

March 20, 2023

Claire Pendergast

77 Woodland Trail

Waterford, ME 04088

Re: LD693

To Whom it May Concern,

I am in complete support of LD693. I live on a small lake in Waterford, ME. Our lake is the home to a pair of loons and usually 1 to 3 baby loons each summer, we have 5 Bald Eagles on our lake with a very large Eagle's next. We've had 4 baby eagles successfully leave the nest between the last two summers. We have many ducks, Common Merganser, Great Blue Herons, snapping turtles, bass and other fish. Around the lake live coyote, fox, mink, snowshoe rabbit, deer, bobcats, wild turkeys, fisher, squirrels and a plethora of birds including hummingbirds, robins, blue jays, crows, hawks, woodpeckers, tufted titmouse, goldfinch, sparrow, finch, nuthatch, wood thrush, brown headed cowbird, wren, black capped chickadee, cardinal, Baltimore Oriole, Eastern Bluebirds, and the Common Grackle to name a few. All these species rely on the lake to provide water, food and nesting areas for either themselves or their prey. The large wakes produced by these wake boats erodes the shoreline and disrupts the nesting and habitat for all these animals or their prey. The wildlife is one of the reasons that Maine is such a sought after vacation and hunting location. Please set some regulations on these wake boats, so our wildlife can survive. Please do not allow these wake boats to be used on small or shallow lakes that do not have the square footage to allow the wakes to die down before they get to the shore. These large waves on these smaller or more shallow lakes destroy the habitat of these amazing creatures that create our fragile ecosystem. Please do not allow the sport of a very few ruin the habitat and beauty for the majority of Mainers. There are plenty of large lakes in Maine that can handle these wake boats, so these individuals can enjoy these boats on either the ocean or large lakes.

Thank you for listening to my concerns.

With Gratitude,

Claire Pendergast

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