

September 17, 2009

Dear Commissioners:

I am contacting you to file a formal objection to the abolishment of the no wake zone in Bayview, ID. I am a part-time resident of Bayview and have been enjoying Lake Pend Oreille and Bayview since I have been 5 years old, which make 55 years. I remember, as a child, accelerating to cruising speed, in my parents boat, just past the last dock at Boilou's resort, with a lot less boats, people and homes on the water than there are now. Leaving Bayview today, by boat, one can see many float houses and moored boats that will be greatly impacted by waves created by boats, of all sizes, accelerating to cruising speed. A 28 foot boat, which there are many that size and larger, can produce a 3 to 4 foot wave as they accelerate to cruising speed. Imagine having lunch or dinner in your beautiful float home, holding your beverage so it won't spill, as it rocks back and forth with boat waves. It would be like a continuous earthquake in your home on land. The large amount of float houses in Bayview make it very unique. These homes are connected to a water supply, electrical supply and also a sewage line. Continuous rocking with boat waves will cause undue stress, and possible breakage of these critical systems. Storms do create waves, but not everyday, all day, and as a rule, 1 to 2 feet high at the most. The short trip in and out of the bay at 5 to 6 m.p.h. is not much of an inconvenience, I have been doing it for years. If a boater is in a hurry to get up to speed there are other options, launch at Eagle Marina in Farragut Park or moor your boat at Garfield Bay where the no wake area is much smaller. Looking at the docks and boat houses inside the no wake zone, one can see that they are all designed differently than the docks outside of the no wake zone toward Cape Horn. Continuous waves from boats will cause unnecessary damage and stress to these, very expensive, docks and boat houses now located in the no wake zone. I have spent most of this letter talking about waves and congestion, I will add, quickly, the noise level of boats and personal water craft running at full throttle will be intolerable as it echoes off the beautiful mountain and hillsides surrounding Bayview.

I know this letter is a little lengthy, but this is a very important subject. I could say much more, however I feel the points made here are some of the most important. I can't think of any positive reasons for eliminating the no wake zone in Scenic Bay. Thank you for you time and for reading this letter.

Sincerely:

Dennis Tonhofer