



Miller, Linda <linda_l_miller@fws.gov>

Following up on Speed Alley area

6 messages

(b)(6)

Fri, Nov 14, 2014 at 9:49 PM

To: "Miller, Linda" <linda_l_miller@fws.gov>

Cc: "Rice, Steve" <steve_rice@fws.gov>

Hi Linda,

I'm touching bases regarding the Speed Alley area of the Reserve exiting from Castle Rock/Lake Havasu N. area re: buoy lines and ski boats. You had explained things would not move too fast, but you would be working on it for upcoming action. Please advise on the situation and what progress is being made re: safety in the area exiting the quiet waters of the reserve from Castle Rock to Mesquite Bay.

Throughout the Spring & Summer, now into Fall, there have been many instances of boats and jet skis speeding through the area and very close to paddlers. The jet skiers routinely go back and forth through the reeds where the birds are resting, and later will be nesting. One group of 6 PWC's ripped back and forth repeatedly through the reeds. There was no way they could have seen if anyone would have been in their path as they would be completely out of sight, then come crashing out into the open water.

On more than one occasion we've been paddling in the area and a number of jet skis will appear, split to "wake" us on both sides. When a "camera" (or what appears to them evidently as a camera) is held up, they throttle back, avert faces and turn away. It is very scary. They are going fast and impossible to get ID's.

Paddlers are forced off many areas of the lake/river during all recent speed events. During these events the non-motorized launch at Mesquite Bay and Castle Rock areas are utilized - or paddlers just stay off the river. Thankfully these areas exist.

Thank you in advance for help with this,

(b)(6)

Miller, Linda <linda_l_miller@fws.gov>

Wed, Nov 26, 2014 at 11:11 AM

To: (b)(6)

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My apologies for the delay in responding, it's been crazy busy between the two refuges.

After discussing altering the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) with our law enforcement staff and the Regional Office, it became apparent that we would be able to propose an administrative change rather than change the CFR. Basically, I will be drafting a proposal and putting it out for public comment and review for a period of 30-60 days. It is my plan to work on drafting the proposal over the holidays while things are "relatively quiet" and I have few other competing deadlines to distract me. I will let you know when the proposal is finalized and out for public comment.

Linda L. Miller
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