

Dear Commissioner Tondee,

As a 35-year home and boat owner in Bayview and now 13-year full-time resident, I want to tell you about the importance of maintaining the No Wake Zone in Scenic Bay. I live on the Cape Horn peninsula and have personal knowledge of the damage boat traffic does to homeowner's lakeshore property plus the safety hazards it presents to us when trying to swim, canoe and kayak in the lake. You'd think that in such a large lake there would be plenty of room for all (which there is) and that all boat operators would realize the jeopardy that their excessive speed places on others (but they don't). I believe too many people today exist in their own little worlds and give too little regard to others.

Thus it has been wonderful that the bay has been protected to some extent by the existing No Wake Zone. It protects erosion to the shoreline, damage to docks and boats, as well as many potential accidents in a place where more boat congregate. The few extra minutes required to boat slower through that portion is a small price to pay. Most people are out for a day' of pleasure and certainly their temporary inconvenience isn't worth the price everyone would pay if that rule was rescinded. The only reason I can imagine for removing the No Wake Zone would be to cater to over anxious non-residents. Where is the protection for we homeowners and recreationists? As more and more boat owners with large noisy boats scream across the lake, how do we all coexist without someone being mad? What we should do is compromise! And compromise means maintaining an area where boats must keep their engines at slower speeds before they race off. Frankly I have little sympathy for those who just like speed and race around in circles trying to kick up as much wake as their boats will produce.

What ideology are you trying to promote by advocating the removal of the No Wake Zone? What constituency is pushing you on this matter? It certainly isn't the boat owners of this area.

Thank you for your concern and willingness to fully examine all aspects of this issue.

Linda Hackbarth
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