

## Lindsey Schreier

---

**From:** Widness, John A <[john-widness@uiowa.edu](mailto:john-widness@uiowa.edu)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2026 7:35 PM  
**To:** Lindsey Schreier  
**Cc:** Diane Lehder; Christine Cano; Jenifer Andrews; Jim Lengel; Widness, John A; [danielr.sharpe48@gmail.com](mailto:danielr.sharpe48@gmail.com); [meg@meghandler.com](mailto:meg@meghandler.com); [chrisowenvt@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisowenvt@yahoo.com); Tom Ward; Mark Johnston  
**Subject:** [External] Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes' strong support of Rule 25-P045, Agency of Natural Resources, Vermont Use of Public Waters Rules  
**Importance:** High

[External]

Dear Ms. Schreier,

In your role as the Committee Assistant to LCAR, I ask that you forward letter below to all members of LCAR. This letter indicates that our citizens group, Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes, offers its strong, unanimous in support of Rule 25-P045, Agency of Natural Resources, Vermont Use of Public Waters Rules.

By return email, please indicate to me that you've received and distributed our letter to all LCAR committee members.

Thank you,

Jack Widness

Organizer and Member on Behalf of RWVL

—

316 Lake Raponda Road

Wilmington VT 05363

Landline: 802-464-8981 for phone calls & leaving voice messages

Cell: 319-331-5628 for voice & text messages

[john-widness@uiowa.edu](mailto:john-widness@uiowa.edu)



.....

Dear LCAR Members:

We write you to express our strong support for Rule 25-P045, the Agency of Natural Resources' proposed amendments to the Vermont Use of Public Waters Rules, which are scheduled for review at the May 14, 2026, LCAR meeting.

Responsible Wakes for Vermont Lakes (RWVL) is a grassroots organization representing more than 1,000 Vermonters, including lake residents, anglers, boaters, swimmers, lake associations, and advocates for water quality and safe outdoor recreation.

Four years ago, RWVL petitioned the Department of Environmental Conservation to develop regulations for wakesports on Vermont lakes. The original rules were adopted in 2024, and the ANR's proposed amendments result from two additional years of review, public input, and refinement. We believe the DEC has developed a balanced and reasonable approach that protects public safety, water quality, shoreline habitat, and Vermont's lakes while supporting responsible recreation.

If helpful, we would be pleased to provide supplemental data or testimony regarding the necessity of these amendments. While Rule 25-P045 is a critical milestone, protecting Vermont's lakes requires persistent vigilance. RWVL remains committed to collaborating with state agencies and partners to mitigate the spread of aquatic invasive species. We believe that robust investment in AIS prevention is not only environmentally sound but fiscally responsible; prevention is significantly more cost-effective than the perpetual management of established infestations, which burden our communities with long-term economic and ecological costs.

Thank you for your consideration.

*On behalf of our RWVL Leadership Group*

*On behalf of our RWVL Leadership Group*

Diane Lehder (Lake Willoughby) [dianezlehder@gmail.com](mailto:dianezlehder@gmail.com)

Christine Cano (Caspian and Shadow Lakes) [mermaidvt@gmail.com](mailto:mermaidvt@gmail.com)

Jenifer Andrews (Shadow Lake) [jeniferbandrews@gmail.com](mailto:jeniferbandrews@gmail.com)

Jim Lengel (Lake Elmore) [jim@lengel.net](mailto:jim@lengel.net)

Dani Sharpe (Lake Iroquois) [danielr.sharpe48@gmail.com](mailto:danielr.sharpe48@gmail.com)

Meg Handler (Lake Iroquois) [meg@meghandler.com](mailto:meg@meghandler.com)

Chris Owen (Holland Pond) [chrisowenvt@yahoo.com](mailto:chrisowenvt@yahoo.com)

Tom Ward (Lake Fairlee) [tom.ward3@gmail.com](mailto:tom.ward3@gmail.com)

John Wooten (Lake Parker) [jrw@hbfishman.com](mailto:jrw@hbfishman.com)

Jack Widness (Lake Raponda) [john-widness@uiowa.edu](mailto:john-widness@uiowa.edu)

This message has originated from an **External Source**. Please use caution when opening attachments, clicking links, or responding to this email.