

This word document (20 pages) was created on 5/18/25 by Bruce Jackson, resident of SHPOA. There has been recent interest and also some confusion surrounding “our” SHPOA No Wake Markers, so I did a bit of research on the topic and have created this document to aid the neighborhood / board in the future. All information was obtained from the web and I have included links to everything, since these things seem to be periodically amended/updated.

The following excerpt from the NCWRC NO WAKE RULES addresses some of the key areas of responsibility. The entire document is attached and can be found at:

<https://www.ncwildlife.gov/boating/laws-safety/no-wake-zones>

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](tel:9197070150).

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

For reference, this was another useful piece of information found on one of the retrieved markers. There wasn't, however, any "7 digit identification number" anywhere on it.



My Conclusions as of 5/20/25.

- SHPOA is not responsible for the maintenance or costs of No Wake markers (buoys) surrounding our neighborhood.
- The Perquimans County commissioners initially approved of and funded them. Application was then submitted to Raleigh and approved by NCWRC board. Locations were then adopted and written formally into NC Administrative Code (NCAC).
- NC Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) is responsible for ongoing maintenance and support of these buoys.
- You can report missing, damaged or found buoys to the "maintenance team" by filling out form on website NCWILDLIFE.GOV and click on the Boating dropdown (see next page)
- Or you can call them 919-707-0040 or 919-707-0150 to report....
- But the person that answered when I called said that the online form is the best way to handle this.
- You will need the Latitude / Longitude coordinates for the markers (which can be found in this document) when you submit the form.

NCWILDLIFE website to report damaged or missing No Wake Zone markers. <https://www.ncwildlife.gov/>

The screenshot shows the NC Wildlife Resources Commission website. At the top, a blue banner contains a warning icon and the text: "Please Note: Our website has transitioned from ncwildlife.org to ncwildlife.gov. Visitors using the old .org URL will be automatically redirected to the new .gov URL." Below this is a dark green navigation bar with links: "Buy a License", "Renew a Vessel", "Report a Harvest", "eStore", "Donate", "Terms Of Use", and "Select Language". The main navigation menu includes "Wildlife & Habitat", "Hunting", "Fishing", "Boating", "Education", "Enforcement", "Outdoors", "Connect", and "About". The "Boating" menu is open, showing options: "Boating", "Registration and Titling", "Boating Access Areas", "Laws & Safety", "Boating Access Area Event Permits", "Marina Resources", "Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Program", and "Report a Found or Missing Buoy". The "Report a Found or Missing Buoy" option is circled in red. The background features a large image of a turkey in a field. At the bottom, a search bar is visible with the text "How do I ...".

The form:

Found/Missing Buoy Report

Buoy Report

Reported buoy is*

☒ Found ☐ Missing

Zoom in the map and click on the location of the reported buoy.*

Find address or place

Maxar Powered by Esri

Lat: 36.077390 Lon: -76.420740

Body of Water*













Yeopim River

The following pic is an excerpt from USCG: (it contains what constitutes marker compliance with USATONS)


<https://uscgboating.org/images/486.PDF>

Information and Regulatory Marks

These orange-and-white Aids are used to alert vessel operators to various warnings and regulations.

Symbol	Meaning	Examples
	Danger A diamond shape alerts boaters to hazards	 
	Restricted Operations Marks with a circle indicate areas with regulated operations	 
	Exclusion A diamond shape with a cross means boats are prohibited from the area	 
	Information Marks with a square provide helpful information such as directions, distances, and locations	 




Characteristics


- White with an orange horizontal band at both top and bottom.
- Black text within or around an orange square, circle, or diamond; or black text outside a diamond with an orange cross.
- May be buoys or beacons.
- If lit, the light will be white and may have any light rhythm except quick flashing, flashing (2), or Morse code "A."
- The chart symbol for this type of buoy is:  W Or

U.S. Aids to Navigation System www.uscgboating.org



Special Aids

These Aids indicate special areas or features such as anchoring, traffic separation, fishnet area, cables or pipelines, military exercise areas, and jetties.

Unlighted   

Lighted 

Characteristics

- All yellow.
- Come in a variety of shapes.
- May have one black letter.
- If lit:  OR 

State Waters Obstruction Mark

The State Water Obstruction Mark indicates to a vessel operator that an obstruction to navigation extends from the nearest shore to the buoy. Do not pass between the buoy and the shore.

Characteristics


- Black-and-white vertically striped buoy.
- May show a white reflector or display a quick-flashing white light.

Mooring Buoys

While not a navigational Aid, mooring buoys are worth mentioning. They are the only type of buoys to which mooring is permitted. Most mooring buoys are privately owned or are rental buoys. Permission is usually needed to use them.

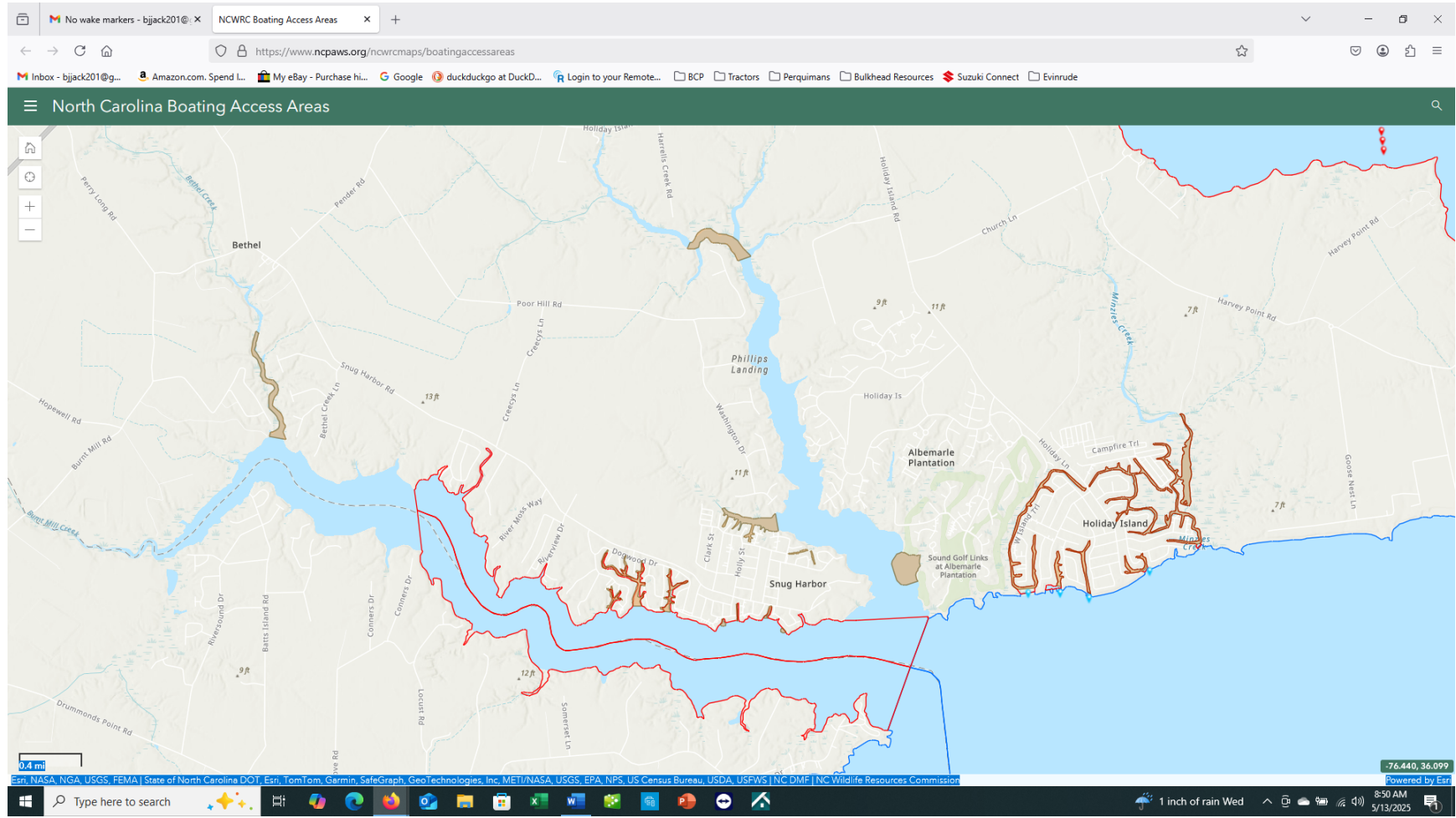
Characteristics

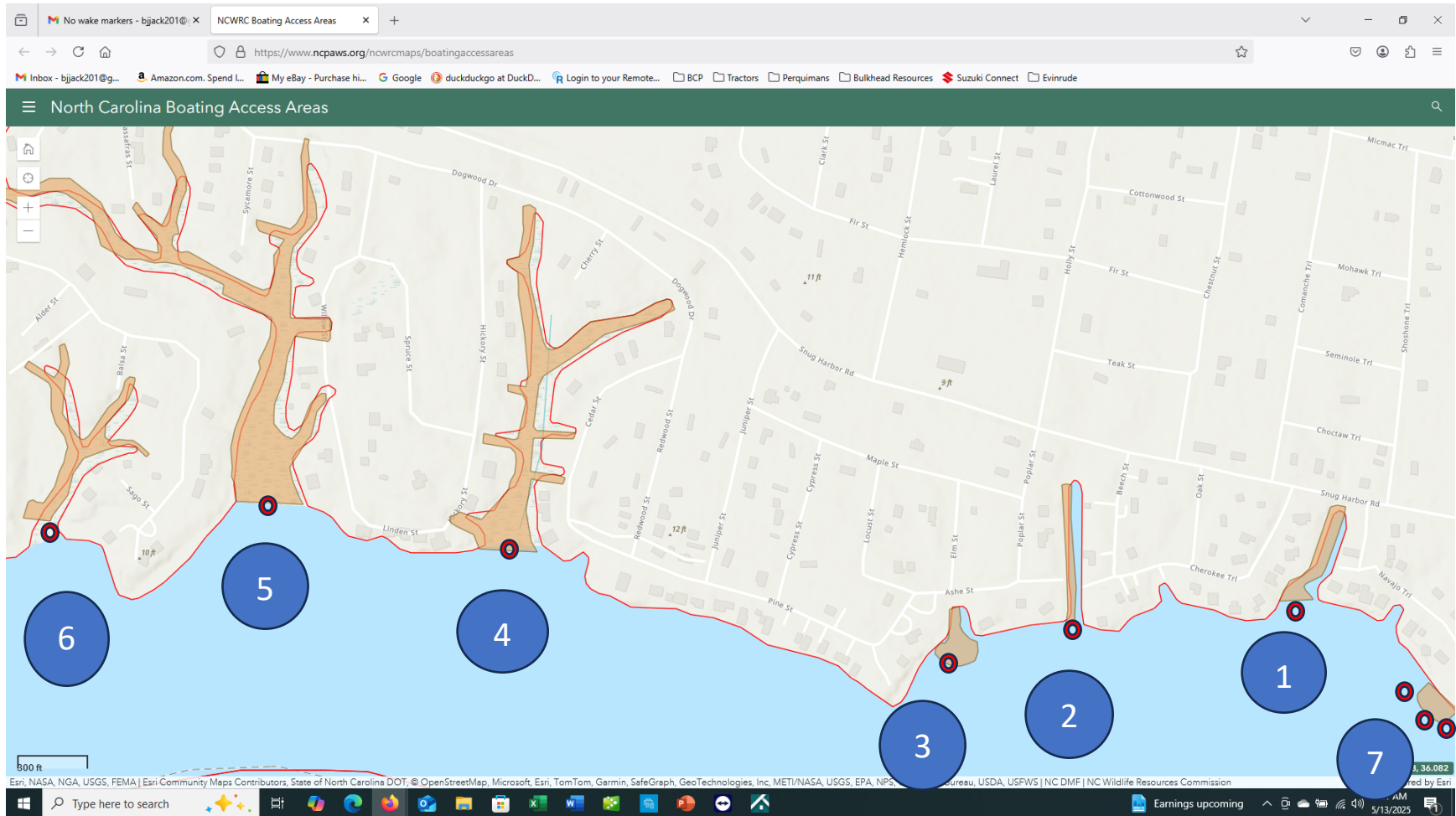
- White with blue horizontal band.
- Cylinder and sphere shapes.
- May show a white reflector or display white or yellow light.

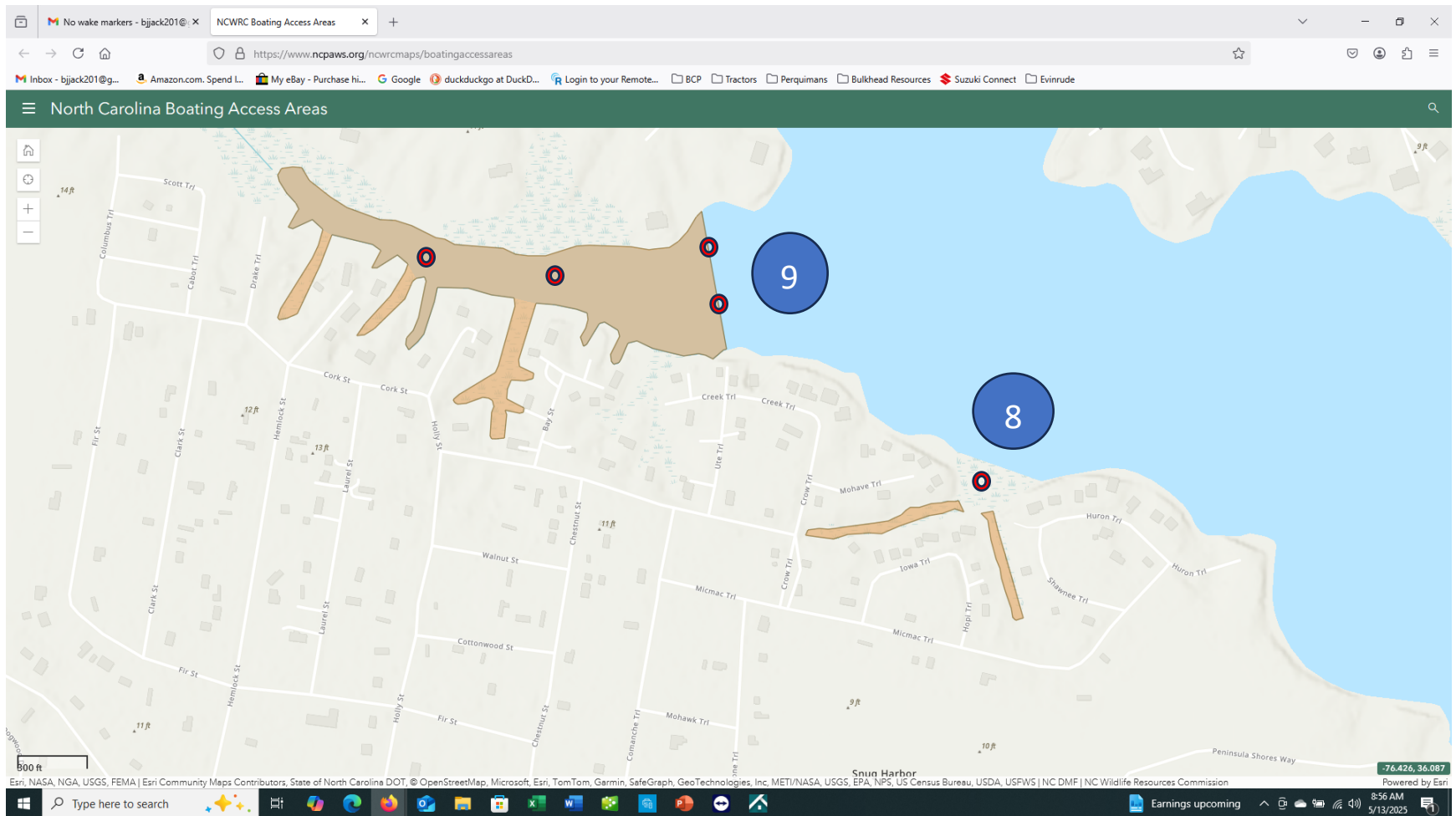
U.S. Aids to Navigation System 

The following 4 pictures are screenshots from: (I have added **blue** and **red** markings to pics 3&4 for reference to my tables)

<https://www.ncpaws.org/ncwrcmaps/boatingaccessareas>








The following 2 pages of tables are as of 5/1/25 and contain the current state (my opinion) of the no wake markers located in or near SHPOA:

Grade Legend and Summary:			
0%	can't read at all or missing marker	6	missing marker reports were submitted on 5/21/25 for all 6
10%	bad shape, difficult to read all/most of letters. Very faded	3	
25%	OK shape, faded, but can still make out some or most letters	2	
50%	decent shape, not too faded. can still read most of it	1	
75%	good shape, readable, including the speed limit	2	
100%	like new condition, no fading	0	
		14	
Description of the marker locations per 15A NCAC 10F .0355 Perquimans County		Grade %	Comments/Notes
Yeopim River:			
1	(A) the canal between Navaho Trail and Cherokee Trail beginning at a point at 36.07893 N, 76.42278 W;	0%	no marker present ✓
2	(B) the canal between Cherokee Trail and Ashe Street beginning at a point at 36.07865 N, 76.42603 W;	0%	no marker present ✓
3	(C) within 50 yards of the boat ramp at Ashe and Pine Street;	0%	no marker present, based on satellite photos, the approximate GPS coordinates are 36.078351 N, 76.427740 W ✓
4	(D) the canal between Pine Street and Linden Street beginning at a point at 36.07951 N, 76.43402 W;	10%	Out too far. Very faded, difficult to read
5	(E) the canal between Willow Street and Evergreen Drive beginning at a point at 36.08005 N, 76.43735 W;	10%	in place, but very faded, difficult to read
6	(F) the canal between Sago Street and Alder Street beginning at a point at 36.07986 N, 76.44063 W; and	25%	in place, moderately faded, but readable
n/a	(G) Bethel Creek north of a line from a point on the west shore at 36.09566 N, 76.47928 W to a point on the east shore at 36.09534 N, 76.47738 W to a line from a point on the west shore at 36.10532 N, 76.48080 W to a point on the east shore at 36.10516 N, 76.48047 W.	UNK	marker present. Did not approach due to low water
(c) Swimming Area.			
7	No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the swimming area at the Snug Harbor Park and Beach on the Yeopim River.		While no GPS coordinates are listed, there have historically been 3 markers present at the beach, at the following GPS coordinates.
	36.07739 N, 76.42074 W	0%	no marker present ✓
	36.07716 N, 76.42082 W	0%	no marker present ✓
	36.07671 N, 76.42021 W	50%	faded, but readable

Yeopim Creek:			
	(A) the canal between Mohave Trail and Iowa Trail beginning at a point at 36.08521 N, 76.41802 W;	n/a	no marker present....For (A) and (B), there is only one marker placed at GPS coordinates listed below
	(B) the canal between Iowa Trail and Shawnee Trail beginning at a point at 36.08511 N, 76.41763 W;	n/a	no marker present... these are side by side, very narrow canals with little or no room for a marker at the given GPS coordinates. This is likely why there is only one present covering them both
8	36.08572 N, 76.41753 W	50%	marker covers both of the above canals....It is faded but readable
n/a	(C) the area within 75 yards of the Albemarle Plantation Marina Piers;	0%	no marker present. Based on satellite photos, I believe the GPS coordinates should be about 36.08354 N, 76.40772 W 
9	(D) the area of the cove known as Beaver Cove, shore to shore beginning at a point at 36.08767 N, 76.42151 W; and	n/a	there is no marker present at this position. Beaver cove is very wide at the mouth and there are two markers placed as noted below. Another reason for two, was to get one closer to the SHPOA boat ramp while the other one catches traffic further out.. There are also two interior markers down further in the cove at the locations noted. This has been this way for at least 20 years that I have owned property here.
	36.08764 N, 76.42178 W	10%	one of two markers at the mouth of beaver cove. Very faded. Difficult to read
	36.08747 N, 76.42160 W	25%	one of two markers at the mouth of beaver cove. Very faded, but readable
	36.08782 N, 76.42361 W	75%	marker replaced recently with a spare, they had gone missing
	36.08805 N, 76.42560 W	75%	marker replaced recently with a spare, they had gone missing
n/a	(E) the waters of Yeopim Creek adjacent to Heritage Shores North, shore to shore, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.11356 N, 76.43138 W to a point on the south shore at 36.11288 N, 76.43173 W, to a line northwest from a point on the east shore at 36.11219 N, 76.42445 W to a point on the west shore at 36.11178 N, 76.42596 W	UNK	These markers have been placed only in recent years, and are still in decent shape.

NO WAKE ZONE INFORMATION AND PROCESS FROM NCWRC WEBSITE AT

<https://www.ncwildlife.gov/boating/laws-safety/no-wake-zones>

No Wake Zones



Definition and Statutory Authority

A “No Wake Zone” is an area within which vessels are required to travel at idling speed – slow speed that creates no appreciable wake. North Carolina General Statute [§75A-15](#) authorizes the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to establish water safety rules solely in the interest of mitigating water safety hazards. Rules adopted for placement of waterway markers establishing No Wake Zones also may be subject to approval by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard, and in coastal counties by the Division of Coastal Management of the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality.

Where to Find No Wake Zone Rules

No Wake Zones that have been adopted by rulemaking may be found in the North Carolina Administrative Code ([NCAC](#)) under Title 15A, Subchapter 10F .0300 (Local Water Safety Regulations). Rules are listed by county and occasionally by municipality. No Wake

Zones also may be adopted by Session Laws of the NC General Assembly and federal laws. No Wake Zones can be viewed in the [Boating Access Areas map](#).

Before you apply...

By [NCGS §75A-15\(b\)](#), applications for water safety rulemaking must be submitted by the county or municipality with jurisdiction over their waters. No Wake Zones may be established in public trust waters only to mitigate hazards to boating safety. Hazards to boating safety may include known navigational hazards; narrow shallow waters; areas of obstructed vision; structures in the area such as dams, spillways, flood control structures, trestles and power lines, and fueling docks; designated recreational or marked swimming areas; congested areas with high traffic; a history of accidents, and public vessel access areas.

The Commission does not enact No Wake Zones to mitigate erosion, noise, and property damage.

There is no North Carolina statute that establishes No Wake Zones around docks and piers.

No Wake Zones in Federally Maintained Waters

The NCWRC does not have statutory authority to do rulemaking for No Wake Zones within federal waters such as the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway (AIWW) without the concurrence of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). USACE maintains the AIWW with federal funds in support of interstate commercial navigation traffic. With rare exceptions USACE does not concur with establishment of No Wake Zones along the open reaches of the AIWW. No Wake Zone signage placed on private property along the AIWW, and without the concurrence of USACE does not mark a legitimate No Wake Zone and is not enforceable.

Any request for water safety rulemaking on the AIWW must be submitted to USACE, [Wilmington District, Navigation Branch](#) for consideration. Please note that the NCWRC must have concurrence from USACE to enact a No Wake or restricted vessel zone, or to place a structure in federal waters managed by USACE.

No Wake Zones in Coastal Counties

The 20 coastal counties are subject to permitting requirements under the Coastal Area Management Act (CAMA). The NCWRC has obtained a Programmatic Major CAMA Permit for water safety rulemaking in these counties. The applicant is NOT responsible for obtaining necessary CAMA permits.

No Wake Zones Established by Marine Commissions in Some Inland Waters

The Lake Norman Marine Commission and Lake Wylie Marine Commission oversee the application process for No Wake Zones on their respective lakes.

[Contact the Lake Norman Marine Commission.](#)

[Contact the Lake Wylie Marine Commission.](#)

Water Safety Rulemaking Process - [Flowchart](#)

Before a county or municipality begins the application process, contact the No Wake Zone Coordinator at [\(919\) 707-0013](tel:9197070013) or at nowakezonecoordinator@ncwildlife.org. Request in writing an assessment of boater safety hazards by the NCWRC Law Enforcement Division. Provide the No Wake Zone Coordinator with the county or municipality name, name and location of the body of water, accurate directions or GPS coordinates to get to the site, and indicate the clear statutory hazards to boating safety that may exist and that you believe require regulation of that area of the waters.

Agency Law Enforcement staff will conduct an assessment of the area and submit a Matrix with comments about boater safety hazards that may warrant rulemaking. The county or municipality will be provided with a copy of the Assessment Matrix and may decide to begin the application process under [NCGS §75A](#).

How to Apply

The county or municipality submits the formal [No Wake Zone Application \(Form D-1\)](#) for consideration by the 19-member NCWRC Board.

The application packet must consist of:

1. Statement that public notice was given of the intention to make application to the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission for the Rule that is being proposed.
2. A Resolution from the governmental unit requesting rulemaking for the waters named in the application.
3. Statement that the local unit of government or a designee agrees to purchase and place markers that conform to U.S. Aids to Navigation (USATONS) standards to implement a rule.

If a local unit of government incurs the expense for purchase and placement of markers, NCWRC is required to submit a Fiscal Note to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) to report the fiscal impact of a Rule on the state or local unit of government.

Email the application packet to nowakezonecoordinator@ncwildlife.org or mail it to:

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission
Attn: Betsy Haywood, No Wake Zone Coordinator
1721 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1721

After Application Submittal

The NCWRC will consider the application packet at an official meeting for possible action to proceed with rulemaking. And, if necessary, the agency will provide a Fiscal Note that has been reviewed by OSBM, for approval by NCWRC. The Commission may approve or deny a request for rulemaking, or it may approve a proposed rule with modifications. With Commission approval, the rulemaking process begins.

The Notice of Text for the rule proposal is published for at least 60 days in the North Carolina Register, with a open comment period and public hearing, per the requirements of the NC Administrative Procedure Act (APA), and on the NCWRC website at www.ncwildlife.org. After the comment period closes, the rule proposal and any comments received are presented at an official NCWRC meeting for final adoption.

Following adoption of the rule by NCWRC vote, the rule is submitted to the Rules Review Commission (RRC) for approval. If the RRC approves the rule for clarity, necessity, statutory authority and adherence to the requirements of the APA, it is codified in the NCAC and usually becomes effective on the first day of the month following that approval.

Every proposed rule is subject to adoption by the NCWRC, fiscal review by the OSBM, and final determination by the RRC as to necessity, clarity and statutory authority of the Rule. A Rule may not be codified in the NCAC without final review by the RRC.

Some Additional Requirements

The U.S. Coast Guard requires completion of a Personal Aids to Navigation (PATON) application prior to securing buoys or markers to the bottom of United States waters. There is no charge for a PATON application; however, fines may be levied for placement of an unauthorized PATON. It is the responsibility of the applicant to contact the U.S. Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Officer at [\(757\) 398-6229](tel:7573986229) for information about requirements for the PATON application.

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](tel:9197070150).

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

For more information about No Wake Zones, please contact Betsy Haywood at [\(919\) 707-0013](tel:9197070013) or by email: nowakezonecoordinator@ncwildlife.org

The following is from the North Carolina Administration Code (NCAC) section 15A, which is required to formally establish no wake zones in coastal/inland waters found at:

<http://reports.oah.state.nc.us/ncac/title%2015a%20-%20environmental%20quality/chapter%2010%20-%20wildlife%20resources%20and%20water%20safety/subchapter%20f/15a%20ncac%2010f%20.0355.pdf>

15A NCAC 10F .0355 PERQUIMANS COUNTY

(a) Regulated Areas. This Rule shall apply to the following waters:

(1) Perquimans River:

- (A) the canals of Holiday Island subdivision at Albemarle Sound; and
- (B) Town of Hertford: 550 yards southwest of the Perquimans River Bridge on U.S. Highway 17 Business, otherwise known as the Hertford S - Bridge, at a line from a point on the north shore at 36.19305 N, 76.46957 W to a point on the south shore at 36.19150 N, 76.47099 W, and 190 yards northeast of the bridge at a line from a point in the Perquimans River at 36.19530 N, 76.46518 W, eastward to Day Marker #11, then southeast to a point on the shore at 36.19337 N, 76.46367 W.

(2) Yeopim River:

- (A) the canal between Navaho Trail and Cherokee Trail beginning at a point at 36.07893 N, 76.42278 W;
- (B) the canal between Cherokee Trail and Ashe Street beginning at a point at 36.07865 N, 76.42603 W;
- (C) within 50 yards of the boat ramp at Ashe and Pine Street;
- (D) the canal between Pine Street and Linden Street beginning at a point at 36.07951 N, 76.43402 W;
- (E) the canal between Willow Street and Evergreen Drive beginning at a point at 36.08005 N, 76.43735 W;
- (F) the canal between Sago Street and Alder Street beginning at a point at 36.07986 N, 76.44063 W; and
- (G) Bethel Creek north of a line from a point on the west shore at 36.09566 N, 76.47928 W to a point on the east shore at 36.09534 N, 76.47738 W to a line from a point on the west shore at 36.10532 N, 76.48080 W to a point on the east shore at 36.10516 N, 76.48047 W.

(3) Yeopim Creek:

(A) the canal between Mohave Trail and Iowa Trail beginning at a point at 36.08521 N,
76.41802 W;

(B) the canal between Iowa Trail and Shawnee Trail beginning at a point at 36.08511 N,
76.41763 W;

(C) the area within 75 yards of the Albemarle Plantation Marina Piers;

(D) the area of the cove known as Beaver Cove, shore to shore beginning at a point at 36.08767 N, 76.42151 W; and

(E) the waters of Yeopim Creek adjacent to Heritage Shores North, shore to shore, east of a line from a point on the north shore at 36.11356 N, 76.43138 W to a point on the south shore at 36.11288 N, 76.43173 W, to a line northwest from a point on the east shore at 36.11219 N, 76.42445 W to a point on the west shore at 36.11178 N, 76.42596 W.

(4) Little River: the entrance to the cove known as Muddy Gut Canal that extends from the waters known as Deep Creek, shore to shore beginning at a line from a point on the east shore at 36.17729 N, 76.28011 W to a point on the west shore at 36.17667 N, 76.28331 W.

- (b) Speed Limit. No person shall operate a vessel at greater than no-wake speed within the regulated area described in Paragraph (a) of this Rule.
- (c) Swimming Area. No person operating or responsible for the operation of a vessel shall permit it to enter the swimming area at the Snug Harbor Park and Beach on the Yeopim River.
- (d) Placement of Markers. The Board of Commissioners of Perquimans County is the designated agency for placement of markers implementing this Rule, subject to the approval of the United States Coast Guard and the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

History Note: Authority G.S. 75A-3; 75A-15; Eff. November 1, 1988;

Amended Eff. October 1, 1992;

Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1997;

Amended Eff. July 1, 1998;

Temporary Amendment Eff. February 4, 2000;

Amended Eff. January 1, 2015; September 1, 2013; May 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; July 1, 2000;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. December 6, 2016;

Amended Eff. June 1, 2023; October 1, 2018; June 1, 2017.