Eastern Sanders County Conservation District
Dock & Boat Ramp Density Guidelines

1. **The density of boat ramps and boat rail systems for use by residential land owners will not exceed one (1) per mile, without special consideration and approval by Eastern Sanders County Conservation District. If the proposed location for a private boat ramp is within three (3) miles of a public boat ramp, a private, residential boat ramp will not be approved.**

2. **The density of docks for use by residential land owners will not exceed ten (10) per mile.**

3. **To maintain densities at or below these levels, shared use docks and boat ramps are strongly encouraged, and in some instances, required.** Common stream bank dock facilities shared by two or more owners are encouraged, as such facilities reduce the overall environmental impacts on the streambed and bank and ease navigational congestion on the stream.

4. All docks and ramps will be reviewed on an on-site basis. The following, among other things, will be considered:
    - Current
    - Water Depth
    - Stream Width
    - Stream Configuration
    - Soils
    - Bank Configuration

5. Floating docks will not be allowed in the water until after high water and must be removed prior to October 1st each year.

6. Construction in the area of a stream will be such as not to concentrate run-off into the stream.

7. Boat ramps have a potential to increase sedimentation in the stream and diminish water quality. Boat rail systems, if properly installed, generally have an insignificant impact on the stream and its banks.

8. Footings and/or the base of a boat ramp shall be constructed below the pre-existing grade of the stream bank.

9. All material excavated from the stream to construct the boat ramp, and not used as ramp foundation material, shall be immediately and completely removed from the floodplain and deposited in such a manner as to prohibit its re-entry into the stream. Major excavations (>50 cubic yards) will only be considered for shared boat ramps.

10. Boat ramps shall be of the same elevation as the pre-construction streambed and banks, except that maximum grade shall not exceed 15% regardless of the stream bank.

11. Concrete boat ramp edges shall be thickened to a minimum of twice the average thickness of the ramp in order to prevent erosive undercutting or breaking of ramp edges.

12. Launching rails shall be suitably anchored to the stream bottom.

13. The rails of a rail launching system shall not exceed four (4) inches in height and the rail system shall lie on and follow the grade of the existing streambed and banks. No portion of the rail shall extend more than eighteen (18) inches above the immediately adjacent land.

This Dock & Boat Ramp Density Guidelines was duly adopted by the Eastern Sanders County Conservation District Board of Supervisors on 10·14·2026

Signed: Don J Feist
Chairman

Signed: _____
Vice-Chairman

Signed: Doug King
Supervisor

Signed: Ronald H Warren
Supervisor

Signed: _____
Supervisor