

No Wake Zone Oregon Inlet Marina Area

PUBLIC MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2022
6PM



Overview

- Authority
- The Need for a No Wake Zone
- Area Overview and Background
- Project Details
- Comparison
- Public Comment Period
- Next Steps
- Question & Answer Session



Authority

- National Park Service (NPS) manages the lands and waters within the Park boundary
- NPS can establish areas that have special restrictions or closures.
- A No Wake Zone would be one of those areas that may be established by the Park's Superintendent as determined by its need
- A No Wake Zone would initially be established and published in the Superintendent's Compendium for Cape Hatteras National Seashore.
- Later it would be added as part of 36 CFR 7.58 special regulations for Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

The Need for a No Wake Zone

- Improve Safety at intersection of multiple channels
- Reduce visitor use conflicts
- Provide safe fueling operations
- Protect submerged vegetation in shallow water
- Protect shoreline from erosion

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) – wake zones language

- “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. ”
- NCWRC has been briefed on our project proposal and will be considering a complimentary state rule
- NPS No Wake Zone would be established to mitigate hazards in this areas including narrow/shallow water, fueling dock, congested areas and public vessel access areas.



Area Overview

-Oregon Inlet
Fishing Center
Marina (OIFC)

-US Coast Guard
Station (USCG)

-Public Boat
Launch

-Public Kayak
Launch

Use of the NPS owned area

- 5 Boat launch lanes (NPS)
- 78 Boat trailer parking spots (NPS)
- Bathroom facility (NPS)
- 1 kayak launch
- 50 + slips at OIFC and over 40 charters (lease)
- 200 + parking spots near the marina (lease)
- Transient fuel dock (lease)
- USCG station Oregon Inlet (lease)





Current Vessel Traffic and Use at Motts Creek



Motorized vessel entering the marina area



Wade fishermen, paddle boarders, and kayaks using the area



Project Details

- The area would be established using pilings installed with signage
- Signs indicating the No Wake Zone would be placed at the public boat ramp
- A no wake buoy would be placed in the marina area
- Park maps would be updated to reflect the change
- Zone would be codified in the Superintendent's Compendium
- Notification provided to other agencies including: USCG, NCWRC, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NC Marine Fisheries.



Proposed No Wake Zone at Motts Creek



Cape Hatteras National Seashore Bound



Proposed No Wake Zone

- Lies within the park boundary
- Dissipation of wake to the shallow areas of congestion where multiple users are present
- Dissipation of wake that has been impacting the north shoreline and marsh vegetation erosion
- Minimize impacts to the boat launch and transient fuel dock



Distance	Speed	Time
620'	5 mph	1 min 25 sec
620'	10 mph	42 sec
620'	15 mph	28 sec
620'	20 mph	21 sec



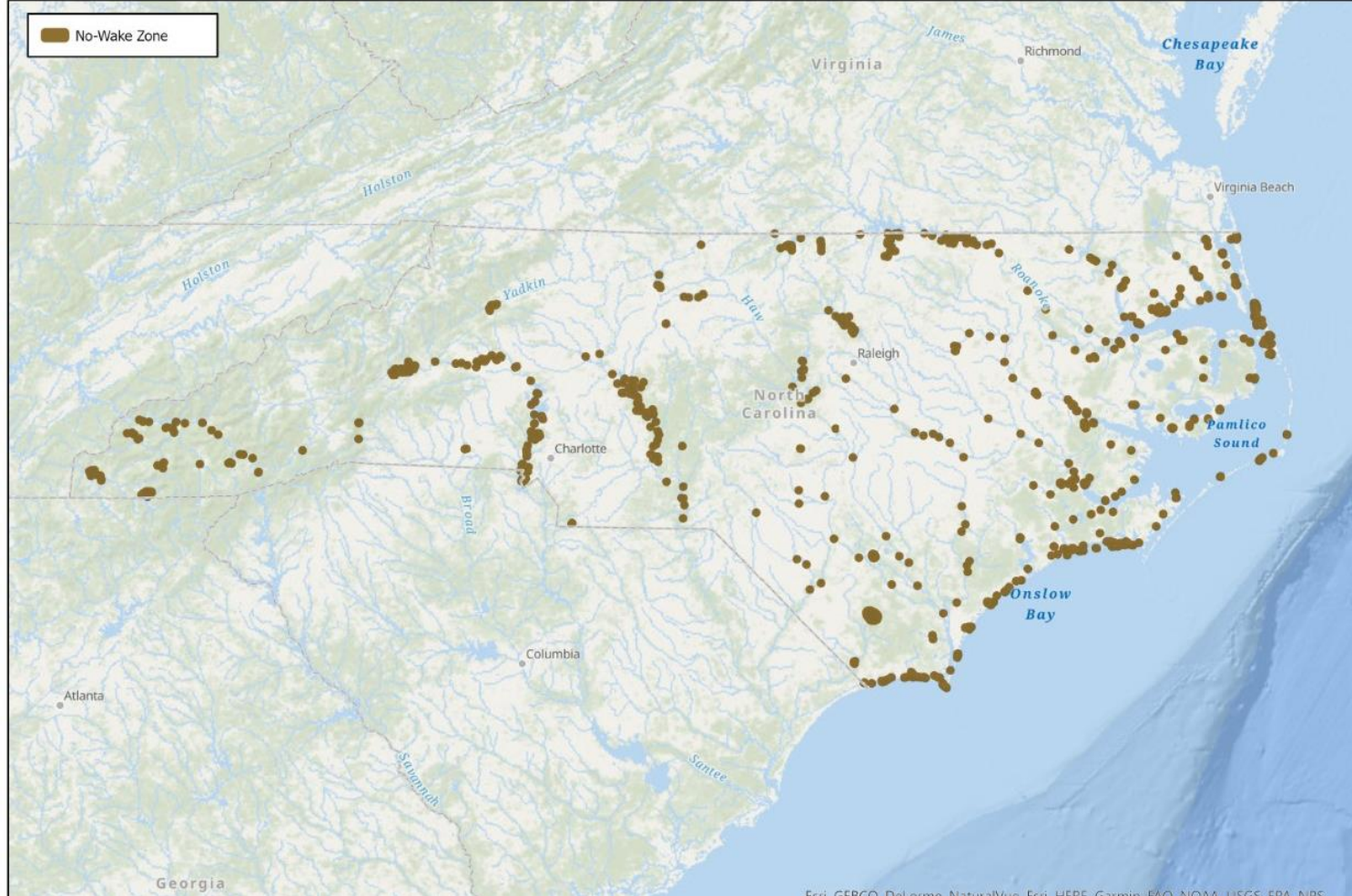
Comparison

Current No Wake Zone at Pirates Cove/Washington Baum Bridge Public Boat Launch

- Approximately 1,213 feet out
- Approximately 1.185 feet wide



Current No Wake Zones in North Carolina



No Wake Zones
are common in
busy NC waters

Approximately 531 no wake zone in NC

Public Comment

- Your verbal comments can be recorded at this meeting
- Your comments can be submitted via comment form available at this meeting
- You can visit : (https://parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_NoWakeZone) and submit your comment electronically.
- The 14-day comment period runs from August 18 through September 1, 2022

Next Steps

- Public meeting
- Public comment period
- Review and consider submitted comments
- Complete environmental reviews
- Park Management decision
- The new zone will be published in the compendium
- Implementation of project in Fall of 2022
- Public messaging and information about the newly establish No Wake Zone



Comments/ Questions

- Please raise your hand if you would like to speak
- Submit your comments at the table or online
- Submit comments online at:
 - parkplanning.nps.gov/caha_NoWakeZone

