

## Lindsey Schreier

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**From:** Jason Petrarca <petrarcaj@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 14, 2026 7:35 AM  
**To:** Lindsey Schreier  
**Subject:** [External] Wake sports hearing

[External]

To Whom it may concern:

My understanding is that there is an upcoming hearing on the proposed new rules for Wake boats. I have been involved in numerous public meetings regarding these new rules. While the rules process seems to have been followed, I am very concerned that the proposed 500 foot rule for wake boats is still on the proposed rules list. The current 200 foot rule put a shared responsibility on all boaters to stay 200 feet away from each other. Having a special rule for wake boats take away that shared responsibility and puts it solely on the wake boat captain. As an example, A wake boat is pulling a surfer down the middle of the lake with no other boats within 1000ft for this example. The boat is traveling in a straight line. Another boat decides to cross the bath of the wake boat at a distance of 250ft. The captain of the wake boat is now in violation of the 500ft rule even though he/she is not at fault as the other boat, in actuality, broke the 500ft distance. This type of rule creates confusion and the possibility of creating more conflict, not less.

My hope is that when this is discussed at the hearing, special attention is given to this rule as it is confusing, will be hard, if not impossible to enforce, and is not in alignment with generally accepted rules of navigation set forth by the Coast guard.

Thanks

Jason Petrarca

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