

From: Ray Newcombe  
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2009

Dear Kootenai County Commissioners:

As a thirty plus year resident of North Idaho and a current resident of Bayview, I would like to express my opposition to eliminating or even shortening the no wake zone in Scenic Bay of Lake Pend Oreille. The current no wake zone is fine. It serves a wonderful purpose and should not be tampered with. There are just too many marinas, and float homes within the current no wake zone to even consider its removal or any modification of it.

Removing the no wake zone will turn the bay into a dangerous and noisy water way where small boats and kayaks will find it too dangerous to even venture out. Boats in the current marinas will be thrashed about from all the water boat chop created. Noise levels will escalate as jet skis and motor boats of all sizes zoom all around the currently peaceful and relatively safe Scenic Bay. Entrances to the marinas, the access ways to the float homes, and the public boat ramp will all become dangerous for exiting and launching boats due to speeding water craft just outside the entrances and the boat launch. There will be accidents and most likely fatalities. And all the boat chop will likely disturb the Kokanee spawning beds.

Additionally, eliminating the no wake zone and increasing the noise pollution within the our community will ultimately lower our property values and this will eventually trickle down to the county in the form of fewer tax dollars from property taxes.

I urge you to please oppose any changes to the current no wake zone in Scenic Bay. Don't turn our bay at Bayview into a dangerous mess similar to what exists near the various marinas on Coeur d'Alene Lake and along the CDA Resort to Harrison corridor where very few boaters know the right of way rules of boating.

Removing the no wake zone is a lose-lose proposition--there are no positive reasons for removing it. Please preserve it.

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