



Wapogasset/Bear Trap Lake Improvement Assoc., Inc.
P.O. Box 345
Amery, WI 54001

December 2023

I can hardly believe there are only 2 weeks left in 2023. Where has the year gone! As we close out 2023 we look forward to 2024 with optimism and hopeful that we can enjoy the winter and will soon be enjoying the summer on the lake we all love.

As a paid member of the lake association you have expressed your interest in improving and protecting our lake and natural resources. Your trustees and executive committee share those same values and therefore why we are asking for your help. Attached to this email is a Google based brief survey we ask that you complete. The purpose of this communication and survey is to educate all of us, provoke a thoughtful discussion and will be used to inform us as to the views of our paid membership.

We have posted information on our website that relates to our lake and association. I ask that you review the information that we have posted but also look to other sources of information from other resources that can help you be informed on issues that affect our lake.

While Wisconsin is a great place to live we are not completely unique. Enhanced wakes are a national discussion and there are, and have been several State Legislative actions proposed regarding enhanced wakes right here in Wisconsin. This discussion is happening now and thus the timing of this survey.

Each paid member is asked to complete 1 survey and only one survey will be recorded for that members address. Surveys will start December 15, 2023 and will need to be completed by end of day January 5, 2024. We will accumulate all the results and post to the website (www.wbtlakes.com) mid to late January 2024. Any specific comments received will be addressed at the May membership meeting that we hope you will attend.

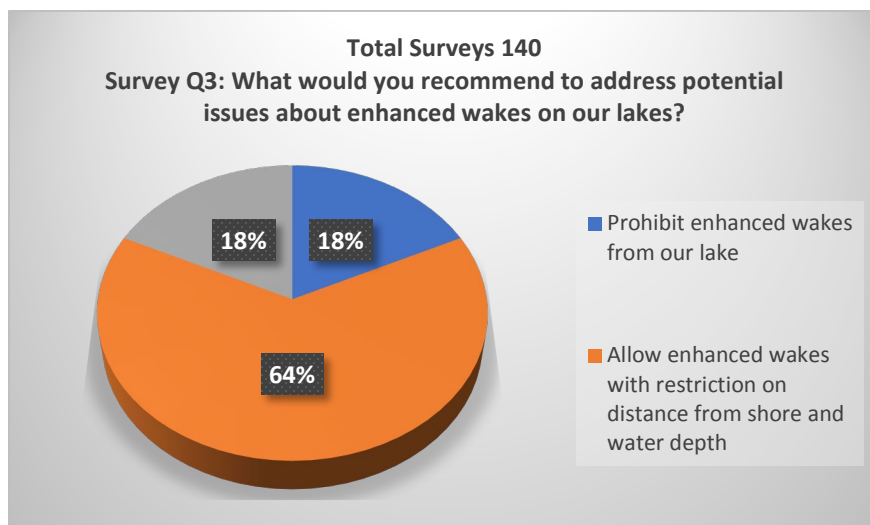
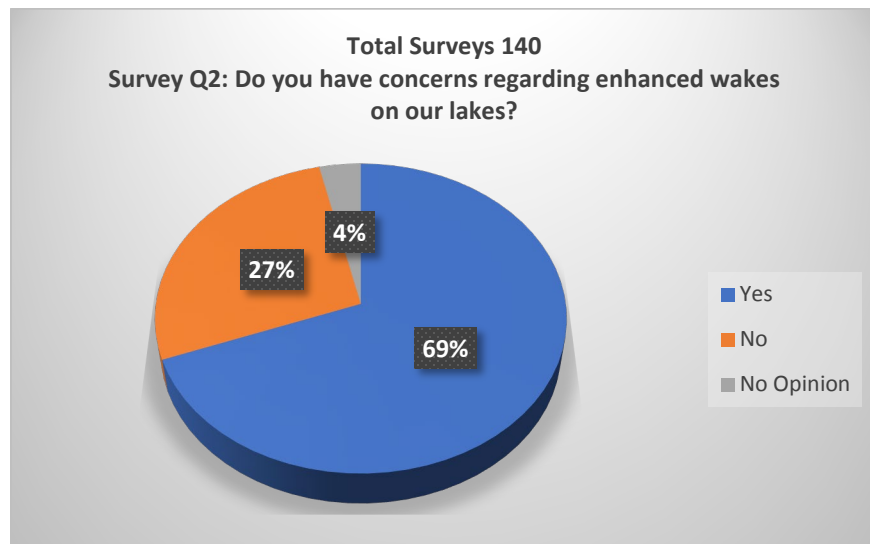
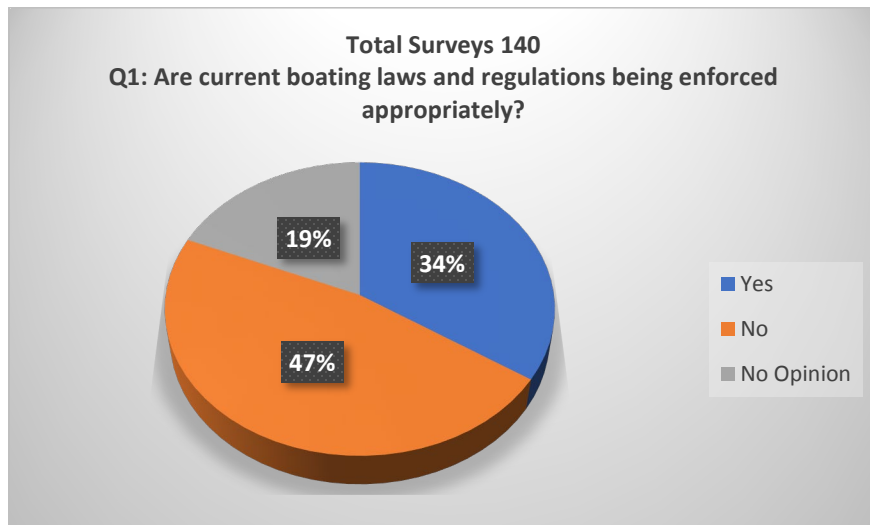
Our 2024 membership meetings are at 8:30am and scheduled for May, 18, 2024, June 8, 2024, July 13, 2024, August 10, 2024 and September 14, 2024 at the YMCA Camp. Please mark your calendars and be involved.

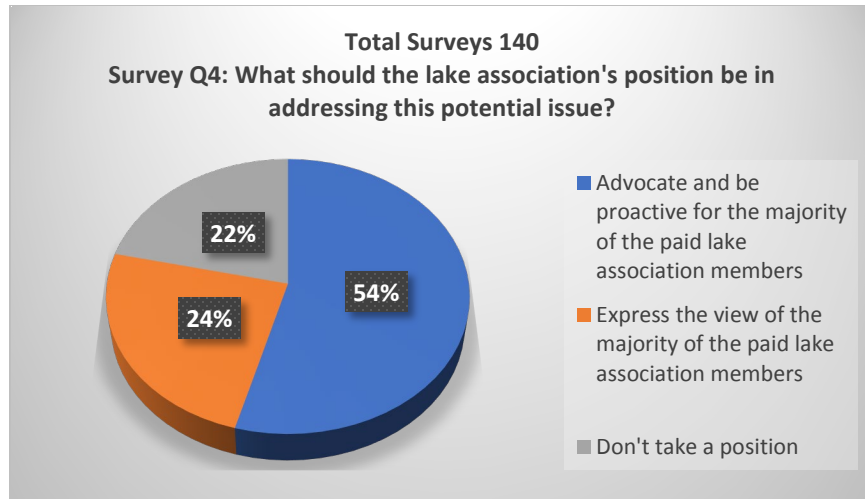
We know this is a busy time of year but that also creates a great time for you discuss this in your house. Please give meaningful input for our lake. We wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We look forward to receiving your survey.

Wapo Bear Trap Lake Improvement Association

George Hauser- President

Survey Questions 1-4 Pie Charts and Question 5 Comments





Survey Q5: What comments, concerns, or questions do you have that you feel the lake association should investigate or address?

Enhanced Wake concerns i.e., shoreline erosion, destroyed fish habitat, safety for swimmers, paddle boarding, small boats, pontoons, ballast bringing in ZM and other invasive species.

Runoff water and invasive species are always primary concerns.

The erosion on the Bible camp side in the channel between the 2 lakes. There is now a clear cut in the bank and will only get worse this winter if snowmobiles and side by sides are permitted to cut through it.

I appreciate that there is a group who love “ surfing” behind enhanced wakes but many don’t follow the current suggestions of distance from shores. I live on Lake Wapo where the lake is widest so many of these types of boats go back and forth in front of my shoreline for hours at a time .The waves that land on our shore knock our rocks down all the time, and if my young grandchildren are playing in the water in front of my shore, the waves knock them down. Additionally I love to kayak and have almost been swamped on more than one occasion. It’s as if we all have to work around these types of boats and can’t use the lake safely at the same time. I’ve read information indicating that it’s also hard on the lake bottom and fish. I don’t know the cause and effect but this year we had many dead fish washing up on shore. Wake boats should be prohibited. the 200' no wake zone is far to close, AND no one enforces it anyway. Wake boats are frequently within 200' of my shore because it is calmer, Even when the lake is like glass, they still upset everything by boating close to shore because it is shallower for the wakeboarder I suspect. Overwhelming research shows there harm these boats do!

The repeated focus on this issue undermines attention to safety issues and violation of actual law, such as personal watercraft behavior. I feel that all coverage on this issue by the lake association is skewed towards those members that are against wake boats. I don’t think this is a majority opinion across our lake. Why not focus on jet skis and boats not maintaining safe

distances from other boats at high speeds or other actual laws that are being broken on our lake for the safety of those members trying to enjoy the lake.

a few could ruin the lake for everyone

Those of us on the south bay of Bear Trap experience the effects of this issue perhaps more than other areas of the lake due to the narrow geography. The danger associated with enhanced wakes is amplified particularly on breezy days when pontoons congregate and anchor in the bay -- with attendant swimming and floating activities -- which can often be problematic in and of itself.

A lot of folks will not be able to figure out how to access the survey. You need to offer a detailed set of instructions. Also many will not have a Google/Gmail account.

My concerns are to create a plan for the benefit of our lake users which will not create any negative impacts on our two lakes.

The large wakes are eroding the shoreline. The problem is that even if the wake boats stay out in the middle then we still get big waves. All we can do at this point is make sure those type of boats stay the proper distance from the shoreline

The South Bay of Bear Trap is a favorite for boaters to anchor and hang out and have fun, as a result it can get very compacted. It would help if boaters could be encouraged to anchor in the middle of the bay so that other boaters could drive around the bay on the outside of the anchored boats. Thank you!

Everyone on our lake has the right to enjoy themselves. We all live here. Wake boats are very popular, and I know some people don't like them because they're "new" or "loud." Blaming the size of the wake is a falsity and a very very small side issue. The fishermen that also come 10 feet from our dock and hover for hours at all hours of the day and night are also annoying. The pontoon boats that can't drive well and almost hit people also are annoying. However, our lake association should be focusing more on lake water quality- NOT wake boats!!! Wake boats are largely following the rules and are here to stay. Our lake association should be welcoming to all legal recreation. This wake boat so-called issue is divisive and unnecessary, likely spurred by a small amount of people. We are long time owners in the lake/ but that shouldn't matter. We all live here together. Jet skiers, driving in circles with tubes, and elderly boat drivers too close to shore and other boaters is more of a concern than wake surfing at slow speeds. Please-- Learn the facts instead of relying on anti-wake boat advocacy groups that have an agenda.

<https://boatingindustry.com/news/2022/04/26/new-peer-reviewed-paper-analyzes-wakesurfing-shore-impact/>

Could there be signage at the boat landings with a map that indicates areas for wake surfing, plus simple rules about no wake, distance from shore etc to remind visitors to be aware and respectful. And I think continuing to educate lake members is important as there seem to be a lot of new residents moving to the lake. Maybe a "welcome to the lake" packet could be

distributed to new members. I think hard copy would have more of an impact than an email. Could be ending up in people's trash. We're worried about the impact on lake bottom, shoreline, fish habitat and overall safety. Sadly, there are some wake boat owner/operators who don't care. That is very concerning. Thanks for all you do!

Powered boating too close to shore

encourage everyone to educate boaters so they understand what it does to the shoreline, give warnings and after 2 warnings then ticket the offenders

Would like to see the association publish when and where weed eater is being utilized. People with floating docks could move them to allow better maneuvering and improved coverage.

Clearly, there is a minority of individuals who have taken it upon themselves to put an end to wakeboats. Wapo is a recreational lake. It's not a nature preserve for kayakers to go bird watching. We need to preserve Wapo as a family-friendly recreational lake where people can enjoy time on the water with their kids. Wake boats go very slowly in the water, which makes it a safer alternative to water skiing for families. Wake boats are an investment. Should any restrictions be made current homeowners who own wake boats should always be able to use them on the lake. Property values would decrease should restrictions be made.

Focus on the lake quality. Continue with invasive species removal (weed, zebra mussels, etc.)

Myself, I am not educated on current rules and regulations, so I have no comment or concerns.

I'm not sure I understand the intent of question 4. I do think wake sports should be allowed within the rules. Although I'm not sure it should be allowed on Bear Trap given the size of Bear Trap. I know its over the 50 acres rule so it's allowed, but still seems small. If there was a way to limit wake sports to lake owners only I feel like that would be a good option. Post signs at the landings stating this and giving lake owner stickers or something to put on their boats or something. Would be hard to enforce but I think most lake owners are responsible and it's the visitors who aren't. I don't understand the music component of the enhanced wake rules at all. That seems like a bunch of old people being very petty. If they're anchored in front of your cabin blaring music fine, but a passing boat with loud music, give me a break.

At this time I feel the zebra mussel problem is a more serious issue for the lake.

Late summer water quality, weeds

Pontoon owners driving to close to docks and at high rates of speed

We have been on the lake for 23 years and my parents have been on the lake for over 60 years. We have a wakeboard boat we use maybe a few times per year when our grown children visit and do not see concern with the shore or lake residence as it relates to enhanced wakes for recreational use.

I'm concerned about boater safety on our lakes. Young kids on jet skis pulling tubers and not paying attention to what's happening around them. Kids on jet skis seem distracted in general. Very concerned about adults not following boating laws. Last summer I saw a big increase in boaters pulling skiers, wake boarders and tubers after sunset. If you have your running lights on pulling tubers and skiers that's a good indicator you shouldn't be pulling. Boats are also going way too close to paddle boarders and kayakers. Could we include DNR information in the lake scene on boater regulations as an insert? Is there a way for us to lobby to get the Polk county sheriff out on our lakes more often?

Every boat makes a wake. Let DNR and Sheriff handle.

I support addressing the enhanced wake situation for both lakes to protect shorelines, fishing and recreation activity. My concern is the number of wake boats that are docked on the lakes.

1. Wake height from Wake boats

2. ""music"" decibels from Wakeboat tower speakers

3. excessive Jet ski noise in select areas due to not using the entire lake"

regarding wakes, for me and our property, the only issue is distance from shore. My Family have boats that are designed for wake boarding and surfing so I'm not interested in significant restrictions.

Support the proposed legislation to restrict wake boats on lakes under 1500 acres

The boating regulation most often ignored is distance from docks and passing distance between boats.

Allow wake boats only in Wapo, not in the much smaller bays of Bear Trap, particularly our bay.

We have absolutely no concern regarding the use of wakeboarding boats on WBT. It is concerning that those lake association members who have been long time residents and supporters of this lake who own these types of boats are being singled out. By instituting any regulations that limit use of these types of boats would be detrimental to this lake and ultimately the draw of this lake for potential future buyers. In our opinion, the individuals who own these boats are always respectful of the shoreline and positioning within the lake.

Enhanced wakes make other activities difficult and risky, such as waterskiing, tubing, and paddle board. Setting specific times for enhanced wakes would allow for all to enjoy the lake without the safety risks associated with enhanced wakes. We suggest considering time-of-day limits and have another meeting to discuss.

Boating, too close to docks and water skiers; no wake zone, not enforced through the channel; dumping leaves in the fall in the lake; using fertilizers on the yards which drain into the lake; education about invasive water, lilies; fishing close to docks and shoreline as I have fish hooks

lodged into the end of my dock from fisherman – they just cut the line and leave the hooks there. Many times they are so close to the dock, they have to push off from my dock or even my motor on the boat to get away from it. Education, education education is imperative to the safety and water quality of lake Wapogasset

I believe we are loosing shoreline and due to the enhanced machines we have more debris floating in and a concern about the bottom of the lake becoming more like muck and making the water visibly poor- we need to look to the future and what we want for our lake so we will still have a wonderful resource- thanks

Best solution would be for wake boat owners to form a club, but out markers designating the area on the lake that is deep enough for surfing. They need to police them self. I would be for limiting the size of the boat, amount of ballast, n no device to increase wake size. Polk county n the DNR have limited resources to enforce new laws

Loud music on wake boats.

We feel that MANY boats are WAY too close to shore/our dock and that is tough/impossible to monitor/police. The enhanced wave boats are another animal--typically cruising with extremely loud music as well. We feel like they shouldn't even be allowed on bear trap because of the size of the lake. It seems that wapo has more "room" to accommodate them in the middle of the lake (far from shore) -- but again, how can that possibly be enforced?

Continue addressing watershed and water quality issues. Thanks

Way too many wake boats causing unruly water

We have been surfing since 2008 on the lake and have been respectful of other boaters. many people are not respectful, so some sort of rules are necessary. there are also fishing boats that do not produce a wake, but are going 50-60 MPH and that is dangerous. people that pull tubers drive very fast, unpredictably and create an enormous amount of multidirectional waves. I don't think you can legislate for people that don't care about others. I am not up to date on all the boating regulations so I can't say they are all being enforced. I do believe Wapo is a recreational lake and if rules were to dramatically change it would impact home values, morts, waterside, Amery and the appeal of the lake. I recognize that environmentalist only have one agenda. I think there is a solution that will get all boaters aligned on being safe on the lake and also reduce the damage to the environment.

Sharing the results with your members, so we can all see the opinions of others on the lake, would be welcomed."

Dangerous operation of wave runners.

Let's do more to control the weeds in our lake and algae bloom. (1) the blue monster needs to spend more time on the north end of the lake. (2) the algae bloom (august/september) is out of control. many lake owners I know are embarassed by that condition.

Increase the restriction. 200 feet is not enough. I suggest 400 feet or more. There are pontoons that come closer than 200 feet so it's not just a wake boat issue. There's no way for the Lake Assoc to enforce these rules anyway. If you have another meeting on this issue, don't schedule it during the off season when fewer people can attend the meeting.

We have had to add ten tons of rock to our lake shore (riprap) due the erosion of our shore, this is on top of our 33 tons we put in prior to this becoming a problem. My neighbors on both side of our property had to put in rocks (riprap) due to the erosion on their property shoreline. As lake homeowners we are having additional expense, in my opinion, due to the enhanced wakes created by these boats.

The lake association should have informational sessions on use of the lake rather than moving the agenda and time-table of a small group of people. Has the Board of the lake association set up another informational session regarding wake boats? The transient boats using the lake do far worse to reduce the quality of our lake and if current laws were enforced, I do not believe this would be an issue. The lake association should not behave as a political body.

Enhanced wakes need to be restricted to specific areas of the lake where the activity can be conducted without harming our lakes. All boat owners should also be reminded of respecting lakeshore and others in-water stored boats by being mindful of their wake.

This is a problem on all levels that affect our lake:. Boater safety (I've almost been swamped on my pontoon several times and lost my anchored position more than once); shoreline damage is apparent; the disruption and deterioration of the lake ecology and impact on fish. Whatever is decided by the Lake Assoc., there needs to be enforcement that's effective. I'm grateful that the Lake Assoc. is looking into this. Thank you and thank you for this survey.

"It sure seems from this survey and the questions that are asked that you already have made up your mind on your ""goal"" of trying to get rid of wake and surf boats. Especially question #4 where you only give the options of the ""majority"" of the members instead of everyone on this lake should be represented in these matters. It is clear the majority of the lake members do not own wake boats or surf boats. Therefore, it is very predictable how this survey will be answered.

We have been owners of property on the lake since 2007 and have been very proud to be on the lake so we can enjoy everything it offers. In fact, we remodeled our old cabin once and then eventually knocked it down and rebuilt a home with the intention to spend most of our retirement on Wapo. The memories and friendships we have made since owning on Wapo are priceless and our kids and their friends continue to return to the lake regularly to enjoy the lake and the water sports including wake surfing along with the fishing opportunities the lakes offer. We only operate our wake boat in deeper waters and stay away from the shorelines. We are respectful for others on the lake while operating our wake boat. We look forward to the day when our grandkids can also enjoy this sport on Wapo.

We have invested a lot on this lake, support the local businesses and want to continue to be proud to be members of the lake. Taking away wakeboats completely based on the ""majority"" of this survey is not right. Having reasonable restrictions of deeper water and a reasonable distance from the shorelines is a good option.

More law enforcement on the lake, especially on the weekends. Boaters are coming too close to shore and other boats with wakes, going too fast! Boaters are going too fast through the point, (the narrows) which is no wake. Most often one gets "the finger" when asking them to slow down.

"Wake boats when being operated with ballast produce a wake that can be dangerous to other boater, swimmers, fishermen and others users of the lake. These wakes can also cause damage to shorelines moored boats and docks. The prop wash from the boats can cause damage to the bottom of the lake 20ft deep or deeper.

Our lake is not well suited for the use of boats producing an enhanced wake and our depths are so irregular it makes difficult to impossible to operate effectively and not damage the bottom.

We need well thought out ordinances either from the state or our local townships that protect our lake from damage, to the bottom, shorelines, invasive species, our residence and their property. I don't see how we can do this effectively with out banning the use of ballast to produce an enhanced wake.

When we protect the lake and our home owners everyone will win.

Advocate for the continued sport of wake surfing. These boats go 10 mph when surfing vs. 25-30 mph when skiing or wakeboarding. It is a far safer sport and uses less gas. The vast majority of the lake is rip rap and the winters ice does far more damage to the shoreline than any watersport. Question 4 is too limited to choose, the majority shouldn't always rule. If, that was the case then lots of people's hobbies would be eliminated because they aren't in step with the majority. For instance, just because most people don't hunt deer, should the majority be able to eliminate deer hunting?

Last time I counted over 50 large wake boats on both Bear Trap and Wapogasset Lakes. That's a lot of wake boats for 1375 acres of water. I doubt you can have all of them using the middle of the lakes. I really don't have an answer but maybe you do have to ban them or limit use of them.

"We need to work with Lincoln and Garfield Townships boards on this issue and garner their support. If survey results are to be shared with lake residents then they should be anonymous
Thank you"

I saw a report/ white paper distributed several months ago. However, my impression of this document was that the author's conclusions were unsupported by real world evidence. It

seemed anecdotal. If there is solid evidence that damage is being done, then I would support taking action.

Is it a real threat? Does deep water prevent the threat? Get WI law to enforce or just express views. Only WI law will work so if its real, lobby for it.

Wake boating in Wapo only would be an option

Center area of the lake only

Beartrap is way to small of a lake

The wakes are reaching the shore and coming way over any shoreline rocks

We have had water come over the top of our pontoon.

Glad you are asking the question. I think education is key for everyone.

Safety, water quality, and shore quality are higher priorities than wake boarding.

Public access should be limited or removed. There is no advantage for those who pay to be on the lake to have this open access. It's only degraded our lives and lakeshores and lake quality.

Look at the deterioration of our shore lines in the past 5 years , that says if all !!!!

We struggled with the question of prohibiting enhanced wakes vs allowing enhanced wakes with restrictions because we don't feel the restrictions regarding water depth and distance from shore would be enforced. Current restrictions are not enforced now. Therefore prohibiting enhanced wakes may likely be a better solution.

To many boats creating huge wakes that rip up the shoreline. Way to close to the shore and the no wake signs. we used to have alake patrol, not an officer, but just able to hand out warnings to and make note of what boaters are repeat offenders and turning it over with evidence, to dnr or Polk county sheriff's.

Educate, don't increase regs. Listen to the majority not the few who are complaining. Use common sense

There needs to be a minimum distant wakeboarding boats needs to be from docks and other boat while creating large wakes. The large wakes create problems for slow speed pontoons and fishing boats getting swamped or semi-submerged. Also, there are too many ski and wake boarding boats using the lake after sunset.

Regarding question 3, I would like to limit enhanced wakes to wapo and prohibit them from bear trap. Because wapo is bigger it can allow the waves to dissipate with limits on depth and distance from shore.

Water pollution and run-off from chemically treated lawns

Continue to educate lake users with the facts on effects of wakes on lake health

Having been on the lake for almost 20 years it has been impressive to see the efforts by the lake association to improve the quality of the lake water. Clearly the enhanced wakes created by wake board boats are a problem due to the following reasons: damaged fishing habitat, boater/canoe/paddle board safety and shoreline damage/erosion. Non-wake board cabin owners should not have to bear the increased cost of fixing/protecting their shorelines from these wakes and they should not have to incur repairs costs for their docks and boats due to these wakes. The safety issues created by these boats are many including driver visibility and falling overboard risks for fisherman, canoers and paddle boarders when they are hit by these wakes. As an avid fisherman I can confirm that getting hit by these wakes is concerning and a safety issue. Also, we are taking steps to manage runoff into the lake via land purchases and harvesting curly pondweed. All of those efforts will be negatively impacted by the sediment that is disturbed by these wake board boats. Overall, we should not allow all of the previous work to improve the lake safety and water to take significant steps backwards due to the impacts of enhanced wakes.

This is going to be a difficult task because the lake is not that deep and there are many areas in the middle of the lake where the water depth decreases quickly. Based on the articles it will be difficult to find spots that are 500 feet from shore and at a depth of 20 feet. The referenced article actually recommends a depth of 30 feet until further studies are done. I think it would be almost impossible to meet this requirement on the WBT lakes.

That being said I feel the lake association has to find areas where the impact is minimal and enforce a policy that restricts wake board boats to these areas. We should also consider time of day restrictions and leverage cameras at the boat landings to insure wake boats are properly emptying their ballasts before they enter the lake. Sand Lake to the north requires every boat to be sprayed down before entering the lake. Maybe we have to develop a strategy to sanitize the ballasts before they enter the lake. Just a thought."

Enhanced wake restrictions would be great as opposed to an outright ban, but NEVER enforced. So what's the point there? Even before these enhanced wake boats made the scene, skiers/tubers/even general boaters are too close to other boats and a grossly higher speed than they should, let alone what these huge wakes do to our shoreline even with heavy riprap. This has gone unchecked for years and I think has become even more relaxed over the past 5-10 years. Then add the enhanced wake boats and it's completely off the rails.

I know leaders on the lake have been diligently working to address this issue and have at times run into some pretty crabby wake boat owners. My suggestion would be to put the challenge out to the owners of the wake and wake enhanced boats to come up with a solution or two. Otherwise, aggressive restrictions will be no one's fault but their own."

Not allowing wake board waves on Bear Trap is important. Wapo is a much larger lake and I think it would be appropriate to continue access on Wapo but limited to some set distance from any shore. Thank you for your careful attention to this issue.

Unfortunately, the County does not have the resources to patrol and monitor all the lakes. A number of boats do not adhere to the laws of keeping 100 ft from the Docks when producing a wake. For enhanced wake boats, even 100 feet is not enough. Our shorelines and lake bottoms are taking a beating and erosion is a problem. If we can educate our residents and visitors and appeal to their love of the lakes, maybe we can get them to stay in the middle and cut down on the damage they are causing. Banning the boats will only cause animosity and dissension. Take responsibility for your actions and boat responsibly. As always, boat responsibly. Know how your boat, wake and noise levels affect the quality, safety and enjoyment of the lake for all residents and visitors. Your wake hits the shore, other boats and docks minutes after you pass in most cases. Be aware of this and the potential hazards your wake produces. One of the greatest hazard is the damage to the lake bottom, stirring up algae prone nutrients captured in the lake bottom, especially in 15 feet or less depths.

Increase in property taxes for lake property owners. Paying high property taxes yet if not having Wisconsin as primary residence not able to purchase a fishing license at the in-state price. Not sure the association would have any influence on these items.

Proper use of thrusters

The Lake Association should represent all views of its members regardless if it is majority or not.

More education for all boaters on the lake should be a priority.

Separate rules on our lakes vs. other lakes in Wisconsin will destroy our property values and would likely be challenged at Association expense."

We do not have any concerns about this issue, and we do not own a wake boat. What is the "issue" here? If it is shoreline erosion, put rocks on the shoreline. We think that the lake has exactly the right amount of no-wake zones currently, and does not need anything more.

I believe the main issue is with a small portion of boats that are too close to the shore or not respecting other boaters. Wakeboats should be able to operate in areas where the depth is adequate and proper distance is maintained from the shoreline, This specific area in Wapo is actually where the majority of boats are operating and should be the first step to implement versus broad based banning. Other lakes throughout the country have found solutions over simply banning and this needs to be the first step here as well. To the surprise of some, most of the boat owners are also fisherman and care about the quality of lakes and being respectful to others as well. There is a solution here for everyone to benefit from and a total ban is not the correct pathway.

All good here. Thanks for taking the time to reach out to the membership

Once we start banning certain boats from the lake, where does it stop? It was not long ago the lake assc wanted to ban Jet Ski/Wave runners when they first were being used. Do we ban "bass" boats that go to fast and possibly present a danger to the lake and other boaters? Do we ban the "weed eater" because it cuts down the habitat the hatchlings need just after the hatch? I could go on and on with more examples of how we all affect the health and safety of the lake... Again, where does it stop with the special rules or bans for a certain group of lake property owners?

If we look at the total use of surf boats on the lake on a yearly basis, the time on lake is minimal. Let's say maybe 14 weeks a year where the weather conditions permit. i.e. air temperature, ice, water temp, rain, wind, etc... Usually only 2 days per week there is above average usage. After the 4th of July, the lake is used very little, as we all know.

I believe this exercise to ban a certain boat, with this usage of the lake, is much to do about nothing.

Bone Lake went through this exercise, with their lake assc, a few years ago and came to the conclusion that the state laws would suffice. Bone Lake is almost an exact replica of Wapo. Although they have more islands to navigate than Wapo.

I also believe that this will affect property values on the lake. If you have families looking at second home, or cabins, they will not want to be on a lake where certain boats are banned. As we know, most of these boats costs eclipse the price of a cabin not long ago. Why buy on Wapo, when Deer, Bone and most of Balsam have no such rules.

The supposed expert the Lake Assc brought in was the most one-sided hit job I've seen to a certain group of people who own surf boats. Quite frankly, he had no idea about OUR lake. He didn't even know how to pronounce the name, let alone the health of the lake. Our family has been on the lake over 60 years and it has never been so healthy (minus the zebra mussels now). I believe most people would agree that the lake looks great and we have never had more Loons, Swans, Eagles, Osprey and waterfowl as we do now.

As lake property owners, and assc members, we must remember we don't own the lake. Thank you,

More enforcement for watercraft violations

We've been on the lake for 20 years and are proponents of a healthy WBT lakes for the long term. We currently own a hybrid ski/surf boat and have changed our practice the past two summers so that now we only surf in the very middle of the Wapogasset. We aren't in favor of banning surfboats on our WBT, but we would like to be informed of new studies / data that provide further insights into any impacts on lakes of similar size / dynamics of WBT. For that matter, we'd like to be informed of new studies / data that provide insights into ANY beneficial or negative impacts on lakes similar to WBT in terms of invasive species, fertilizers/runoff, weed control, improper disposal of trash/waste into lakes, etc.

I haven't seen any enforcement officials on the lake in a few years.

Invest lake association money into reducing green algae.

Jetskis operation distance to docks and anchored boats.

Send out law regarding speed by shorelines. Ask residents to send a photo of the boat identification if they are repeat offenders.

The Lake Association should continue to study the enhanced wake boats impact on our lakes and make recommendations to the members. Then continue to advocate for the majority with the appropriate DNR entities

Q1) There is no enforcement evident on our lake. Self enforcement of shoreline rules is non-existent. Q2) As property owners we want to maintain safe use of boats, kayaks, floatables. We also want to protect our property investment. If the lake is properly managed our property values will be maintained. If the lake is not properly managed for safe use we lose our property value. Wake boats are not healthy for smaller/shallow lake's. Q3) Our lakes are too small/shallow and voluntary enforcement of current restrictions are not being followed. Q5) We need to take care of our lake. Maybe our lake owners strictly follow restrictions? But how many wake boats are using our lake and have no concern regarding the restrictions or the health and protection of our lake. We need to know and control our non-owner use of our lake and have a plan to deal with that.

Give tickets to wake boats that drive too close to the shore

1) Wake boats that create an enhanced wake should not be allowed in shallow, smaller lakes such as Bear Trap and much of Wapogasset! 2) Wake boats that are owned by wapogasset/bear trap residents should be grandfathered to operate in designated areas in wapogasset! 3) Because of ballast contamination concerns, no outside wakeboats should be allowed to be trailored in on wapogasset/bear trap.

I am okay with wake boat owners who want the wake to stay only in 25 foot plus depth & 700 feet from shorelines.

Safety