



---

**INSTRUCTIONS**  
**MARINE EVENT PERMIT**  
Permit Fee: Buoys - \$50.00 (SLAP 22.62)  
Charitable Organization – No Charge (SLAP 22.63)

---

**Statute:** NRS 488.261, 488.305  
NAC 488.495, 488.500

**Permit Requirement**

Any person who wants to conduct a regatta or other boat race, marine parade, tournament, exhibition, or a marine event with or without buoys, on any waters of this state shall first secure a permit from the Department.

**Application**

An application for a Marine Event Permit may be obtained from any office of the Department of Wildlife. The application must be received at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled event.

NOTE: Permit and fee requirements do not apply within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Lakes Mead and Mojave). Refer to Superintendent, **LMNRA**, 601 Nevada Highway, Boulder City, NV 89005.

**Denial of Application**

Whenever an application is denied, the Department will notify the applicant in writing of the reason for the denial.

**Where to Send the Application**

A complete application for a Marine Event Permit shall be submitted to the Regional Office of the administrative region where the event will be conducted. A diagram of the area to be utilized and all steps taken to ensure the safety of all participants, observers and spectators, whether afloat or on land, must be submitted with the application.

## **PERTINENT STATUTES AND REGULATIONS**

**NRS 488.261 Mooring buoy: Permit for placement in nonnavigable waters; permit for temporary placement; regulations and enforcement.**

1. The Department may issue to any person a permit to place a mooring buoy in the nonnavigable waters of this state. The Department shall charge and collect a fee in the amount set by the Commission for each permit issued pursuant to this subsection. Unless suspended or revoked by the Department, a permit issued pursuant to this subsection is valid through December 31 of the year in which it is issued. Such a permit may be renewed annually by paying the fee set by the Commission on or before January 1 of each year.

2. The Department may issue a permit for the temporary placement of a buoy, other than a navigational aid, for practice courses or marine events. The Department shall charge and collect a fee in the amount set by the Commission for each permit issued pursuant to this subsection. Unless suspended or revoked by the Department, a permit issued pursuant to this subsection is valid for the period indicated on the face of the permit which must not exceed 6 months.

3. The Commission shall adopt by regulation fees for:

(a) The issuance and renewal of permits for mooring buoys pursuant to subsection 1 which must not be more than \$100 for each buoy per year.

(b) The issuance of permits for the temporary placement of buoys for practice courses or marine events pursuant to subsection 2 which must not be more than \$50 per buoy.

4. The Commission may:

(a) Adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of NRS 488.257 to 488.285, inclusive; and

(b) Establish a schedule of administrative fines for the violation of those regulations which may be assessed in addition to any criminal penalties for the same act.

5. The Department is responsible for the enforcement of the laws of this state governing mooring buoys and may:

(a) Revoke or suspend a permit for a mooring buoy issued pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 or by the Division of State Lands of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources if:

(1) The person responsible for the buoy fails to comply with all applicable statutes and regulations concerning the buoy; or

(2) The buoy becomes a hazard to navigation.

(b) Remove any mooring buoy determined to be unlawfully placed.

6. This section does not require an agency of this state or the United States Government to obtain written authorization to place, move, remove, destroy or tamper with buoys or navigational aids on the navigable waters of this state.

**NRS 488.305 Authority of Department to authorize events; regulations concerning safety; application for permission; reimbursement of Department; contents of application; compliance with federal law.**

1. The Department may authorize the holding of regattas, motorboat or other boat races, marine parades, tournaments or exhibitions on any waters of this state. The Commission shall adopt regulations concerning the safety of motorboats and other vessels and persons thereon, either observers or participants.

2. At least 30 days before a regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament or exhibition is proposed to be held, the person in charge thereof must file an application with the Department for permission to hold the regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament or exhibition. No such event may be conducted without the written authorization of the Department.

3. The Director of the Department may require an applicant, or the sponsor of the event, as a condition of the approval of a regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament or exhibition, to enter into an agreement to reimburse the Department for expenses incurred by the Department to ensure that the event is conducted safely, including, without limitation, expenses for equipment used, expenses for personnel and general operating expenses.

4. The application must set forth the date, time and location where it is proposed to hold the regatta, motorboat or other boat race, marine parade, tournament or exhibition, the type of vessels participating, the number and kind of navigational aids required and the name of a person who will be present at the event to ensure that the conditions of the permit are satisfied.

5. The provisions of this section do not exempt any person from compliance with applicable federal law or regulation.

**NAC 488.460 Maximum noise level for operation of motorboats; fee for certain permits. (NRS 488.045, 501.181, 501.243)**

1. A person shall not operate a motorboat in such a manner as to exceed:

(a) A noise level of 86 dB(A) measured at a distance of 50 feet or more from the motorboat as prescribed in Society of Automotive Engineers Standards, SAE J34;

(b) For engines manufactured:

(1) Before January 1, 1993, a noise level of 90 dB(A) when subjected to a stationary sound level test conducted in accordance with Society of Automotive Engineers Standards, SAE J2005; and

(2) On or after January 1, 1993, a noise level of 88 dB(A) when subjected to a stationary sound level test conducted in accordance with Society of Automotive Engineers Standards, SAE J2005; or

(c) A noise level of 75 dB(A) measured as specified in Society of Automotive Engineers Standards, SAE J1970, except that a measurement of noise level that is in compliance with this paragraph does not preclude the conducting of a test of noise level pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b),

unless he has a permit issued in accordance with paragraph (d) of subsection 3 of NRS 488.195 or subsection 4 of NRS 488.195. The fee for a permit issued in accordance with paragraph (d) of subsection 3 of NRS 488.195 is \$25.

2. A person shall not operate or give permission for the operation of any motorboat in or upon the waters of this state if the motorboat is equipped with an altered muffler, muffler cutout, muffler bypass or any other device designed or installed so that it can be used continually or intermittently to bypass any muffler or muffler

system installed on the motorboat, or to reduce or eliminate the effectiveness of such a muffler or muffler system.

3. A person shall not remove, alter or otherwise modify in any way a muffler or muffler system installed on a motorboat in such a manner as to prevent the muffler or muffler system from being operated in accordance with this section.

4. A peace officer authorized to enforce the provisions of this section who has reason to believe that a motorboat is being operated in violation of the noise levels established in this section may direct the operator of the motorboat to submit the motorboat to an on-site test to measure noise level. An operator of a motorboat who receives a request from a peace officer pursuant to this subsection to test the noise level of the motorboat shall allow the motorboat to be tested. If, based on a test to determine the noise level of a motorboat administered pursuant to this section, the noise level of the motorboat exceeds the decibel levels established in this section, the peace officer shall direct the operator of the motorboat to take immediate and reasonable measures to correct the violation, including, without limitation, returning the motorboat to a mooring and keeping the motorboat at the mooring until the motorboat no longer operates in violation of this section.

5. A copy of the conditions and restrictions for conducting a test of noise levels to determine if a motorboat is in violation of the maximum noise levels set forth in this section may be obtained free of charge from the main or any regional office of the division.

**NAC 488.500 Diagram of course for main event required with application for permission; fee required; waiver of fee.**

1. The person in charge of any marine event must enclose with his application to the division for permission to hold a marine event a diagram of the course showing the placement of safety patrols and a description of all other steps taken to ensure the safety of all participants, observers and spectators, whether afloat or on land.

2. The fee for a marine event is \$50. The fee will be waived if the applicant is required to obtain a permit for the temporary placement of buoys for marine events pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NAC 488.495.

**Where to Send the Application:** Submit your application and fee to the appropriate office listed below.

Western Region

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
Special Licenses and Permits  
1100 Valley Rd, Reno, NV 89512  
Telephone: (775) 688-1500  
Counties: Carson City, Churchill, Douglas,  
Humboldt, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey,  
Washoe

Southern Region

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
4747 Vegas Dr.; Las Vegas, NV 89108  
Telephone: (702) 486-5127  
Counties: Clark, Esmeralda, Lincoln, Nye

Eastern Region

Nevada Department of Wildlife  
60 Youth Center Road; Elko, NV 89801  
Telephone: (775) 777-2300  
Counties: Elko, Eureka, Lander, White Pine