

Rules Regulating the Use of Mirror Lake
(Number 10 Pond) Town of Calais

- Rule 1. Vessels propelled by a motor shall not exceed a speed of 5 miles per hour within the two bay areas south of Hall Point.
- Rule 2. For the remainder of the lake, vessels propelled by a motor shall not exceed a speed of 10 miles per hour.
- Rule 3. Houseboats and the use of boats for residential purposes are prohibited.
- Rule 4. Vessels operated by agencies of the State of Vermont shall comply with these rules at all times unless the performance of official duties requires otherwise.
- Rule 5. All vessels shall be operated in accordance with Chapter 7 of Title 25 V.S.A. which applies to all waters of the State of Vermont. (For details consult the Vermont Department of Public Safety, Montpelier).

Adopted this 12th Day of December, 1978 at Montpelier, Vermont by the

Vermont Water Resources Board

Frederick Mehlman
Frederick Mehlman, Chairman

Ruth Poger
Ruth Poger, Member

Roderic Maynes
Roderic Maynes, Member



State of Vermont

AGENCY OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Montpelier, Vermont 05602

VERMONT WATER RESOURCES BOARD

July 26, 1978

Department of Fish and Game
Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation
Department of Water Resources
Environmental Board
Division of Environmental Engineering
Division of Environmental Protection
Natural Resources Conservation Council
Vermont Water Resources Board

To: To Whom It May Concern

Subject: Burr Pond

At its regular meeting on July 17, 1978, the Vermont Water Resources Board decided to deny the petition requesting that the existing rules regulating the surface use of Burr Pond be amended to restrict motor size to ten horsepower and speeds to five miles per hour. The Board took this action after careful consideration of its record in this matter including the results of a public hearing held at Burr Pond on June 29, 1978.

In denying the petitioners request for further restrictions governing the surface use of Burr Pond, the Water Resources Board gave consideration to the following facts:

- (1) The Vermont Statute (Section 1424 of Title 10 V.S.A.) which empowers the Water Resources Board to establish rules regulating the surface use of public waters provides in part:

section 1424 (c)

"The board shall attempt to manage the public waters so that the various uses may be enjoyed in a reasonable manner, in the best interests of all the citizens of the state. To the extent possible, the board shall provide for all normal uses."

- (2) On September 28, 1972 the Water Resources Board adopted rules regulating the uses of Burr Pond which include a prohibition of speeds in excess of 5 miles per hour after 6 pm and before 10 am.
- (3) The practical effect of the requested restrictions on horsepower and speed would eliminate the use of Burr Pond for purposes of waterskiing, an established use of that pond.
- (4) Testimony at the public hearing on June 29th indicated that the majority of the incidents cited by the petitioners on behalf of their requests are violations of the "Laws and Regulations Governing Use and Registration of Motorboats" and could be addressed by an effort to better inform motorboat operators regarding their responsibilities and by coordinating enforcement efforts with the Department of Public Safety.

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- (5) A significant proportion of users of Burr Pond attending the June 29th hearing expressed satisfaction with the terms of the existing Water Resources Board rules governing surface use which designate a period of time on a daily basis when water skiing and high-speed motorboat operation are prohibited.

In declining to act on the petitioners request for more stringent rules, the Board does not intend to suggest that the concerns prompting that request are without merit. However, the Board feels that a number of alternatives to the outright prohibition of water skiing exist. Essentially the Board feels that these problems can be resolved best at the local level by all parties involved. Local State Police can provide enforcement of the laws governing the operation of motorboats in general as well as the existing Board rules.

Without presuming to give direct advice, it does seem that the Burr Pond Association, perhaps working with appropriate town officials, could be the best forum for developing a simple educational program on boating rules and courtesy and for acting as a liaison with law enforcement officials if the need arises.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at the above address or at 828-2761.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM A BARTLETT
Executive Secretary

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