

WAKE BOAT STATEMENT
APPROVED BY THE FOVLAP BOARD 10.04.21

Consistent with the Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds (FOVLAP) mission to preserve and protect Vermont's lakes, ponds and their watersheds for the benefit of this and future generations, the FOVLAP Board recognizes and is concerned about artificially enhanced large wakes and the powerful propeller wash produced during wakeboarding and wake surfing activities and their effects on public safety, shoreline erosion, property damage, ecosystem disruption, aquatic invasive species (AIS) spread, and water quality. In addition, the voluminous ballasts on vessels used for these sports significantly increase the risk of lake-to-lake AIS spread since such devices by design cannot be fully drained of water and are effectively impossible to inspect or decontaminate.

The Board further notes that Vermont's aquatic nuisance species transport law ([10 V.S.A. § 1454](#)) prohibits the transport of all aquatic plants, plant parts, invasive or not, or aquatic invasive animal species (i.e., zebra mussels, spiny water flea) to or from any Vermont water body. Violations of state law are subject to a fine. Any nuisance or invasive plant and animal no matter how small, has the potential to root or multiply and do irreparable harm to Vermont's beautiful lakes, ponds, wetlands, rivers, and streams.