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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Little Rock District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

LRDOM 1145-2-1

Office Memorandum
No. 1145-2-1

27 March 1985

Project Operations
CONVERSION OF FLOATING CABINS

1. Purpose. This memorandum provides the policies and procedures for the conversion of floating cabins.
2. Applicability. This regulation applies to all projects in the Little Rock District.
3. References:
 - a. Part 327.3e, Title 36, Chapter III, Code of Federal Regulations.
 - b. Section 6, Public Law 97-140 dated 29 December 1981.
4. Definition. Floating cabins are defined as private floating recreation facilities fitted with sleeping accommodations, cooking, heating, and similar amenities conducive to human habitation, but incapable of self-propulsion.
5. Policy.
 - a. General. Floating cabins which are either on a lake under the terms of a permit or being cared for by a commercial concessionaire must be removed from the lake by 31 December 1989, converted to a facility for the mooring of boats, or made capable of self-propulsion.
 - b. Conversion to Boat Docks. Floating cabins that are converted to a boat dock must be moored in an approved limited development area and must have all siding removed to preclude future human habitation. Any enclosed locker left after alterations are completed will be no larger than required for the storage of oars, life preservers, fishing gear, battery and charger, and other items essential to the operation of the boat dock. Normally the locker will not exceed 3'-0" X 4'-0" in size.
 - c. Conversion to Self-Propelled Vessels. Floating cabins converted to a self-propelled vessel must be moored at an approved location and meet the following criteria:
 - (1) Valid state registration is required.
 - (2) Lights must meet state requirements for the appropriate vessel class.

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(3) Appropriate whistles, bells, or horns will be provided for the proper vessel class.

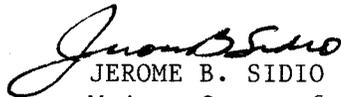
(4) Flotation for the vessel will either be composed of a hard shell material such as a plastic, fiberglass, or metal plate type hull or hard shell pontoons appropriately sized for the weight of the vessel. Flotation consisting of styrofoam logs, barrels, or other shapes of styrofoam and metal drums are unacceptable flotation materials. These materials can either be easily pierced, break apart, or float out from under the vessel while it is underway and would litter the lake and cause the vessel to become a safety hazard to the occupants as well as other users of the lake.

(5) The operator of the vessel must have visibility of not less than 180 degrees forward, and the vessel will have provision whereby the operator can see to the rear on either side when making turns or docking.

(6) All toilets must meet Coast Guard requirements for floating vessels. Waste water from kitchen sink, lavatory, and shower must be captured in a holding tank so that it can be removed and disposed of away from the lake waters to prevent contamination and pollution of the lake.

6. Advance Plans. Plans for the conversion of a floating cabin to either a boat dock or a vessel capable of self-propulsion should be submitted well in advance of the 31 December 1989 deadline so that approval can be obtained from the Resident Engineer/Manager and all alterations completed prior to that date.

FOR THE DISTRICT ENGINEER:


JEROME B. SIDIO
Major, Corps of Engineers
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DISTRIBUTION A