

Heather Finnell

From: ~~Grier Hock~~
Sent: Sunday, July 19, 2026 8:10 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: Town Water, Health and Safety Concerns

Hello,

Please add this email to the public comments for this Tuesday, July 21 meeting.

I am writing to express concerns that many are not aware of the severity of our drought and current water restrictions. The electronic signs by the bridge may need more information in order to be effective. Many people do not know what the Stage 3 restrictions mean and may have no clue what county this is to even look up the restrictions. We have folks that come from all over the country and are totally unaware of the severe need to conserve water.

Other areas of the state are not being asked to conserve on our scale and people may not understand the current local situation. The signs right before July 4th were very clear about the drought and dangers of fireworks. Many are still washing cars and using lots of water while on vacation without truly understanding. The signs need clearer direction and rental agencies need to share at check in the issue as well.

It is very concerning that this area has had exponential population growth, and no water plants have been added. The town needs to advocate for safe and clean water for residents and visitors. There has been talk around town that the water tower went dry the other day. I hope this is just a rumor as it would be terrible if there were fires and no water. Fires get out of control quickly here and the time to respond has been an ongoing concern. I know folks are all fired up about still exploring reopening the pier, but we have bigger basic issues. We need basics before we can spend funds on an even exploring the pier that folks voted against. The town took away beach side trash cans to save money.

A beach town needs safe water, fire protection and a clean beach community in order to survive.

Grier Hock
1222 OBW

Heather Finnell

From: Carlton [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2026 7:30 PM
To: Alan Holden; Bryan Chadwick; Tom Myers; Sylvia Pate; Keith Smith; Commisioner Dyer; Robert Brown
Cc: Heather Finnell; Christy Ferguson
Subject: No Wake Zone - Public Feedback

Below is part of public feedback I sent the board at the time on 9/21/2021 regarding no wake zone in the ICW behind the island for reference. I do not believe anything significant has changed since then.

Note the state statute put forward and apparently passed in 1999 regarding a no wake zone as well.

I do 100% support any efforts to get an official No Wake Zone established, AND enforced year round. The USACOE (U.S. Army Corp of Engineers) may still be the biggest hurdle.

ICW and No-Wake zone – always a pet peeve of mine

The ICW (AIWW - Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway) is a FEDERAL marine highway for commerce, built, owned/maintained by the US Army Corps of Engineers. The TOHB has no marine unit to enforce the no-wake zone even if it was in the Towns' jurisdiction. You *may* get more patrolling from the County Sheriff's office. The Feds do not patrol it for purposes of the no wake zone. The USACOE also does not permit no wake zones in the ICW except in very limited circumstances.

After some research, it appears the ACOE will not prevent the town from installing properly marked signage. You need to start with NC Wildlife.

There are no *official* signs at this point. There is a sign on the west side of the dredge dock noting *No Wake Zone next ¾ mile*. There is a sign on the east side of the dredge dock noting *END No Wake Zone*. Neither are enforceable. State law designates a No Wake Zone from roughly Rogers St. to a subdivision roughly ¼ mile EAST of Betty's/Lulu's restaurant. That is a quarter mile LONGER than most local people acknowledge, including me. I thought it was from roughly just west of PROCO to Betty's restaurant (now the Wharf).

State statute Re: Holden Beach No Wake Zone -

<https://www.ncleg.net/EnactedLegislation/SessionLaws/PDF/1999-2000/SL1999-92.pdf>

The town should invest \$5-10k (or whatever it takes) to get pilings sunk in the proper locations and properly affixed signage to said pilings. I believe the signs have to meet specific criteria to be official. And, the No Wake Zone is not enforceable without official proper signage.

<https://www.ncwildlife.org/Boating/Laws-Safety/No-Wake-Zone-Info>

Is it Legal? Is it Enforceable?

Enforcement of No Wake Zones is limited to those areas that have been established by federal and state rulemaking or legislation *and that are properly marked*. No Wake Zones must display regulatory signs or buoys that conform to the standards of the U.S. Aids Navigation (USATONS). A No Wake marker that does not conform to USATONS standards or that has been placed in public trust waters without authorization is subject to removal.

An unmarked No Wake Zone is not enforceable.

The local unit of government or its designee is responsible for the purchase and placement of No Wake markers. Unless otherwise specified in the rule the responsibility for maintenance of markers rests with the agency. The applicant or its designee may obtain technical assistance from the NCWRC Land and Water Access Division at (919) 707-0150.

Remember, no regulatory marker or navigational aid may be placed in the waters of the State without the express permission of the NCWRC

Heather Finnell

From: KIM REEB [mailto:kim.reeb@ncleg.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 16, 2026 11:06 AM
To: Heather Finnell
Cc: Alan Holden; Christy Ferguson; charles.Miller@ncleg.gov
Subject: Re: Proposed NO WAKE zone should be extended to Boyd (1block further)

Dear Heather;

I am re-writing as a property owner on Lois Avenue on Holden Beach. I read your Public Notice about extending the NO WAKE Zone to Roger Street.

I think this is short sided and an injustice to the SAFETY of boaters using the intracoastal waterway just east of the spoils area at Boyd Avenue and west of Roger Street. The boats barreling down the waterway have the opportunity at the spoils area, where the intracoastal waterway is wide, to accelerate creating Giant bow waves. At Marker 53 the waterway narrows due to the development and docks.

There are 2 public boat ramps a kayak launch, paddle board access, and 2 boat and jet ski rentals west of the bridge. These people, boats and jet skis exit the area down the narrow waterway towards the open area at the spoils area next to Marker 53.

I have personally witnessed these smaller jet skis, kayaks, paddle boards and small skiffs get buffeted by these GIANT bow waves. It is only a matter of time until one of these smaller watercraft gets washed into the docks at the narrowed waterway from Marker 53 to the bridge, causing injury and even, heaven forbid, Death.

It stands to reason that moving the NO WAKE zone just 600 feet west to marker 53 would improve the SAFETY to those watercraft using the Intracoastal waterway, giving them the opportunity to get safely to the open area next to the spoils area a Marker 53.

Please consider modifying the Application to NC Wildlife Resources Commission to extend the NO WAKE zone to Marker 53 just west of Boyd Avenue.

Thank You for your consideration!

David Keech
231 Lois Avenue
717-487-6018 cell

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 4:42 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: no wake zone

As a property owner on HBI along the ICW, I support the application to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission to request a no wake zone in the Intracoastal Waterway from Blockade Runner Drive to Roger Street.

Craig and Donna Burghardt
107 Eastview Dr
Brevard, NC 28712

and

117 South Shore Dr
Holden Beach, NC 28462

(828) 279-0555

Heather Finnell

From: Nick Baileys
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 3:17 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: Public Comment - Proposed ICW No-Wake Zone (Blockade Runner Dr to Roger St)

Dear Ms. Finnell,

Please submit the following comment into the public record for the Board of Commissioners' meeting on July 21st regarding the proposed no-wake zone application.

I support the town submitting an application to the NC Wildlife Resources Commission for a no-wake zone between Blockade Runner Drive and Roger Street. This specific stretch of the Intracoastal Waterway has significant recreational traffic, leading to dangerous wake-induced conditions for kayakers, paddleboarders, moored vessels, and the people accessing them.

The heavy wake is not just a property issue; it has become a navigational safety hazard for small-craft operators trying to safely transit or access the water in this congested residential and commercial zone. I urge the Board to move forward with the application to protect public safety on our waterways.

Sincerely,

Nick Baileys

117 S Shore Dr., Holden Beach

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 2:34 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: Fwd: Holden Beach Newsletter

Hello Heather,

The previous email asked for comments regarding the request for a no wake zone in the Intracoastal Waterway from Blockade Runner Drive to Roger Street. As a waterway homeowner between these streets, I believe a no-wake zone is critical.

Thank you for requesting our input.

Sincerely,

Kristen

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Town of Holden Beach <heather-hbtownhall.com@shared1.ccsend.com>
Date: Tue, Jul 14, 2026 at 12:00 PM
Subject: Holden Beach Newsletter
To: <kmburgha@gmail.com>



July 14, 2026

Public Notice - Application to NC Wildlife Resources Commission

Public notice is hereby given that the Holden Beach Board of Commissioners will receive public input on the Town's consideration of submitting an application

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]@net>
Sent: Wednesday, July 15, 2026 11:08 AM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: No Wake Zone

Please share this email with the mayor, town manager, and BOC members.

Regarding the proposed extension of the no wake zone west to Roger Street, I believe there are significant public safety issues that would suggest an extension to Boyd Street or perhaps marker 53.

When traveling east on the ICW past marker 53, the navigable portion of the waterway narrows significantly due to 100+ foot docks that begin at Boyd Street. It further narrows on the mainland side by another 30 to 50 feet on a low tide due to exposed mud and shallow unnavigable water where the exposed mud ends.

I don't have any firm number on how much the volume of boat traffic has increased but would estimate that it has grown several hundred percent since the pandemic.

The combination of the narrowing that occurs and the greatly increased amount of boat traffic is just an accident waiting to happen. We have seen numerous near misses of boats traveling at high speed with other boats, personal watercraft, and even fixed docks. This is a serious safety issue that would be resolved by extending the no wake zone to Boyd Street or to marker 53.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Steve Jones
225 Lois Ave

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPad

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 4:41 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: No Wake Zone

My name is Bob Kendall, and I would like to add my input on the extension of the no wake zone.

I live on Lois Avenue and have a clear view of the waterway. I am in favor of the no wake zone extension. My thought is that the zone should extend one block further from Roger Street to Boyd Street.

I see a lot of water activity in this area. There are boats of all sizes, jet skis, paddle boards, kayaks. This area is very busy. I think it would be safer for all the people that use the waterway in this area to extend the no wake zone. The no wake zone would also help protect the sea walls and marsh from the large boat wakes.

Thank you for your attention,

Bob Kendall

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 4:19 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Cc: Alan Holden; Christy Ferguson
Subject: Proposed NO WAKE zone should be extended to Boyd (1block further)

Dear Heather;

I am writing a a property owner on Lois Avenue on Holden Beach. I read your Public Notice about extending the NO WAKE Zone to Roger Street.

I think this is short sided and an injustice to the 11 property owners on Lois with docks on the intracoastal waterway just east of the spoils area at Boyd Avenue and west of Roger Street. The boats barreling down the waterway have caused damage to all of our docks and some of our boats.

I personally have had to replace a broken piling and 3 hoops on my floating dock due to waves as high as 3 feet. My boat has been ripped from the cleats on the floating dock 3 times while tied to the floating dock. Luckily my neighbors were able to lasso my boat before is drifted into docks or the waterway.

Marker 53 would be a perfect place for the NO WAKE zone which would allow the bow wave to settle before any property is damaged.

Please consider modifying the Application to NC Wildlife Resources Commission include the 11 property owners on Lois Avenue and to extend the NO WAKE zone to Marker 53 just west of Boyd Avenue.

Thank You for your consideration!

David Keech
231 Lois Avenue
717-487-6018 cell

Heather Finnell

From: joseph.smith@brunswick.ca
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 1:47 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: Application for no wake zone

Heather,

We would like to acknowledge that we are 100% in favor of the no wake sign and further would like to see it begin at Boyd st.

Joseph Smith
Susan Challenger
239 Brunswick Avenue west

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 1:03 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: No wake zone

I heartily agree that we should have this no wake zone to Roger Drive! Please submit

Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS

Heather Finnell

From: T. Bailey
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 12:57 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: No Wake Zone

I am not available to attend the meeting on Tuesday. I would like to enter a comment strongly in favor of establishing the No Wake zone.

Tom Baileys
117 Southshore Drive
Holden Beach

Sent from my iPhone

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 12:50 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Cc: Chris Parker
Subject: Support for Extending the No Wake Zone to Boyd Street

Dear Town Officials,

I am writing in support of extending the proposed no wake zone, but I respectfully request that the town extend it to Boyd Street rather than ending it at Roger Street.

The transition to the spoil area begins near Boyd Street, and that is where a longer no wake zone is most needed. Extending the zone only to Roger Street would leave a section where larger wakes could still create safety concerns, shoreline erosion, and impacts to nearby properties and boaters.

Please consider extending the no wake zone to Boyd Street so the protected area includes the full transition into the spoil area. I believe this would provide a safer and more effective solution for everyone who uses and lives along this section of the waterway.

Thank you for your consideration and for your work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Heather Purple
Chris Parker
223 Lois St
Holden Beach
910-850-1766

Heather Finnell

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 12:23 PM
To: Heather Finnell
Subject: No wake

This should be extended from Roger street to Boyd street as that is where the transition occurs to the spoils area. There is no justification for stopping at Roger Street it just makes sense to take it to where the approximately 18 acre spoils area begins. Please pass this on to the town manager and BOC members.

Thanks,

Steve Jones
225 Lois Ave

Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail for iPhone