



USDA Forest Service
Pacific Southwest Region
Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit



Proposed Action for Scoping of the
Zephyr Cove Pier Replacement Project
Douglas County, Nevada

Location:

This project is located at Zephyr Cove Resort off of Highway 50 on the East shore of Lake Tahoe in Douglas County, Nevada.

Existing Condition:

The pier at Zephyr Cove Resort is approaching the end of its engineered life and is in need of replacement.

Desired Condition:

Continued operation of a pier that meets health and safety, and building codes. This pier is needed in this area to support the recreation opportunity provided by the marina operation of Zephyr Cove Resort and the M.S. Dixie. This pier will not increase capacity of the marina or charter operations.

Purpose and Need:

There is a need to provide a health and safety code compliant structure in the existing location that meets current building codes.

Proposed Action:

The Proposed Action is to replace the current pier with a similar size structure. Partial engineering plans are attached to this Proposed Action (the full set of engineering plans are available on the project website at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/lbmu/ZephyrCovePierReplacement>). The new pier would be approximately the same size as the existing pier which is 358 feet long by 18 feet wide (which includes the fueling dock described below). The current fueling dock structure (approximately 208 feet long by 6 feet wide) will be re-used with the new pier and would be connected by gangways from the new structure. Water, sewer, electrical, gas and fire department lines would be run through the new pier from existing connections on shore. The existing wooden pilings would be replaced with steel pilings which have a longer lifespan. Connected actions include replacing the abutment on shore to anchor the pier to land.

The impact to residents and visitors would be minimal as construction would take place during the fall/winter months.

Project Design Features identified through the NFMA process include:

- Install appropriate BMP's during the replacement of the pier. Erosion control measures may include but will not be limited to: silt fence, straw wattles, coir logs, mulching, sand/gravel bags, and construction limit fencing.
- Soil disturbing activities will not occur after October 15 or before May 1 unless a grading exemption is applied for and approved by TRPA.
- Store construction materials at designated staging areas that are paved or have experienced previous ground disturbance. Any ground disturbance caused at staging areas will be restored following project activities.
- Implement Spill prevention and clean-up of hazardous materials in accordance with the LTBMU Spill Notification and Response Plan (for emergency spills) or with USFS BMPs for non-emergency spills (USDA 2012).
- Post public notices around the resort in advance of construction to inform the public of construction activities and restricted areas.
- Place construction fencing around construction and staging area perimeters to deter users from entering those areas during implementation.
- Limit construction activities that involve the use of heavy equipment or motorized tools to the hours of 7:00 am – 6:30 pm.
- Display construction scheduling and contact information at the resort and on construction fencing.
- Construct the pier of materials that blend with existing site design and environment through the use of native materials and neutral colors.
- Use lighting fixtures that are Dark Sky compliant.
- Complete a Noxious Weed Risk Assessment for this project and include any noxious weed design features necessary.
- TRCD may survey for aquatic invasives.
- Inspect any boats launched for construction of the pier for aquatic invasive species prior to launch at a TRPA approved inspection station unless already approved for launch by TRPA.
- Protect any known populations of Tahoe Yellow Cress that could be affected by displaced recreationists due to construction activities with construction limit fencing.
- Post signs highlighting leash laws on the pier.

Anticipated level of NEPA & Decision to be made:

A Documentation of Decision will be prepared for this project. The proposed category is: 31.12 (5), Repair and maintenance of recreation sites and facilities (36 CFR 220.6(d)(5)).

This project fits within this category because the pier is part of the Zephyr Cove Resort developed recreation site. This category does not require notice and comment per the March 19, 2012 order issued by the U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of California in Case No. CV F11-679LJO DLB.

Implementation Date:

Work could begin as early as this fall and would take several months to complete.