



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Eastern Region • Region 1 • 2315 North Discovery Place, Spokane Valley, WA 99216-1566
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October 11, 2021

Albert Pool
President, Sacheen Lake Association
PO Box 401
Newport, WA 99156

Dear Mr. Pool:

Steve Pozzanghera asked that I reply to you concerning your letter dated September 22, 2021, about low water levels causing issues with use of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Sacheen Lake Access Area's boat launch.

I consulted with our Access Area supervisor, Daniel Dziekan, who maintains the Sacheen Lake Access Area and is familiar with that boat ramp. Shane Belson, WDFW statewide Water Access Area coordinator, further discussed the issue with WDFW construction engineer John Hansen. Hansen noted that the ramp could have benefitted from an estimated additional 12 feet in length, when constructed. Hansen believes a fix may be doable with permitting and funding, which would come from biennially recurring WDFW "ramp plank" funds.

I worked with Dziekan and Belson to place the WDFW Sacheen Lake boat ramp onto WDFW's statewide ramp plank project proposal list. The list is for the current state biennium, which runs through June 30, 2023. Now that the Sacheen Lake ramp is on the list, barring any unforeseen issues, I expect the planks will be installed during this biennium. WDFW's Capital Asset Management Program (CAMP), will be arranging engineering, permitting and installation of the ramp extension.

Unfortunately, there is no "quick and easy" way to immediately lengthen the boat ramp at Sacheen Lake. I am encouraging CAMP to complete this work in 2022, but there are competing priorities and unfortunately there's no guarantee of a set completion date.

Thank you for bringing this low water/drought-related problem to WDFW. We are often unaware of user concerns at our public sites until someone speaks up. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance or if you would like periodic updates.

Sincerely,

Juli Anderson
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