



Timberlake Fire Protection District

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September 14, 2009

**Kootenai County Commissioners
451 Government Way
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814**

Subject: No Wake Zone, Scenic Bay, Bayview

Dear Commissioners:

The No Wake Zone in Scenic Bay provides a much needed level of safety to persons and property. The bay contains a high concentration of aging floating structures including over 100 floating homes, over 60 boat sheds, hundreds of moored boats, two floating fuel stations, and several businesses. Most of the floating docks and structures are old, brittle, easily damaged, and under constant repair. Adding more unwanted movement is dangerous, will cause damage, and increase the risk of fire and injury. Sewer lines and fuel lines would become more susceptible to breaking, creating major hazardous materials and public health emergencies.

There are many small watercraft users in Scenic Bay who stay inside the no wake zone for their own safety. Once outside of the no wake zone, it is easy to get overcome by the waves generated by passing boats, even when trying to stay close to shore.

When responding to emergencies, our fire boat has to violate the no wake law. It is shocking to see how our wake agitates the floating structures and vessels.

Compared to other area lakes, we have very few boating collisions and resulting injuries. We fear that removing the no wake zone will create a higher need for the fire district to respond to emergencies in the bay, particularly during the busy summer weekends.

Part of the fire district's mission is to prevent emergencies; therefore we strongly oppose any reduction to the Scenic Bay No Wake Zone.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Krill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jack Krill, Fire Chief