

Fwd: Proposal Ordinance AB2019-480

brownb329@aol.com

Sun 12/1/2019 7:34 PM

To: ericmchenry@msn.com <ericmchenry@msn.com>

FYI.....

-----Original Message-----

From: brownb329 <brownb329@aol.com>

To: council <council@co.whatcom.wa.us>

Sent: Sun, Dec 1, 2019 7:34 pm

Subject: Proposal Ordinance AB2019-480

Dear Whatcom County Council:

I strongly support the compromised proposal ordinance AB2019-480, which mandates moving the no wake zone 800' from the bridge and that boats displacing greater amounts of water that are wakeboarding or wake surfing, must stay 300' from shore/dock, which relates to where no wake zone east of bridge is placed. All other boat activity would need to stay 150' from shore/dock.

- 1) I kayak around Lake Samish frequently and have been skiing / cruising Lake Samish for 16 plus years. In addition kayaking I am usually about 100' from shore or less and cruise in my boat the same so I feel that I see more of the entire picture than most. I also water ski year round both in the slalom course plus free ski anywhere there is smooth water. Skiers like calm quiet water and very small wakes so they tend to ski closer to shore where the water is calmer and less affected by wind. This is one reason moving the no wake zone closer to the bridge (800') and 150' from shore makes the most sense.
- 2) Living on the South end of the lake affords me the ability to look up the lake and see the boat traffic flow. Let me tell you, it is dangerous when I see as little as 4 tubers circling and weaving close together in the reduced operating space which creates a huge safety concern. Going back to boating 150' from shore opens up more space for boaters and keeps the lake safe.
- 3) Winter time has high water and high winds which creates a higher leverage point against dock pilings and shorelines. Most often the wind comes from Friday Creek towards the bridge and the wave action from 2 plus miles of open water is far worse than regular boating wakes. Wakeboard / surf boats may be the exception.
- 4) Boating in the "ocean" is not doable / thinkable due to the cold 55 degree water, strong currents, large boat traffic and large waves. I am a practicing dive master who puts together dive charters and shore dives. Each and every time I dive, I have to carefully plan each dive splash time around the tides and currents to avoid putting fellow divers in harm's way. Puget Sound has strong currents and down dwellings where inexperienced boaters could be swept away and drown.
- 5) Keeping the 300' no wake ordinance will drastically affect the small portion of the lake on the other side of the bridge. This forces even more boaters into the other end of the lake where there is significantly less operating space than before the new ordinance.

Thank you,
Bruce Brown
2222 Shallow Shore Lane
Bellingham, WA 98229

FILE UNDER AB 2019 - 480
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SUBMITTED BY: Bruce Brown
 COUNCIL MEETING
 COMMITTEE
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