not least, the refuge should work with Canyon County to develop a greenbelt around Lake Lowell. This would give more people a chance to appreciate the wildlife refuge and its mission, increase tourism in the area, and radically improve highway safety.

29 Lots of weeds on trails.

29 Would like to see more mtn. bike trails along the south edge of the lake. I like to ride around the lake and must do a lot of it along the busy road. A gravel trail would be great.

29 Wants more trails

29 It's a lake, so it would be nice to have one continuous trail all the way round.

29 I'd like to see more exploratory signs on trails and roads. The signs along the Centennial Trail are excellent and I'd like to see more.

29 Keep trails non-motorized.

Visitor Experience

ID	Comment
206 birds partakes	My husband is a bird watcher and a fly fisherman and thoroughly enjoys seeing the and wildlife he encounters during his activities...and he rarely is in a boat when he of these activities.
29 always	Because you can water ski all summer and shoot ducks all winter and there are geese to watch.
29	Opportunity to interact with nature.
29 see the	Visit every year to see the Osprey and their young. Also enjoy the opportunity to Bald Eagles and hike. The year the website to watch the Osprey is awesome.
29	They provide a peaceful sanctuary for wildlife and humans.
29	It is a joy to be so close to an area where you can see wildlife.v
29 enjoyable. experience.	Likes that there is a designated no wake area which my canoeing & sailing more Don't have all the campgrounds & motor vehicles that deter from the nature
29	Refuge is close to home and provides quick & easy access to lake and public land.
29	Beautiful well kept area. They are natural & full of natures creatures. Love to be out in the "wilds".
29 Love the	Use refuges about 5 days a week, enjoy the peacefulness of the refuge. Refuge has unique blend of recreation for exercise and observation of wildlife. refuge.
29	It's close to home
29	Water ski in summer, shoot ducks in winter. There are always geese to watch.
29	Opportunities to recreate & educate ourselves all in one trip.
29	Environmental education program tours. Observing wildlife & birds.
29 wildlife.	Opportunity to visit nature without taking all of their land, but sharing it with the
29	Close to town, neat to see all the ducks & geese.
29 friendly.	Surprised be availability of refuge volunteers, they were very knowledgeable and Their guidance enhanced my visit.

Provides an opportunity to experience nature in a unique & informative way by minimizing the impact on wildlife, plants and water that humans have while still allowing access to the area.

29 It's kept clean of litter & the wildlife is preserved nicely.

29 It's in an urban setting, most public lands I visit are rural.

General Visitation

ID **Comment**

29 Parking is scarce. There is a dirt lot available. Google maps isnt helpful for finding things on lake lowell.

29 Deer Flat has a very incredible display of taxidermy

29 More opportunities at visitor center.

Visitor Facilities

ID **Comment**

29 More shade areas.

29 Access down to the water's edge is not very family friendly, there needs to be easy access stairs on every beach.

29 Parking lots need refuge cans.

29 I appreciate the clean bathrooms.

29 Would like an overnight area with boat ramp.

29 Dumpsters & bathrooms need to be better maintained.

29 Maintain the facilities for public use.

29 Restrooms filthy, no toilet paper.

29 Restrooms are closed, trash all over the place.

General Visitor Facilities

ID **Comment**

69 Access 7 (Howard's Haven) Low water and an open gate make vehicle access possible to a small but good fishing area at the water's edge. I think this spot should be open in future years.

319 The facilities are all in very good shape and repair.

- 29 Need more handicap spaces.
- 29 Could use more parking on the Upper Dam at Lake Lowell.
- 29 Need a GOOD southside boat ramp.
- 29 There could be better bathroom facilities for handicapped.
- 29 Keep the gates open as much as possible for visitors usage, maintain the facilities for public use.
- 29 Both times I have been there the restrooms were filthy, no toilet paper.
- 29 The restrooms are closed down and trash all over the place.
- 29 Outhouse is disgusting.
- 29 Need more parking for boating.
Visiting, wildlife, boating
- 29 Need more and better restrooms.
- 29 Parking lots need refuge cans.
- 29 More access to south part of refuge

Visitor Center

ID Comment

- 29 Entrance gate is too narrow which can cause problems on busy days.
- 29 Great displays, appreciated the evidence of children's involvement & educational outreach.
It's hard to compare to others, but it is unique in our local area. We were pleased and somewhat surprised at the high quality of the visitor's center.

Visitor Services

ID Comment

- 29 Great displays, appreciated the evidence of children's involvement & educational outreach
Hard to compare to others, but it is unique in our local area. Please and somewhat surprised at the high quality of the visitor center.

General Visitor Services

ID Comment

- 29 Informative map directing us toward beaches, bathrooms and swimming/fishing areas so we don't find out we have reached dead ends, only to have to turn around using more time and gas.

Water Management

General Water Management

- | ID | Comment |
|---------------|--|
| 30
healthy | Wants refuge to ask for better flows on the snake river and the lake to maintain ecosystem |
| 40 | Concerned about water levels and how they affect the wildlife. |
| 385 | THE CCP SHOULD INCLUDE AN ASSESSMENT OF WATER RESOURCES |

Irrigation System

- | ID | Comment |
|--|--|
| 14
irrigation | Agreement with Irrigation Company for longer minimum flows outside of normal season. |
| 271 | SAVE LAKE LOWELL !
The Common Sense Big Six:Preserve irrigation rights

(this person created their own big six) |
| 356
residential & | Will the water level be regulated? How will regulation of water levels impact agricultural irrigation? |
| 455
derived

are

having. | I'm not an expert in this area, but one may speculate about potential benefits to be from more closely matching inflows and outflows over the course of the year. Others are more informed about this topic than myself, but the discussion could be worth |

Water Quality

- | ID | Comment |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 14 | Degraded water quality. |
| 14
Settling | Controls and Water Quality Standards on Irrigation runoff entering Lake Lowell. A Pond System is needed. |
| 16 | Wants to see that irrigation runoff into the lake is tested and kept clean |
| 32 | Promote cleaner water |
| 38 | How does water fowl and animal defecation affect water quality over time? |
| 147
mercury

water | That being the chemicals and silt that is filling the Lake. I also worry about the levels.I feel that your long range plan should give serious consideration to monitorthe |

by a flowing into the Lake for harmful chemicals and a plan to reduce and eliminate them
certain date.

150 Who is responsible for correcting the water quality issues? Can power boating
actually help the dissolved oxygen problem by agitating the water?

157 I have concerns about water quality in the area from farm run off. When I was at the
site last year for a teachers' environmental education workshop, we participated in an
activity gathering water samples only to find out a few days later that a water quality alert
had been issued.

158 If it is truly the intent of the US Fish & Wildlife to improve habitat in the
Management area for the fish and wildlife a much wiser approach would be to fully implement the
Lake Lowell

into TMDL recently drafted. If it were possible reduce the amount of nutrients discharged
lake the lake from surrounding agriculture lands via the various drains flowing into the
focus their impacts would be very beneficial. This is the direction the Fish & Wildlife need to
Area. attention rather than stopping long established uses of the Lake Lowell Management

184 The biggest problem I see with the management
the lake's and long term health of the lake and the surrounding area is the degradation of the
water quality due to the return of once used irrigation into the lake.

199 Boats are not the main polluters of the lake; ducks and geese are the bigger problem,
and have been from time of construction. Shouldn't we also ban their use as well if we
want to restore the lake to some pristine level?

230 The brush and vegetation around the lake is causing water pollution. When the
wind blows it cannot stir the water up in the trees.

293 Granddaughter in 2002 was wading in Lake Lowell (Lower Dam Recreation Area) and
the swallowed lake water and got Giardia...was diagnosed by a specialist .Specialist told

Grace that she has said that numerous Giardia cases come from Lake Lowell.

319 It appears that the water quality is very good and plant infestation is
not a problem.

29 Feels the main problem with the lake is poor water quality because of farm runoff
29 feels the lake is dirty.

463 Please focus on cleaning up the quality of the water so the fish, the birds and we the
people can continue to enjoy the many benefits of Lake Lowell. (If my understanding is
correct, it is the returning irrigation water that is the culprit.)

29 Lake gets very murky in late summer.

710 Some bodies of water have horsepower, type of motor, and specific loading and
unloading guidelines. I have noticed that the water there was so much cleaner and more
pleasant to fish.I think that if you limit animals there then it may keep the water better.

717 The EPA is particularly interested in seeing the US Fish and Wildlife Service
(USFWS) utilize this planning process to recognize water quality as a priority issue for
management within the Deer Flat NWR. the CCP process is the appropriate place to consider
climate change and its potential impact on water quantity and water quality within the refuge.

Recommendations:

- Establish improving water quality as one of the goals of the CCP.
- Examine in the EIS how alternative refuge management practices can improve

water

quality and include appropriate measures in the CCP.

- Work closely with the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to identify and incorporate TMDL implementation activities into refuge management planning.

Please see

the following comments on the nutrient management and carp management for more
specific recommendations.

723 Wants the refuge to dredge the lake to be deeper to improve water quality.

Wildlife Observation

General Birding

ID	Comment
22	Likes watching the new baby eagles with his wife
23	Likes to sit and watch the birds
71	Wants to know if our wildlife viewing lives up to its potential at all.
74 continue	He and his son love to run on the trails while they watch the wildlife. They want to doing this.
292 keep this	we have spent some great times just goinf to the lake and observing the wild life that surrounds it and just appreciating nature in what seems to be a natural habitat. Pls going it would definitely be a shame to see any of it end.
476 lower dam screensaver.	I love to watch the wildlife and sit in silence in the Spring and Fall. Sitting on the in the winter and looking out over the ice at sunset is the wallpaper in my mind's
29	We love to hear the ducks and geese fly over in Spring and Fall.
5	People go to lake to recreate and see wildlife that they would not see otherwise.
29	We often watch for the Bald Eagles and other birds.
29	This refuge is very close to our town and it is neat to see all the ducks and geese.
29	Opportunity to interact with nature.
586	Please don't close lake Lowell because I like bird watching there.

Wildlife/Habitat Management

ID	Comment
147	Another concern that I have is that a number of people use the refuge as a dumping ground. I would like to see a sign on all the refuges that say it's a federal offense to dump trash and a list a fine of \$100.00/500.00. Maybe the state legislators would catch on and pass a law to that effect on all state owned land.
	<u>Depredation</u>
ID	Comment
22 needs	Wants the pelican problem delt with. He feels they are not a non-native species that to be here.
208 of birds	Because of our close location to the lake, we have noticed a rather large population

and slow which have proven to be a problem as well. We allow and even hire hunters to try
daily down the birds which consume our corn and other commodities which we need for
operation. Because of this, we feel that the bird population
needs to be maintained and have a level of population control.

Fencing

ID **Comment**
56 If you want to do something to benefit the waterfowl stop the subdivisions that are
being built within the boundaries of refuge. The refuge is slowly shrinking due to
encroachment of human dwellings. The same should be done with the river banks on the Snake that
are all so with in the refuge boundaries.

Fire Ecology and Management

ID **Comment**
36 I have noticed in the last few years that in this area (south east end of the refuge) that
the overall maintenance has not been taking place. Right now the weeds are so high and
the vegetation is so thick, I'm very concerned during fire season.

General Wildlife/Habitat Management

ID **Comment**
2 Keep the waters closed as you do now to protect the water fowl migration, That I feel
is the only reasonable management plan that has been done.

14 General cleanup. Obstacles of overgrowth and dead fall trees. Dead fall clean up in
New York Cannel.

16 Wants limitation on rec use for wildlife

41 There are a few islands near Weiser that have had some management
practices done in the past, weed/thistle treatments and small plots planted for
wildlife. Patch and Porter islands actually have small tractors parked out on the islands used for such
efforts. I am not sure if this is your agency's effort or possibly Idaho Fish and Game.
It would be great if more work like this could be done in the future.

68 Reduce or eliminate the carp in the lake

- 108 Clean up the lake! Remove dead trees and brush.
- 113 I think it is extremely important to balance the preservation of wildlife with other recreational and hunting activities.
- 22 Feels the refuge needs to be cleared of dead trees
- 147 I feel that the Deer Flat Refuge could use some additional shelter belts west of the Refuge Center to the Lake to bring back Pheasants to the area.
- 271 SAVE LAKE LOWELL !
The Common Sense Big Six: Maintain and enhance existing wildlife habitats

(this person created their own big six)
- 294 Reports from hunters who visit the islands suggest that predator numbers are highly inflated should be enacted to protect waterfowl and other species of concern.
- 313 I think the worst impact on the refuge has been the loss of critical feeding habitat on land peripheral to the refuge, land sold by farmers to greedy developers for the mindless construction of the Idaho gulag ago, I think. The geese, pheasants and mulies struggle much harder to survive than they did years ago, I think.
- 319 The abundance and quality of the wildlife at the lake was superb
- 375 Feels like the upkeep of the lake has been neglected for many years.
- 385 THE CCPMUST CONSIDER AND ANALYZE THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE
- 453 I would like to see areas of Lake Lowell cleaned up and have hardwood tree such as mature, on the Walnut, Maple, Oak, Etc planted. After plantings have been established and they the trees could be harvested for lumber on a rotation to provide income for projects on the refuge.
- 483 Respect the intended purpose of the lake. to provide habitat for migrating birds.
- 545 Pheasant restoration on Lake.
- 574 Get reclamation to fill almost full in the fall so the birds will have more resting habitat. Plant some turkeys around the lake.

694 the decision to remove the cattle this part of the refuge has grown up in weeds, tall
grass and willow patches. Totally uncontrolled.

382 Do something about the poor fishing for perch and crappie. The kids can't catch a
fish from shore anymore and there are no fish left. Poor job managing

41 Please consider treating the dense, overgrown and unnatural accumulations of
vegetation on the Snake River islands with prescribed fire, followed by weed spraying, and seeding
native grasses and other plant species more conducive to productive wildlife habitat as part
of your long term plan for the refuge.

717 Nutrient Management
Agricultural return flows are a significant source of nutrient loading in Lake Lowell .

We recommend that the CCP consider management actions that could be undertaken to
enhance nutrient removal. The following actions are adapted from an existing
TMDL for nutrients in a shallow lake ecosystem. We provide these for your consideration as
you develop alternatives:

Recommendations:

- Document how the Lowell Lake Refuge is managed, for example, water temperatures, depth, etc. and investigate the ability to modify wetland structure and/or water flow to advance water quality improvements.
- Identify water delivery and drainage system configurations in the Deer Flat Refuge that would optimize wetland function.
- Promote organic farming around the Deer Flat Refuge to decrease nutrient loads.
- Investigate and identify ways to use existing and future wetlands to provide wildlife habitat and improve water quality with the goal of achieving TMDL load allocations.
- Maximize the restoration and protection of riparian areas and permanent wetlands.
- Evaluate the potential for wetland management activities to improve water quality and pursue activities that will reduce nutrients (e.g., monitor wetland enhancement projects within the Refuge to determine the impact on nutrient loads).
- Promote fertilizer management plans to achieve TMDL load allocations.
- Explore opportunities to recycle water (and nutrients) in the Refuge area with a

goal of
maximizing water quality improvements.

Invasive/Non-native Species

ID	Comment
2 bad weeds	The main thing is water,, keep enough water to maintain there habitat, kill out the that have over grown the lake due to bad management.
14	Tick infestation. Puncture weed and thistle infestation.
20 dam in of the olive tree	i wish that the refuge would take care of there canadian thisel right below the upper the tullu patch on lake ave.. its starting to bloom and blow.plus i am removing some thorn trees on the other side of the rd where the creek is.i hear now that a russian or i call as a thorn tree is a noxious tree.
36 noxious refuge even refuge's	I also viewed a commercial on local TV warning us about the danger of a new weed that is now in Idaho. This weed is the same weed that I now see going in your and bordering our property line. I have sprayed this weed within our property, and sprayed the 6 foot tall weed on the refuge side, but I have not seen an effort on the part to take care of this weed that was on the commercial.
38 chemicals.	It appears smart weed competes with the water resource and should not be allowed to spread past its current boundaries. Believes we can use Elimination of non-native species and plants to protect native wildlife populations should be an important priority.
53 Ferry.	Wants us to finally remove the White Top growing on the islands below Walter's Ferry.
82 on the	This man wants us to pay bigger attention to the amount of noxious weeds that exist refuge as well as the chemicals being sprayed on them in order to control the spread.
134	Take care of noxious weeds.
143 This will	South side of lake: use goats to clear out the underbrush. Spray the noxious weeds. open up the shoreline for the public.

- 148 Management of the noxious weeds, mosquitos. and diseases that lie in the unmanaged areas are far more dangerous to our wildlife and community than boating.
- 186 Feels like the refuge needs a long term noxious weed plan
- 195 Noxious weed and invasive species control should be a major emphasis in the CCP.
- 235 He wants removal of goat heads between Tio Ln. and Gott's Point so he can ride his bikes there with his children.
- 145 If the refuge managers were really concerned about the habitat on the lake they would remove the noxious weeds on the south and west sides on the lake that's choking off the habitat from the lake.
- 294 For the two decades or more, virtually no weed control or other management has been done on the islands. As a result, the habitat quality of many of the islands has been severely degraded. Additional management of nesting structures, especially for geese, needs to be done on a regular basis. Many of the structures are currently unusable due to encroachment of invasive trees such as Russian Olive
- 326 Clean up noxious weeds around lake.
- 143 Allow grazing on south side of lake for a short period during summer months to control weeds so people can use it as a park area.
- 474 I would like to see better management of the islands in the river section of the refuge. They are overgrown and ripe with noxious weeds. It is time to start burning them again. These could provide much better habitat with management that would simulate flooding.
- 487 Control of the cat tail/reeds that are quickly taking over the shoreline. Is it against the federal govt and other environmental factions to remove anything that is growing?
- 29 This is the only body of water around here, you should be more concerned with overgrown terrain and noxious weeds.
- 29 Need more effort in controlling goathead.

Lack of Biological Studies

ID	Comment
147 refuge The mission.	I understand there can be an argument over the human usages and purpose of the but I prefer to ask the question is there a negative impact, to the purpose and usage. The point being that the "usage" of Lake Lowell has not had a negative impact on your mission.
150 recreationists that	You have not displayed any evidence of conflict between wildlife and the recreationists that would warrant a change from present management practices.
162 years. his	His question to her historical data for nesting with her response that they have not had a biologist on staff for Beck's comments questioned the ability to draft a CCP without proper data? Over all his comments were concern for the accuracy and ability to manage.
203 based on data	Before limiting any use of the refuge, I strongly urge you to make sound decisions based on scientific data for this particular area. You should not base your decisions based on from other areas or on public perception.
162 your result of a make a wildlife?	The key is monitoring and evaluating your data over a period of time. then checking results across the region or district to see if your data is comparable with other refuges. Declines in nesting of water fowl may not be the your activities but a larger issue with the birds throughout the northwest migratory region.Her statement infers the refuge can not do bird management activities without a biologist. Without any refuge historical data over the past 10 years, how do you make a decision on which activities have a positive or negative impact on the nesting wildlife?
580 past that public	There does not appear to be a documented negative impact to wildlife resulting from public use of the Refuge. Until the US Fish and Wildlife has irrefutable evidence that public use is harming the Refuge, please do not change the public use policy

Recreational Use Limitations

ID	Comment
31	Wants the eastern end of the lake to have limited or no access for recreational use because
	of the amount of wildlife that live in that area.

Trash and Dumping

ID	Comment
308	There may be problems other than trash and garbage, which I think is major, that I am not aware of.
29	Litter is a problem; charge an exit fee of a bag of trash you picked up.
29	Team up with Canyon County and use inmates to clean up garbage, graffiti and bathrooms.