



## REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

### INFORMATION RELEASE

June 29, 2017

#### No Wake, Low Wake – Respectful Boating During High Lake Levels on Okanagan Lake

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While lake levels in the South Okanagan decline slowly, water levels remain above the predicted 200-year flood levels. Boating is a significant tourist attraction in the Okanagan; especially during summer long weekends. With higher than normal lake levels, boaters should ensure their safety and minimize their impacts to vulnerable homes, docks and property.

- **Be aware there are submerged docks, dock materials and floating debris in the lake,**
- **No hydroplaning (fast speeds creating a large wake) for now,**
- **Keep wake in the low wake zones to 30 cm maximum to minimize damage to shoreline and property,**
- **Larger and heavier boats create more damaging waves even at low speeds,**
- **Remain 300 metres from the shoreline whenever possible or travel in the centre of the lake when approaching vulnerable shorelines,**
- **Less than 300 metres to shore, slow down (under 5 knots) to the point where there is the smallest wake possible,**
- **Refer to the Wake Map at [www.rdos.bc.ca](http://www.rdos.bc.ca) to see areas of concern. The current map is attached at the end of this information release.**

No wake zones are shown for 300 m from the foreshore of Summerland, Naramata, Indian Rock, North Beach and Three Mile Beach in Penticton. Boaters should stay well back from any lake areas with docks or buildings to avoid damaging property or foreshore.

At this time the only boat launch that is open in the Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen on Okanagan Lake is the Penticton Marina. Risks to homes and docks will be reduced as lake levels come down. Updates will be provided on an ongoing basis.

#### **Skaha & Osoyoos Lakes**

On Skaha and Osoyoos Lakes, beaches, boat launches and parks are open and welcoming visitors. Boaters should still exercise caution with respect to debris and submerged hazards. All users should be respectful of others as boat ramps and beaches may be quite busy. Regular beach goers may be using these lakes as alternatives to Okanagan Lake.

#### **Okanagan River Channel in Penticton**

High, rapid moving water makes activity on the Okanagan Channel extremely dangerous. Floating on the Penticton Channel is not advised at this time.



