

Dear waterway supporter,

Please see the following excerpt from the Fox Waterway Agency Code of rules and regulations pertaining to special regulations during flood and overflow conditions and the issuance of zones being deemed NO WAKE. These guidelines have been in place for many years with minimal flexibility allowed. The overflow conditions have become more prevalent due to the increased and record levels of precipitation we saw last year and, now, this year. In fact, it is estimated that with only a 15% greater amount of precipitation falling on our watershed that the waterway is subjected to a far greater percentage of runoff as a result. In fact, it is estimated that this additional precipitation could have the net effect of an adding as much as 55% more runoff into the waterway.

This is also exasperated by local towns, villages and communities around the waterway who find quicker and more expedient ways to drain water into our system through the 1000's of ditches and storm water systems around the nearly 500 miles of shorelines of the Fox Waterway. Also, many of the detention and retention ponds in the counties surrounding our system are in gross need of repair and are not being maintained or operating as they should. What this means is that much more water makes it to our system without properly functioning detention systems slowing and/or allowing the water to be absorbed into the ground.

These realities, along with the added effect of the increased runoff from the waters of Wisconsin are challenging on the system. Our Agency is and continues the work to battle these realities and we appreciate very much your support and assistance in doing so. We all know that many have and certainly exercise their rights to complain about the situation. We will continue the worthwhile effort to battle and improve the situation. You deserve it!

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **SPECIAL REGULATIONS DURING FLOOD AND OVERFLOW CONDITIONS**

#### 5.01 Waterway Zones

#### 5.02 No Wake Boating Area

#### 5.01 WATERWAY ZONES

In the event of flood and overflow conditions on the Waterway, the Agency or the IDNR may designate all or part of the Waterway as a No Wake Boating Area or a Restricted Boating Area subject to the boating restrictions set forth in this Chapter. For the purposes of this Chapter, the Waterway territory shall be divided into three zones: Zone A, Zone B and Zone C, which zones include the following territory:

1. Zone A: Waterway territory from the Algonquin dam north to the McHenry dam.
2. Zone B: Waterway territory from the McHenry dam north to Pistakee Lake
3. Zone C: Waterway territory from Pistakee Lake north to the Wisconsin State line.

#### 5.02 NO WAKE BOATING AREA

A. A zone may be deemed "No Wake" upon the Agency's determination that severe high water conditions exist, and:

1. for Zone A, whenever the IDNR's Stratton Lock and Dam tail water downstream gauge (hereinafter "Stratton Dam gauge") reading exceeds 3.00;
2. for Zone B, whenever the IDNR's Johnsburg gauge exceeds 4.50; and
3. for Zone C, whenever the IDNR's Fox Lake gauge exceeds 5.00.

B. A "No Wake" designation under this Chapter may remain in effect until the water gauge reading in the affected zone has decreased to at or below the levels set forth in this Section.

I hope this is helpful. Please be safe and have a wonderful 4<sup>th</sup> of July week!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph S. Keller", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Joseph S. Keller

Fox Waterway Agency