

**TOWN OF HUNTER, SAWYER COUNTY
MOTORBOAT WAKE PROTECTION AREA
ORDINANCE NO. 2021-01**

SECTION 1 – PURPOSE

An ordinance to regulate boating upon all the waters within the Town of Hunter, Sawyer County, Wisconsin and prescribing penalties for violation thereof.

SECTION 2 – AUTHORITY

The Town Board of the Town of Hunter does ordain as follows:

SECTION 3 – APPLICABILITY AND ENFORCEMENT

The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all the waters within the Town of Hunter. This ordinance shall be enforced by the officers of Sawyer County and LCO Conservation.

SECTION 4 – INTENT

The intent of this ordinance is to provide safe and healthful conditions for the enjoyment of aquatic recreation consistent with public rights and interests and the capability of the water resources to minimize shoreline erosion.

SECTION 5 – STATE BOATING AND SAFETY LAWS ADOPTED

State boating laws as found in ss. 30.50 to 30.71, Wis. Stats. are adopted by reference here.

SECTION 6 - PENALTIES

Wisconsin state boating penalties as found in s. 30.80, Wis. Stats., deposits established in the Uniform Deposit and Bail Schedule established by the Wisconsin Judicial Conferences are hereby adopted by reference and all references to fines amended to forfeitures and all references to imprisonment are deleted.

SECTION 7 - SEVERABILITY

The provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed severable and it is expressly declared that the Town of Hunter would have passed the other provisions of this ordinance irrespective of whether or not one or more provisions may be declared invalid. If any provision of this ordinance or the application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the ordinance and the application of such provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

SECTION 8 – MOTORBOAT WAKE PROHIBITION AREA

No person shall operate a motorboat, as defined in s. 30.50(6), Wis. Stats. on the waters within the Town of Hunter in a manner to enhance an elevated wake for over 50 feet in length closer than 700 feet from any shoreline, dock, pier, raft or other restricted area(s) within the Town of Hunter. An elevated wake is a trail of disturbed water left by the passage of a watercraft in excess of 24 inches. Such prohibited operation shall apply to wake enhancement watercraft by the use of ballast, mechanical hydrofoil(s), uneven loading or operation at transition speed. Transition speed means the speed at which the boat is operating at greater than slow-no-wake speed, but not fast enough so the boat is planning.

SECTION 9 – POSTING REQUIREMENTS

The Town Hunter shall place and maintain a synopsis of this ordinance at all public access points within the jurisdiction of the Town Hunter pursuant to the requirements of NR 5.15, Wis. Adm. Code.

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SECTION 10 – EFFECTIVE DATE

This section will become effective upon its passage.

Passed this 14th day of April, 2021

Laura Rusk, Chair

Kay Ryan, Supervisor

James D. Dier, Supervisor

Attest:

Patricia R. Swaffield, Clerk

A message to our CFAPOA members regarding the Town of Hunter's recent passing of new enhanced wake Ordinance Number 2021-01

Greetings from the CFAPOA Board of Directors. As a response to membership's list of concerns based on last summer's survey results, a motion was made during the February, 4, 2021 CFAPOA monthly meeting to address large wake enhancement motorboats operating on the Chippewa Flowage. The CFAPOA motion passed unanimously. The Town of Hunter Board of Supervisors were advised regarding CFAPOA's wake enhancement concerns, and it was recommended the Town of Hunter Board pass a new town ordinance limiting wake enhancement motorboat operating within 700' of any shoreline, be it island or mainland. This new ordinance was given final approval and unanimously passed by the Town of Hunter Board on April 14, 2021 **ORDINANCE NO. 2021-**

01

Similar wake enhancement ordinances are presently in effect locally on all lakes within Bass Lake Township (2018 passed), and the Tigercat Flowage within Round Lake Township (2020 passed).

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What this ordinance is NOT

This ordinance will not affect Tubing, waterskiing, wakeboarding, or any of the watersports you enjoyed last summer. The reason for this is that all these examples are done with the pulling boat on plane. Having the boat "on plane" minimizes the boat wakes adverse effects on docks, shorelines, swimming, fishing, kayaking, and other boating activity.

Your board of directors believes everyone has a right to share and enjoy our lake and hesitates to try to control the way that some people choose to enjoy it. Yet, at the same time we need to find a way to protect it, and make sure that this one type of activity doesn't destroy the eco system, wilderness experience, and beauty of the Chippewa Flowage. Your board feels that the 700' distance is a reasonable compromise to outright banning of enhanced wake generating boats, and we sincerely believe that compliance to this ordinance is a better solution than enforcement. Let's all respect each other's time on the water. There is more information included in this email I am willing to help answer questions. Dennis Claggett 715 462 4814.