BOATING FACT SHEET

KINGS BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA GENERAL PLAN AND PIER REBUILD PROJECT

https://www.parks.ca.gov/plankbsra

California State Parks and California Tahoe Conservancy are revising the Kings Beach State Recreation Area (KBSRA) General Plan. One issue to address is the future of boating at KBSRA, including the existing boat ramp on Coon Street.

Existing Conditions

- KBSRA offers launch opportunities for trailered and car-top boats. Due to the area's shallow lake bed, low water conditions have forced closure of the boat ramp for trailer launching often in the past 20 years. No trailer launching has been available since 2012, and since 2008 the ramp has been closed 75% of the time. The 200± feet long fixed pier is completely out of the water most years. Climate models suggest future periods of extended low lake level.
- The SRA offers 22 boat trailer parking spaces which overflow when the ramp is open. A recent major community-wide street improvement project reduced nearby overflow parking. Thus, trailer parking, and therefore launching access, will be more restricted in the future than it has been in the past.
- Limited public boat launching exists in North Tahoe as shown below. Protecting boating access for the general public is a recreation goal for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and California State Parks.
- Recent parking expansion at Tahoe Vista Recreation Area (TVRA) was intended to expand public access, focusing improvements at the only sheltered public boat launching facility at the north end of Lake Tahoe. Siltation of the harbor entrance and generally low water conditions have prevented trailered boat launching since renovation occurred.
- Sand Harbor boat ramp was open early in the 2016 boating season but has been closed since July due to low water.

North Shore Public Boat Launching Facilities

NAME	MANAGED BY	ANNUAL BOAT RAMP LAUNCHES	CAR-TOP BOAT LANDING	BOAT TRAILER PARKING	REGULAR PARKING	CAR-TOP BOAT STORAGE	CAR-TOP BOAT RENTAL	PIER SUPPORTS BOATING
KBSRA Coon St	California State Parks	210 (range 60-377 in 2001-12)	YES	22	155	NO	YES	YES
TVRA	North Tahoe PUD	8,940 EST	YES	24	42	NO	YES	NO
Lake Forest Beach	Tahoe City PUD	5,010 (range 4476-5801 in 2013-2016)	YES	36 appx	6 appx	YES	YES	NO
Sand Harbor SP	Nevada State Parks	3,734 (2010-2013). Closed 2014-5.	YES	65	15	NO	YES	NO

Alternative Boating Elements Summary

- Pier. All concept alternatives include rebuilding the pier to reach navigable water even in low water conditions. The pier design includes extending the length of the pier up to 600 feet with both fixed and floating sections. This would provide universal access to KBSRA for boaters in most years. Three alternative locations are: retain and extend the existing pier in the center of the SRA; replace the existing boat ramp with an eastern pier; or relocate the pier to the west adjacent to the existing North Tahoe Events Center.
- Boat Ramp. All concept alternatives retain boating access to Lake Tahoe with two of the three shifting it to non-motorized boats only.
  1. Existing boating access. This alternative retains existing boating access. The launch ramp will continue to be limited by low water conditions and lack of sufficient trailer parking. The site area devoted to launch ramp facilities will be underutilized during periods of closure.
  2. Non-motorized boat ramp. This alternative eliminates motorized boat launching and restricts launch ramp use to lighter, shallow draft non-motorized watercraft.
  3. No boat ramp. Removing the boat ramp entirely allows continued car-top boat launching from the beach or the rebuilt pier, and reduces potential conflicts between swimmers, car-top boats and motorized boats during high water. Trailered boats would not be able to launch from the SRA, but could tie up at the floating pier.

★ = Public boat ramp

COON STREET BOAT RAMP 2015

KINGS BEACH PIER 2015