

Charlene Dindo

From: Molly Huff <mhuffgroovy1961@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 4:03 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Wake boats

[External]

Hello

I am writing to voice my concern and disappointment that some are trying to allow Wake Boats on the smaller lakes and ponds in Vt.

I swim, kayak and paddle board on Fairfield Pond and the thought of these boats possibly being allowed is concerning and disturbing. Not only would this be so unsafe for swimmers and non motorized boats but the damage it will inflict on the pond is very concerning. Fairfield Pond is known for a breeding pond for the Loons. Such destruction these boats would create.

What I don't understand is why is this being proposed for all Vt lakes and ponds? Vt has a pretty big lake called Lake Champlain, why not have these boats go in a designated area.

I personally don't understand why the state is even considering this when right now is the time we need to preserve and protect what we have and not destroy these body of water with fast and loud boats.

I truly hope the state of VT will do the right thing and preserve these precious lakes and ponds and NOT allow these types of boats on these smaller body of water.

Molly Huff
Fairfield Vt

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Charlene Dindo

From: Sarah Flack <sarahflackconsulting@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:06 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] please don't allow the use of wake boats

[External]

I am writing to state my opposition to allowing the use of wake boats in vermonts small lakes and ponds.

Many of the small lakes and ponds I paddle my kayak or canoe in are quiet lovely places to enjoy bird watching, fishing and nature. They are also critical habitat for shore line nesting birds such as loons. The use of Wake boats will destroy loon nests and negatively impact other wild life. They are also noisy and decrease our ability to find quiet ponds and small lakes where we can swim, fish and paddle our small boats.

Thank you
Sarah Flack
Fairfield VT

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Charlene Dindo

From: Tamme Haskell <haskell.tamme@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:30 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Absurd rules being considered

[External]

Wake boating so close to SHORE! Are you honestly considering this absurd proposal?
It makes ABSOLUTELY NO SENSE AT ALL.

This makes for an extremely dangerous situation. Who will be patrolling? Many more park service people will need to help patrol. Wait until weekend TRAFFIC invades, too.

It's not as if Waterbury Reservoir is a huge lake. Who are the people pushing for this? I bet they have "backers", with undue interests.

Vote NO!

Tamme Haskell, Warren, VT
Sent from my iPad

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Charlene Dindo

From: Terry Trail <terrynaas@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:34 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Cc: raleigh310@gmail.com
Subject: [External] Comments against wake boating in Waterbury Reservoir

[External]

Hello,

I received your email address from FPF and would like to say that I am not in support of wake boats at all in the reservoir, and therefore against the 500 ft limit from shoreline.

I use the Waterbury Reservoir several times per week in the summer with a paddle board, kayak, power boat, and distance swimming with a buoy. The wakes created by these boats are extremely disruptive and dangerous to anyone in the water or on the shoreline - knocking people off of watercraft, making it difficult to see swimmers, and tossing watercraft around that are beached up on shore. Additionally, the noise from the speakers blasting across the entire body of water truly ruins the experience of being in nature.

I appreciate you considering these comments in the hearing next week.

Thank you,

Terry Trail

290 Ring Rd, Waterbury Center, VT 05677

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Terry Trail

TerryNaas@gmail.com

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Charlene Dindo

From: Nita <nita.hwf@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:34 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] wake surfing boats

[External]

Please keep wake surfing boats off our smaller bodies of water; certainly they should not be operated closer than 1000 ft from the shoreline. These boats will disturb the experience of folks at beaches, folks that live on the lake, kayakers, canoeists, paddleboarders, swimmers, and aquatic and bird life. Let's use our heads and not cater to the wishes of a few, to the detriment of so many.

Nita Hultstrom
Waterbury

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Charlene Dindo

From: suzie kiendl <suzie_kiendl@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:38 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] NO Wake boards on Waterbury Reservoir

[External]

We have a camp on a small lake in Maine.

The limited motorboats are fine, but Many do not follow the rules, and go TOO fast in the narrows disrupting the natural habitate for loons, & wildlife.

The young children snorkeling , swim & playing are not aware of the boats, and the boaters & riders are often NOT aware of the children playing.

Best to leave as is or limit the motors even more...

Suzie Kiendl RDH
145 White Pine Drive
Waitsfield,VT 05673

c-802-373-0814

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Charlene Dindo

From: Nancy Wilson <brockden@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:55 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Waterbury Reservoir

[External]

I live in Fayston, and I love the Waterbury Reservoir
The 500 foot limit is not enough
Please make it 1000 feet so everyone Feels comfortable and is safe

Nancy Wilson. From my mobile

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Charlene Dindo

From: Warren <talk2us2day@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 5:57 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Waterbury Reservoir

[External]

No Wake boats please. Consider the loons. No Kayak rentals would help congestion and their lack of boating rules/laws.

Thanks

Warren Davey

Waterbury Center

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Charlene Dindo

From: Sharon Dube <sharondube@madriver.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 6:02 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Wake surf boats

[External]

I am a long time kayaker of the Waterbury reservoir and I feel strongly that the wake surfing that is being done there is not to the benefit of the environment nor to the benefit of the rest of the visitors going to enjoy the natural settings and peacefulness provided by the lake. This is an activity that should be relegated to much bigger bodies of water. Please implement rulings that either severely limit or ban this activity from the Waterbury Reservoir.

Thank you,
Sharon Dube

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Charlene Dindo

From: Candice White <cwhite@madriver.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 6:03 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Cc: Kari Dolan
Subject: [External] use of wake surfing boats at Waterbury Reservoir

[External]

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong disagreement for allowing wake surf boats to operate in Waterbury Reservoir. I have been a resident of Waitsfield for over twenty years, and value the beauty and serenity of Waterbury Reservoir. It is a terrific recreation spot for all of us—for swimmers, paddlers, kayakers, and even water skiers. However, wake surf boats bring a very different and very violent impact to lakes and reservoirs in that the waves they create are enormous, destroying the experience for all of the types of recreationallists I just mentioned. These boats generate huge waves that will topple a waterskier, a kayak, or canoe, and overwhelm a swimmer. Additionally, the waves hit the shoreline with an intensity that disrupts wildlife nests and causes erosion. Waterbury Reservoir is very narrow in parts, and these vehicles would be terribly disruptive. A 500-foot off-shoreline requirement is not sufficient to protect the reservoir. I have experience with how these vehicles have negatively impacted other lakes, including Lake George in the Adirondacks, and it is to be avoided.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Candice White
342 Village Woods
Waitsfield, Vermont

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Charlene Dindo

From: snorkle@madriver.com <snorkel@gmavt.net>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 6:22 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] LCAR regulations for wake-surf boats

[External]

Please regulate these boats. It seems clear that wake-surf boats will infringe on traditional uses of lakes like Waterbury Reservoir. Their greater power profile, and aggressive wake will make using human powered crafts much more difficult. Will a 500 ft. buffer be sufficient? Please don't give this beautiful resource away. Macy Moulton

Sent from Mail for Windows

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Charlene Dindo

From: Ed McNulty <wave.cowboy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 6:41 PM
To: Charlene Dindo; Trevor Squirrell
Subject: [External] Wake boats

[External]

As a kayaker, fisherman and windsurfer for over 50 years please vote to ban all wake boats on Vermont lakes. It is a destructive/disruptive practice that only appeases a few. It is not in the best interests of most Vermont lake users both residents and visitors.

If they want to surf, head to the ocean for the real deal.

Sincerely,
Ed McNulty

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Charlene Dindo

From: Tom Murphy <murph@murphclown.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 7:23 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Waterbury Reservoir and wake boats

[External]

Hello!

I have been swimming/training every summer on the Waterbury Reservoir since 1990. I have trained for triathlons there and continue to train long distance swimming still. I also kayak on the reservoir. I cannot even begin to imagine dealing with wake-surf boating!!! Wake boating would put an end to many activities for which many citizens use the Waterbury Reservoir. I'm sure the swimming areas at the Waterbury Center State Park and State Camp Ground could probably be protected but any of the activities on the broader reservoir would be thoroughly disrupted making it all but impossible. (Make no mention of the damage to the shore line. I have no proof of this.) I do know emphatically that swimming or kayaking or stand up paddling on the open water would be devastated by a wake-surf boat going by even at a distance. Wake boats should be relegated to larger bodies of water and not a peaceful, calm body of water like the Waterbury Reservoir. I have nothing against wake-surf boating when they on the right body of water - Lake Champlain for example. So please! "Say No" to wake boarding on the Waterbury Reservoir.

Thank you!

Tom Murphy
134 North Spruce Haven Rd
Waterbury Center, VT 05677
office: 802 244 5008
mobile: 802 363 6343

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Charlene Dindo

From: Sarah Calvo <secalvo@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 7:51 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Waterbury reservoir wake-surf rules

[External]

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to oppose use of the Waterbury Reservoir by wake-surf boats.

I'm a frequent user of the Waterbury reservoir from both Waterbury Center State Park and the canoe put-in from the north. I typically go 3-4 times every week during the season.

As a paddle-boarder, the wakes from regular power boats is problematic, and the wake from wake-surf boats is every harder to SUP with.

As someone who enjoys canoeing and the remote camp sites, I am against anything that adds to the noise.

As someone who brings kids to Elephant Rock, the powerful boats make surf with waves that can dash the kids against the rocks.

Please help keep Waterbury Reservoir quiet and enjoyable for the many who don't enjoy wake-surf sports.

Best
Sarah Calvo
82 Dunham Ln, Stowe VT
617-283-6562

Sent from my iPhone

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Charlene Dindo

From: Ann Stone <as.ndione@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:00 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Wake Boarding

[External]

Hello,

I would like to say that wake boards should be regulated to have a 1000 ft distance from shorelines. A 500 ft distance from the shoreline is not enough to protect the shoreline wildlife/habitat (including loons, ducks and other shore birds). BUT, as well as the natural world, the majority of non-motorized boat users, SUPs, and swimmers would lose the peaceful atmosphere and their safety would be at risk from the high wakes.

In particular I am concerned about the Waterbury Reservoir that gives so many pleasure year round. I have lived near the Rez for 35 years and use it for many of its activity opportunities including hiking, swimming, boating, camping, and it is in my direct view! I enjoy watching the many ways and the many people who come to enjoy this fabulous state resource.

Thank you,
Ann Stone
Waterbury Center, VT

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Charlene Dindo

From: Jeremy Huckins <jhuckins@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 8:09 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] LCAR - wakeboarding in Waterbury reservoir

[External]

Hi,

Wakeboarding has no place on a reservoir that is already prone to erosion and landslides. Waterbury reservoir is narrow and powerboats often already operate too close to swimmers, paddlers and wildlife.

Do not let this proposed law go into effect as-is.

Jeremy Huckins

Waterbury Center

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Charlene Dindo

From: Alisa Bernat <alisabernat@msn.com>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2024 9:14 PM
To: Charlene Dindo
Cc: Trevor Squirrel; Mark MacDonald; Christopher Bray; Virginia Lyons; David Weeks; Seth Bongartz; Mark Higley; Carol Ode; waterburyres@gmail.com
Subject: [External] Testimony for LCAR hearing, Feb 1, 2024 on ANR proposed ruling on Wake Boats

[External]

Dear LCAR,

I am writing this letter in support of a mandatory rule requiring wake-surfing boats to keep **at least** a 1000-foot distance from shore. The environmental damage these boats cause is well documented and destroys Vermont's precious natural pond and lake resources. Please vote against these destructive boats in order to protect both people and wildlife.

Sincerely,

Alisa Bernat

138 Brookdale Lane

Stowe, Vermont

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Charlene Dindo

From: Jude Prashaw <judeprashaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 7:04 AM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Wake Surf Boat Legislation

[External]

Dear Legislators,

Do you personal paddle on our lakes, ponds, rivers or reservoirs?

Imagine this—you are 68, sitting in your lightweight canoe at the Waterbury Reservoir, enjoying a family of loons dipping and diving when a wake boat passes by. Suddenly, your canoe is slammed by a five foot wave. You and your dog are tossed out of the boat. Hopefully, you are wearing a life jacket. Are you? Your canoe fills with water. Perhaps you're a not a great swimmer. Perhaps you hit your head? Welcome to an unnecessary life threatening situation.

Think about this. Are you actually willing to support a minority of people who want to SURF 500 feet from our shores? Are you willing to support this vocal minority while ignoring the endangerment to our beautiful Vermont lakes?

Wake Surf Boats endanger Vermont waterways and place in danger the many people who enjoy the beauty of our Vermont lakes and reservoirs.

Do the right thing. Protect our aquatic environment, protect our people and the tourists Vermont actively invites and welcomes to boost our economy.

Vote NO to Wake Board surfing 500 ' from our shoreline.

Sincerely,

Jude

Jude Prashaw

Charlene Dindo

From: Ron Krantz <ronkrantz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 8:27 AM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] Waterbury Reservoir

[External]

The Waterbury Reservoir is a rare and pristine treasure here in our area. It is a beautiful and peaceful escape to enjoy the outdoors. The wake boarders destroy this experience with the roar of the engines and the loud music. They also present a threat to the safety of those using canoes , paddle boards and kayaks. The shore line is disrupted by the large waves. There is a time and place for everything but this is not it for Wake Boaders. Let them use the big lake or at a minimum remain 1000 ft from the shore line in a designated area . Ron Krantz

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Please be a responsible emailer:

Be considerate when forwarding messages, remove names and email addresses of previous recipients and my name as sender. Another courtesy is to use Bcc: for any "bulk" e-mailings, instead of the To: or Cc: to keep our addresses private. This will help to cut down on spam and computer identity theft. Thank you.

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Charlene Dindo

From: Berit Solstad <beritsols@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 9:08 AM
To: Charlene Dindo
Cc: Trevor Squirrel; Mark MacDonald; Christopher Bray; Virginia Lyons; David Weeks; Seth Bongartz; Mark Higley; Carol Ode
Subject: [External] Support the 1000' rule

[External]

I ask the LCAR, as called for in 3 VSA 842, to return the weak 500-foot proposal and send it back to the ANR, and for them to amend the proposal to a 1,000-foot rule.

Over many years, my husband and I have enjoyed the peace and beauty of Waterbury Reservoir, Lake Willoughby, Joe's Pond, and many other Vermont lakes. We are so appreciative of these beautiful places to canoe, observe nature, and listen attentively to the quieter sounds of nature as we paddle.

Wake boats destroy the quiet we so enjoy, and more concerning - they impact our safety, the safety of swimmers, other boaters, people on the shoreline, and they harm property and docks along the shore.

If wake boats are considered inevitable, then the 1,000 foot rule would at least keep them a bit further away from small paddle boats like ours, and from swimmers. With a 1000' rule, there is a higher chance of us being able to avoid some of their wakes.

We would not return to these lakes and ponds if the 1000' rule is not adopted - it is too risky with wake boats closer to shore. With the waves and the noise, it is far less enjoyable. Safety is our main concern, but the noise is also unpleasant.

Wake boats contribute to erosion of the shoreline. They impact wildlife that use the shoreline - wading birds, nesting loons, ducks and turtles.

Allowing wake boats to get 500 ft from the shoreline is not in the best interest of all users of this public resource.

These high, powerful waves wildly toss about swimmers, kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, and even boats and docks. There are numerous examples of negative impacts of wake boats - near misses with swimmers, a 4-year child getting trapped under a dock after a wake boat passed, and kayaks being capsized. Young children at the shoreline are not safe, with waves from wake boats hitting what used to be calm shorelines.

Lakes and ponds are quite different. These habitats and their wildlife, as well as the cabins, cottages and small docks on their shores, are damaged by artificially large wakes and waves.

Please put thoughtful consideration into the opinions and concerns of the vast majority of users of these bodies of water, and adopt the 1000 foot rule. We owe it to the future of our state's beautiful ponds and lakes, and to the wildlife they support. We also owe it to the vast majority of people who who enjoy fishing, wading, swimming, canoeing, using pontoon boats, and those who just want to enjoy the view from their lakeside docks.

Sincerely,

Berit Solstad
Stowe

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Charlene Dindo

From: Linda Alderton <lindavt@pshift.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 23, 2024 9:09 AM
To: Charlene Dindo
Subject: [External] LCAR Hearing on Wake Boats

[External]

I'm writing, not with an additional comment to the ANR proposed rule change, but to pose a question for ANR to answer and LCAR to ponder before making their ruling.

In the document entitled "Responsiveness Summary for Wakeboat Rulemaking", four comments (#s 2, 6, 15 and 31) expressed concern that the current 200' rule in which power boats must distance themselves from swimmers and other watercraft is inadequate for protecting the safety of others in open water when a wake boat is in wake sports mode. ANR's response to each comment, which follows in italics below, most certainly does not address these safety concerns. It simply indicates a glitch was fixed in wakesport zone maps, but maintains the status quo of the 200-foot rule, offering no rationale as to why 200 feet is deemed an adequate setback from wakesport wakes.

"the Agency updated maps of wakesports zones to eliminate sections that were less than 200 feet wide, where it would be impossible for a wakeboat user to be in the wakesports zone and also be 200 feet away from another person or vessel also in that zone."

So, my question is this:

If the Agency believes operating a wake boat in wake sport mode at least 500 feet from shore is sufficient to protect the lakeshore and aquatic habitat from damage, why then isn't there an equal requirement of a 500-foot setback from a swimmer or other vessel in order to protect other people from becoming swamped and possibly injured by an amplified wake?

The safety and protection of people participating in other watersport activities should not be overlooked in the final ruling. Thank you.

Linda Alderton
Lake Parker
West Glover, VT

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