

My name is Matt Radich, I am the president of Active Water Sports, an Oregon boat dealer. I am here speaking for all tow-boat dealers in Oregon and as a group, we oppose House Bill 4099 as it was originally written and are concerned about the possible unforeseen impacts of House Bill 4138. We sincerely appreciate Representative Vial's willingness to step back from the proposals in his original bill and take a deeper look into what is happening on the waterways.

Together, the tow boat dealers in Oregon directly generate over \$40 million in revenue. Passing any legislation that specifically targets the types of boats we sell will lead to a drastic loss of sales revenue for our market. This would further lead to a loss of jobs throughout Oregon tow-boat dealerships.

As boats dealers, we acknowledge that with the popularity of towed watersports, conflicts of interest have risen. We also understand that we need to be part of the solution in mitigating wake related issues. Through proper education at the operator level and establishing a reasonable no-wake zone around docks and structures, we can find a common ground solution that does not involve any boat related bans.

The Oregon State Marine Board is the entity charged with rulemaking for Oregon waterways. This Thursday is the first meeting of the newly appointed "Wake Sports Advisory Committee". This committee has already been tasked with coming up with solutions to the same issues being discussed here. Do we need to have multiple state agencies looking at the same issue?

In conjunction with the Water Sports Industry Association, we have already begun a campaign to educate boat operators in the best way to minimize their impact on the water. This effort will include both hands-on training with operators, instructive electronic media, and handing out educational flyers at popular boat ramps. We take our role in this very seriously and are committed to be a part of the solution.

Matt Radich
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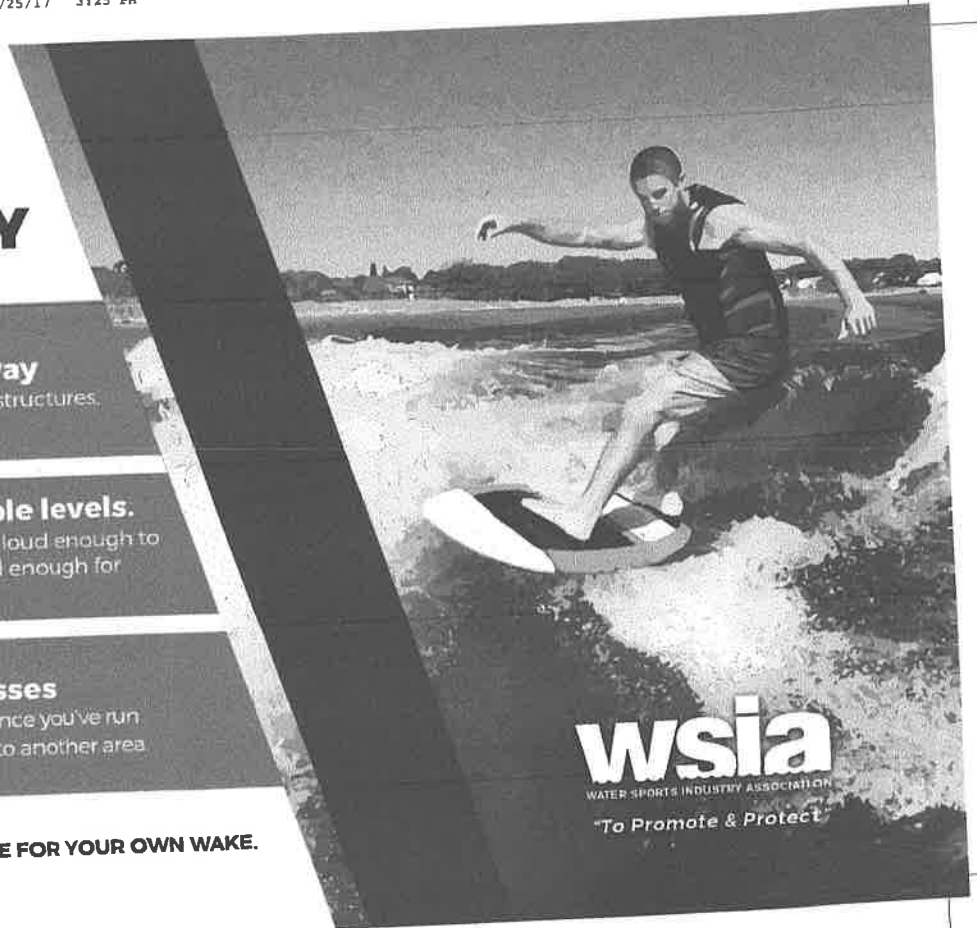
WAKE RESPONSIBLY

1 Stay at least 150 feet away from the shoreline, docks, or other structures.

2 Keep music at reasonable levels. Sound travels well over water. If it's loud enough to hear at 80 feet back, it is likely loud enough for homeowners to hear, too.

3 Minimize repetitive passes on any one portion of shoreline. Once you've run the same line for a while, move on to another area.

REMEMBER, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN WAKE.



wsia
WATER SPORTS INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
"To Promote & Protect"



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With a goal to scientifically measure the energy produced by towboat wakes and waves, the first-ever Towed Water Sports Wave Energy Study was conducted in the Spring of 2015 in Orlando, Florida.

Clifford Goudey, ocean engineer and naval architect, is one of the most distinguished experts on wave science in the field today. Mr. Goudey commissioned the assistance of Lewis Girod, PhD, who is an accomplished software and sensing engineer. On March 23-27, 2015, the pair conducted an extensive study on the Conway Chain of Lakes at two different sites to measure energy at a shallow-water profile and deep-water profile, while also monitoring the effects of wind-driven waves.

A 2015 Nautique G23 was used for testing with 2,850 pounds of factory ballast with an additional four sacks weighing 350 pounds each for a total of 4,250 pounds of ballast and a total vessel weight of 10,150 pounds.

What did WSIA learn from the scientific conclusions that emerged from the wave energy study?

1. Wakeboard and wakesurf wakes/waves, when operated at least 150 feet or more from shore, do not carry enough energy to have a significant impact on most shorelines or on properly maintained docks and other man-made structures.
2. The maximum wake/wave height associated with wakeboarding and wakesurfing drops 27 to 56 percent in the first 100-150 feet of its travel from the boat path.
3. Boat wakes/waves from cruising boats, recreational boats included, dissipate more slowly and lack the initial drop in size associated with wakeboard and wakesurf wakes/waves.
4. Wakeboard and wakesurf wakes/waves dissipate more slowly in deep water (greater than 15') and operating at least 250' from shore can reduce the effects of deep-water wakes.
5. A Wakesurfing boat passing a section of shoreline every nine minutes is less damaging than naturally occurring waves from a 10 mph wind with one mile of fetch.
6. A wave loses the most significant amount of energy upon its initial break. This happens very quickly in wakeboarding and wakesurfing due to the wakes steepness, while a wave created by a boat at cruising speed with less displacement can fail to break while moving towards the shore, preserving its energy.

While the study has demonstrated that, in most conditions, wakesurfing and wakeboarding are far less destructive than naturally occurring waves, the WSIA still strongly recommends the following:

1. Always try to wakeboard or wakesurf in the center of any given body of water, and avoid narrow channels or thoroughfares, if possible.
2. Always try to stay at least 150 feet away from any shoreline, dock, or fixed objects.
3. Maintain a reasonable sound level on your stereo.
4. Always respect the shoreline you are using and if the property owner asks that you leave, do so immediately, and always be gracious with the property owner.
5. "Working a shoreline" results in an accumulation of energy reaching the shoreline. Repetition is never a good idea and can lead to risk of restrictive regulations.
6. The non-surfing side of a wakesurfing boat creates waves that are 10% to 23% smaller with 23% to 33% percent less energy than the surfing side. When possible, present the non-surfing side of the boat to the closest shoreline.
7. Waves tend to increase in height on the inside of a gradual turn. Avoid such maneuvers close to shore.
8. Glass calm water is not a requirement for wake surfing, be respectful and move as far from shore as you can.