

HMOffsuite's comment re: docks on Coeur d'Alene Indian Tribe part of Lake Coeur d'Alene:

I heard of a situation today that cause me some concern. It seems that the Tribe now licenses/registers/regulates/taxes or whatever the docks that people have who happen to be in the Tribe part of the lake. For some reason, the docks have become a liability to their owners, in some cases. In any case, the owners want to get rid of them. Either to avoid fees or mandated repairs or something like that. Since flood levels draw more stuff off the shorelines, the lake is usually trashed during the flood event. So, the addition of a few unwanted docks may add to the lake debris during the flood. If a floating dock happens to wash up on another homeowners property, he is then liable for the removal and destruction of the unwanted dock. That could amount to hundreds of dollars. The owners that release them take any tags or whatever off the dock so it can't be traced back to them. Nobody will step up to the plate to assist in the cost of removing these docks. No departments or agencies are able to pitch in, as I understand it. Frankly, I think if the docks originated in Tribal waters, the tribe would assume some of this liability for the docks. Maybe one of the posters here that are knowledgeable of Indian affairs can speak to this situation.