
Scott Olson
Rapid City SD
dr.auger81@hotmail.com

Comment:

The lake is meant to be a peaceful retreat from fast moving boats, jet skis, and other fast watercraft. It's the only lake I can be on most weekends with my inflatable pontoon and not get pushed around by recreational boaters. The solitude and peacefulness is a big reason I go there and others would agree that it needs to stay that way. There are plenty of other large lakes that recreational boat users can go to. Let's continue to keep Deerfield as a no-wake lake.

Jason Himrich
Rapid City SD
jmhimrich@gmail.com

Comment:

Us kayak fishermen would hate to lose the opportunity to easily traverse the lake without fear of colliding with a boat. Also, the Black Hills is growing daily. To lose a peaceful lake would be a blow to everyone who lives here.

John Schmeltzer
Whitewood SD
schmeltz@rushmore.com

Comment:

Please leave the no-wake restriction in place

Kathryn Johnson
Hill City SD
kj24054@gmail.com

Comment:

Currently Deerfield Lake is the only lake of substantial size that with no-wake restriction. All other no-wake lakes in the Black Hills are tiny by comparison. The non-motorized boaters in the area need a lake of some size such as Deerfield to enjoy quiet calm recreation. Motor boats have Sheridan and Pactola.

David Whitney

Rapid City SD

whitneys@rushmore.com

Comment:

I'm writing in support of maintaining the no-wake restriction at Deerfield Lake. It is my contention that there is no compelling reason to disturb the peace and quiet of the lake and surrounding area (which I also enjoy) when other more accessible bodies of water are open to motorboats, jet skis and the like. Besides the noise, the waves created by powered watercraft would make the lake more difficult for those canoeing, kayaking, and paddle boarding - all of which are becoming more popular due to the relatively low cost and ease to get on the water. The proposed 25 mph speed limit would in all likelihood be widely ignored (jet skiers are not typically known for their love of quietly and slowly pattering around large bodies of water) and difficult to enforce in any meaningful sense. We are rapidly losing the peaceful quality of life (don't get me started on the near constant drone of ATVs/UTVs on trails and roadways all spring, summer and fall) that drew many of us to the Black Hills in the first place. Leave Deerfield Lake as it is, an oasis of tranquility in a forest that grows ever noisier year after year. Please and thank you.

Joseph Hall

Rapid City SD

josephehallnemo@gmail.com

Comment:

Fishing by boat is not prohibited presently only the speed of movement about the lake. This seems a prudent way of compromise for the diverse pleasures of the lakes users and provides a semi tranquil venue for all since there are multiple lakes that provide for greater water craft speeds.

Sandra Allen

Rapid City SD

sallen@rushmore.com

Comment:

If Deerfield Lake is change from no wake I think Center Lake in Custer State Park should also be changed!

Randy Allen

Rapid City SD

2020hsrda@gmail.com

Comment:

Leave it alone

Dusty Kiner
Rapid City SD
Dusty_kiner@yahoo.com

Comment:

Strongly opposed to this. That lake is the gem of the Black Hills. It is quiet and peaceful. Lifting the no wake zone rule would ruin the lake for so many outdoor enthusiasts that enjoy it's solitude.

Evening Howey
Hill City, Sd SD
Howevening101@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Dennis Olson
Rapid City SD
apex5363@centurylink.net

Comment:

Lived in SD for my 66 years. We need to keep some of the natural beauty and quietness. Every where you go is boats, jet skis racing around the lakes. Keep Deerfield Lake a pristine body of water with the no wake restrictions. Thank You

Janet Rose-Perrenoud
Rapid City SD
jrosep.jrp@gmail.com

Comment:

We are avid Kayakers and Deerfield Lake is our favorite place to Kayak because of the no-wake restriction. It is large enough to spend several hours paddling around the lake. We enjoy the quiet, solitude, and natural beauty of the lake. There are ample places that are either too small for kayaking or too busy for an enjoyable paddle that are available to fisherman. So it will take the fisherman a few extra minutes to get to there desired fishing spot on Deerfield Lake because of the no-wake restriction. Is that really a big deal! We all need a place to slow down, relax and enjoy our beautiful Black Hills. Please do not replace the no-wake restriction on Deer field Lake and take away our favorite place to enjoy a truly South Dakota gem. Thank you

Bruce Venner
Rapid City SD
b-lvenner@midco.net

Comment:

Please keep the 5 mph speed limit at Deerfield Lake. That's what makes it unique and special. There are plenty of other lakes for high speed boating.

Kayte Halstead

Hermosa SD

Kayte@acupuncture4health.com

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield no wake for kayakers and fishermen

Michael Trier

Custer SD

mgtrier@yahoo.com

Comment:

There are plenty of lakes where motorboats can go fast. Please preserve Deerfield's status as one of the few, if not the only, lake of significant size that is "no wake" and quiet.

Jim Thomson

Rapid City SD

jimtpias@aol.com

Comment:

This is a small quiet lake. Fishing is a leisure sport. Boats don't have to scream to a favorite spot as if they're in a tournament. 25MPH is way to fast. I can pull a tube, kneeboard, wakeboard and even water ski at speeds far less than that. I don't use Deerfield but a quiet peaceful experience at least one place in the Hills should be available.

Dale Stoner

Rapid City SD

daledonna8000@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I have been fishing at Deerfield for over 50 years and have greatly appreciated the peaceful and quiet it is without boats speeding around. Lets keep Deerfield this way

Scott Wright

Hermosa SD

outbackgunsmith@gmail.com

Comment:

I have been going to Deerfield reservoir off and on for 25 years. And the draw for me is that there is a 5mph speed limit. It means I can kayak, use my 12' aluminum boat and not have to worry about wakes swamping me. It makes the lake way more enjoyable with the 5mph speed limit. If people want to go fast let them go to a larger reservoir like Pactola. I take my motor home and boat to Deerfield because it is calm, quiet and beautiful place to go. If you allow wakes you will get the partyers and people who don't appreciate such a beautiful place. Not to mention law enforcement costs will go up and the possibility of accidents will go up also. I think your proposal is a bad idea!! It is sad that people whom are in a hurry would ruin the experience for others whom enjoy the quiet, calm of Deerfield Lake!

Andrew Harvey

Rapid City SD

Comment:

This lake is a perfect spot to get away from the noise and recreation boaters. Please please please don't ruin his for our local citizens!!!

James Ronfeldt

Rapid City SD

jr32281@gmail.com

Comment:

I am in total opposition to removing the no wake designation on Deerfield Lake! This is one lake where we can go and actually enjoy a day of fishing without getting blown off the water by idiots! Anglers should have rights too!

Kammi Doud

Rapid City SD

Kammi_doud@yahoo.com

Comment:

The proposed mph is still fast enough to allow recreational towing of tubers and kneeboarders along with some skiers. Wording needs to be considered if you are restricting these activities while increasing the speed of travel. May get more support with a 15 mph limit.

Steve Rozmiarek
Chadron NE
Stever.roz@gmail.com

Comment:

I am an out of state fisherman who travels to Deerfield specifically because it is a no wake lake. There are always kyyaks and canoes enjoying the lake there to, and wakes destroy that. I avoid several other lake options on the way to Deerfield specifically because they allow wakes. Stockade could be a great lake, but wakes destroy the peace and quiet there, my family has been harrassed by a group of kids water-skiing specifically because I asked them to please go somewhere else so we could continue to shore fish where we were. Deerfield doesn't need this. I pay far more money for my family to enjoy fishing in South Dakota than any jetski does. Let us keep the perfection that is Deerfield as is please. There is no no benefit to changing it.

Dwight Griffiee
Sturgis SD
kdgriffiee@vastbb.net

Comment:

lets keep it a no wake zone, its the only bigger lake left to enjoy shore fishing, canoeing, and kayaking.

Thomas Kellar
Rapid City SD
tdkellar@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is unique in the Black Hills as a no wake lake. Just as there are places in the Black Hills where hikers and bicyclists can enjoy nature with no motorized traffic, there should be a lake free of the noise and air pollution that would come with boats creating a wake. Other area lakes like Pactola, Sheridan and Angostora offer ample opportunity for those wanting motorized transport. Additionally, enforcing a 25 mile per hour speed limit, as proposed, would complicate policing Deerfield.

John Melvin
Rapid City SD
johnm@rushmore.com

Comment:

I like to shore fish were it is quite. The first time I saw a boat going slow on Deerfield, it didn't make sense to me but it only took a minute to realize what a great idea it was. Please leave it the way it is with NO-wake.

Thank you
John Melvin

Glen Anderson
Hot Springs SD
geshaccc@yahoo.com

Comment:

Angostura becomes unusable on weekends for fishing due to numerous boats. I go to Deerfield for trout as it is peaceful. Pactola and Sheridan should be enough for water sports.

Donna Smeins
Hill City SD
Lwalteraz@gmail.com

Comment:

Too much traffic on Deerfield Road already. This is a quiet fishing lake & kayaking area.

Clarence Bowman
Fairburn SD

Comment:

Why do we need another small hills lake used for high speed. We already have to many. It would be nice if you could manage what you have instead of messing more stuff up. So sad

Christopher Lupo
Rapid City SD
christopher.lupo1@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is the most unique lake in the Black Hills, and it would be unwise to remove the no-wake restriction. The logic behind proposed change is garbage - to save people 15 min when trying to get to a fishing spot - and would effectively turn Deerfield (a peaceful, tranquil, and true gem) into another Pactola/Sheridan.

Myself, and many like me, prefer to fish/kayak/canoe at Deerfield because we don't have to worry about boats flying by us. There are many other lakes that have no-wake/non-motorized regulations, but none rival the size of Deerfield and the solace it provides.

Lynn Jackson
Custer SD
jacksons@paulbunyan.net

Comment:

oppose

Ryan Hudson

Lead SD

hudson900@hotmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the idea of allowing Deerfield to become a wake lake. I think the lake is perfect the way it is, and is a very popular spot for kayakers and float tube fisherman.

William Anderson

Rapid City SD

wacopter@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield does not need a higher speed limit. More wakes would just irritate the people on the water and increase erosion concerns.

Fred Whiting

Keystone SD

Legrserch@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please do not eliminate Deerfield as a major lake that can safely be enjoyed by fishermen and other users of canoes, kayaks, belly boats, paddle boards and other non-motorized watercraft.

Kate Scott

Elgin AZ

madreanwildlife@gmail.com

Comment:

To Commission of South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks;

There are no words to convey my feelings of the misguided path you have set in motion with horrendous, abominable, disgraceful attack on wildlife. Where is your compassion for the egregious assault you are waging on these sentient beings? Collecting tails? Have your minds reverted back to the darkest of times in humanity, before the world had fire? No words can express my utter disdain for your despicable actions.

So yes, I urge the commission not to extend the use of traps on public lands. I for one will tell everyone in my state to never visit your state, if this program isn't completely eliminated. Maintaining the current May 1 deadline is absolutely necessary.

Kate Scott
Director
Madrean Archipelago Wildlife Center

William Griffin

Custer SD

griffinw2351@gmail.com

Comment:

I regularly kayak on Deerfield Lake, and find it one of the only large lakes in the Black Hills that capture the peace and quiet so essential to relax. To risk losing that to enable motor boaters to get across the lake a few minutes faster is a very bad idea. Take your time, enjoy yourself; you're fishing!

Evan Thomas

Rapid City SD

evanbthomas@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the change: preserve the no-wake zone in Deerfield Lake.

Tim Johnson

Rapid City SD

timcjhn@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield lake as is. As a business owner of a hotel in hill city, I know travelers come in and stay because of Deerfield. Each lake is unique and this is something unique about Deerfield. It's also so small that it would be a safety concern I believe and too costly to enforce and maintain all that would come with.

Cody Bauernfeind

Lead SD

Comment:

I use the lake slot for fishing and camping and really appreciate the slow boat traffic

Jeff Townsend

Lytton IA

jnvtownsend@windstream.net

Comment:

Leave the speed on Deerfield Lake alone as it one of the few area lakes that is not boat crazy. We enjoy the peacefulness.

Katrina Starr
Rapid City SD
Katie.starr@state.sd.us

Comment:

Please don't take away the no wake zone. This area is the best for paddle boarding without fear of people waking by you.

Kelly Brennan
Rapid City SD
kellysue96@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please leave it as is.

Susan Stimson
Custer SD
sue_stimson@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is one of the few places a person can walk, hike or ride a horse, or boat, or just be near hearing the sounds of nature without the interference or noise of motors.

Brandy Hof
Box Elder SD

Comment:

We have plenty of other areas on the Black Hills that are available for this sort of activity. Please keep the serenity of Deerfield in tact. I love the fact that I can safely float around the lake fishing without boats flying around

Mark Perrenoud
Rapid City SD
drmarkp@rushmore.com

Comment:

- * One individual should not be able to create such a consideration by the GF&P Commission.
- * I kayak regularly and Deerfield is wonderful for this because of the no wake zone. Any increase in the boat speeds takes this away and makes kayaking, etc. more dangerous because of the risk of capsizing.
- * A healthy outdoors should offer areas that are quite, still and the pace of life is slower. Deerfield Lake is beautiful because it provides that. GF&P did the right thing when they originally put this restriction in place.

Thank you for your consideration of this opposition.

Jodie Kauer Mader
Rapid City/Hill City SD
Jodkrmdr@gmail.com

Comment:

We don't need this lake that is rather small in reality to have boats on it going too fast. Please leave it the way that it is.

Kara Pfannenstein
Rapid City SD
Ke Barnett78@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Brian Pfannenstein
Rapid City SD
Bpfannen@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

John Kelley
Rapid City SD
ctybear@hotmail.com

Comment:

I would like to ask the commission to keep Deerfield Lake a No Wake. There are plenty of lakes in the hills area for people to ski or jet ski on.

Jennifer Stewart
Lead SD
Jennystew@hotmail.com

Comment:

Do not remove the 5mph wake zone at Deerfield lake. The serenity of the lake is a huge draw and it gives people the opportunity to use the lake without having to worry about boats and water machines racing around.

Jason Bryce
Rapid City SD
the66lemon@gmail.com

Comment:

Oppose removing slow no wake at Deerfield Lake

Steven Schelske
Rapid City SD
Stevendschelske@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the replacement of Deerfield Lake's no-wake restriction with a 25 mph restriction. Leave it the way it is.

Jc Joyce
Black Hawk SD
Jeepfrog@yahoo.com

Comment:

Wakesurfers could certainly use deerfield for surfing with a 25mph limit. I'm in favor of removing the 5mph limit.

Jeremy Rear
West Fargo ND
Jrear78@gmail.com

Comment:

I grew up in Lead and spent alot of my youth fishing at Deerfield. And one of the biggest attractions to the lake is the peace and quiet without boats and jet skis screaming all over. Please leave it as it is!!

Karli Green
Rapid City SD
Karlinona@gmail.com

Comment:

I think we need to keep at least one of our lakes quiet for those who just want somewhere peaceful to go. I remember taking my uncle up there the summer before he passed away from his brain cancer. If there were boats jetting across the water, that day with him wouldn't have been as calm and peaceful. I enjoyed spending time with him up there, watching the eagle's nest and just the simplicity of nature up there. I'm sorry one guy feels like it needs to change because it takes him 25 minutes to get to his fishing spot, he could leave earlier to get there. Also, how long does it take him to catch a fish size worthy of keeping? That could take 25 minutes too. It's part of the hobby. Keep the speed limit at trolling speed.

Karli Green
Rapid City SD
Karlinona@gmail.com

Comment:

I think we need to keep at least one of our lakes quiet for those who just want somewhere peaceful to go. I remember taking my uncle up there the summer before he passed away from his brain cancer. If there were boats jetting across the water, that day with him wouldn't have been as calm and peaceful. I enjoyed spending time with him up there, watching the eagle's nest and just the simplicity of nature up there. I'm sorry one guy feels like it needs to change because it takes him 25 minutes to get to his fishing spot, he could leave earlier to get there. Also, how long does it take him to catch a fish size worthy of keeping? That could take 25 minutes too. It's part of the hobby. Keep the speed limit at trolling speed.

Morghan Wainwright
New Underwood SD
nonemorghana@aol.com

Comment:

Please leave deer field lake a no wake zone.

Ray Winsel
Rapid City SD
raywinsel@yahoo.com

Comment:

I as an avid fisherman think that Deerfield should remain as is. Canoes, Kayaks, and fly fisherman enjoy the lake with no wake.

I own a pontoon and am off Pactola or Sheridan by noon because of the craziness.

Mr Edel is not a true fisherman if he needs to race across Deerfield to fish.

A true fisherman has patience and enjoys the peace of fishing in quite

Mr Edel , they will welcome you at Pactola or Sheridan Lakes

Rebecca Olson
Lead SD
olesgrl@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please leave lakes for only kayaking, SUP, calm water fishing, distance swimming and meditative recreation. It is hard to find a place where calm outdoor lake time exists. Speed boats create a party boat atmosphere and disrupt the wildlife. I don't have to worry when we are on a no wake lake that my family will collide with a speedboat as we are kayaking and SUP or deal with the dangerous turbulent wake. The speed boats have MANY lakes to choose from. Deerfield Lake and few other lakes are sanctuaries for us. Please leave restrictions on no wake lakes.

Susan Oneill
Whitewood SD

Comment:

Leave it alone!! One guy crying that he can't get across the lake fast enough to fish should not be a reason to change the restriction! People choose Deerfield for the sole reason there are not motorized boats on it! There are limited waterholes th

Lauren Pyle
Sioux Falls SD
larain@gmail.com

Comment:

Please maintain the no-wake zone at Deerfield lake. Many paddlers love its tranquility, and it's the only lake of its size in the area where I feel safe taking my child out on the water with me. Those wanting to make waves have plenty of opportunities at Sheridan and Pactola. Build another marina at Pactola!

Laurie Sliper
Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Keith Myers
Hill City SD
kam-890@live.com

Comment:

Keep no wake

Brian Hayen
Rapid City SD

Comment:

please keep no wake rule

Tim Ferrell
Sturgis SD
timferrell@hotmail.com

Comment:

I am opposed to upping the speed limit on Deerfield lake to 25mph. It is one of the few places I can take my family to kayak and paddle board peacefully. We do a lot of fishing from the kayaks and the waves produced for faster moving watercraft make it more difficult to fish like on other lakes such as Pactola and Orman dam.

Larissa Oyen
Sturgis SD
Larissa_S@hotmail.com

Comment:

My family loves going to Deerfield Lake to kayak and paddle board because we know we are safe and do not have to worry about boats hitting me or my young children. My camp at Deerfield 6-8 weekends throughout the summer for this reason.

Laural Bidwell
Rapid City SD
labidwell@aol.com

Comment:

Hi - Deerfield Lake is a peaceful and quiet beautiful spot in the Black Hills. I read in the paper that someone has proposed and gfp is considering eliminating the no wake rules at Deerfield. The request also was to increase the speed allowed on the lake to 25mph. This is a small lake and a nice spot for quiet kayaking and canoeing. I think we should save some special places for those who are tired of the noisy onslaught of motorized vehicles. Please keep the no wake rule in place and for that matter it wouldn't hurt to eliminate the allowance of motors all together. It wouldn't hurt.

Mark Jones
Edgemont SD
dakota8678@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield has always been a wonderful lake for canoe and kayak recreation. There has been a huge increase popularity in both of these. Please don't let jet skis on Deerfield

Charles Hart
Rapid City SD
hart@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Please do not remove the no wake restrictions on Deerfield Lake. It is one of the few lakes of any size in this area in which canoes, kayaks, trolling can occur without the frequent disruptions caused by speed boats and jet skis. ATVs continue to do significant damage to the northern hills and adding additional motorized boats would continue to deteriorate and ruin this very unique environment. Thank you. C Hart

Talese Aucoin
Redfield SD
taucoin85@gmail.com

Comment:

I often vacation in the Black Hills. Deerfield being no-wake is a rare gem. In this area you see no lakes without loud boats and jet skis chopping up the waters. It's nice to be able to find a lake that isn't being utilized for loud recreational activities. There's plenty of other lakes for that.

James Bingham
Rapid City SD
jlb501@outlook.com

Comment:

Please do not increase allowable speed of watercraft on Deerfield Lake to 25 mph. Deerfield Lake is a quiet treasure and should be maintained as such. While the increase may help a few fisherman reach their spot a bit faster, the increase will ruin the enjoyment of the lake for many.

Audra Casteel
Keystone SD
Audra.casteel@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose Removing Deerfield's no wake restriction

Kathi Schneider
Sturgis SD
sniideprime@hotmail.com

Comment:

Leave Deerfield as it is, a peaceful lake without speedboats!

Jeremy Olson

Lead SD

frozenland@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please keep the wake restrictions enforced. There is so few lakes of any substantial size that I can safely canoe, kayak and paddle board in anymore. With all the wake boarding and faster boats on the larger lakes, it is unsafe to use the smaller crafts and truly enjoy the serenity of nature.

Scott Oyen

Sturgis SD

S_oyen@hotmail.com

Comment:

The law needs to stay the way it is.

Lani Olson

Rapid City SD

lmolson90@msn.com

Comment:

We have lakes that allow higher boat speeds. Deerfield Lake has a lot of people who love it BECAUSE of the tranquility, free of the noise and boats zipping everywhere. Please keep it as it is.

Richard Woodworth

Rapid Citt SD

Woodworthr44@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please leave Deerfird as a no wake lake, it is now for fishermen and peace and quiet. There are enough places for the boats to go and race around.

Rob Ristesund

Hill City SD

robritesund@gmail.com

Comment:

Please retain the current no-wake law on Deerfield Lake.

Connie Allen

Hill City SD

callen0605@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake area is known for being a backwoods area. Allowing faster speeds on the lake will not be of a benefit to the area. Deerfield lake is a very cold mountain lake, therefore it is not a lake for water sports. Fishing, paddle boarding, kayaking, peaceful & serene are what this lake is best known for. Please keep it that way.

Milo Winter

Rapid City SD

rmwinter@rushmore.com

Comment:

I have boat-fished Deerfield for years-it takes a very little time to find any fishing spot with no-wake speed. The serenity is great. The proposal to allow faster boating is unnecessary and inappropriate in my opinion. Keep it as is!

Mary Johnson

Frederick SD

mary_cat_mayer1971@yahoo.com

Comment:

I may not live in Rapid City anymore, but I remember many times going to Deerfield Lake to camp and shore fish. Changing the wake speed on this lake would be the worst thing!! People go to this lake because it's quiet and you don't have to deal with the jet skiers, water skiers, and tubers. You can just enjoy the beauty and tranquility of the area. Please don't change the speed limit on this lake. There aren't many lakes left where you can go to have peace and quiet and enjoy the hills.

Steve Sylliaasen

Rapid City SD

Armyvet1970d@gmail.com

Comment:

Under no circumstances should Deerfield lake be invade by high powered boats and especially jet skies. The peace and quite and tranquil atmosphere must be maintained to insure those who wish for this peaceful atmosphere can go and relax and enjoy the outdoors in the environment Deerfield lake now offers.

Lesley Warren
Rapid City SD
lesleywarren@juno.com

Comment:

I am opposed to motorized watercraft on Deerfield Lake. Please, please retain the "no wake" environment of this lake. It's one of the very few lakes for truly non motorized use and as far as I know, the only one of it's size in the Black Hills.
Thank you,
Lesley Warren

Bret Aman
Nemo SD
baman@q.com

Comment:

leave the lake as is a no wake speed limit there is no reason to change, the lake is not that big. only place left where you are not getting washed a shore by speed boats and jet skis. DO NOT CHANGE TO 25 MPH.

Nicholas Goldsberry
Rapid City SD
goldsberrynicholas97@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a special lake due to the peace and quiet. There are many other lakes you can high speed boat on. Including Angostora Reservoir, Orman Dam, Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. Deerfield is highly used by kayakers and those who enjoy canoes. Many anglers with smaller watercraft come up here to get away from the speed boats and jet skiers. Deerfield should be left as is

Emily Trappe
Hermosa SD
y_lime_18@hotmail.com

Comment:

Opening Deerfield lake to larger motors by lifting the no wake zone will keep me out of more SD waters. Please oppose this suggestion.

On a side note, enforcing the no wake in Jenny Gulch on Pactola would be great too.

Jared Carstens
Rapid City SD
jpcars10s@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Melody Tromburg

Custer SD

Princes@getc.net

Comment:

No to wake

Kerry Greear

Whitewood SD

kerryannieo@hotmail.com

Comment:

This lake is an area of solitude and peace. Our family loves it just the way it is. We kayak and hike at the lake

Colleen Langley

Nemo SD

woodtick1@hughes.net

Comment:

Please do not sacrifice the tranquility of Deerfield Lake by allowing speeding water craft. There are plenty of other sites available for that.

Pam Ludwig

Sioux Falls SD

Pamluds@hotmail.com

Comment:

We lived in Custer for 15 years and Deerfield was one of our favorite lakes to take our kids. The current wake regulation is perfect and should NOT be changed. The lake is peaceful without speeding jet skis or boat engines revving and speeding across the lake...there are plenty of other lakes people can go if they feel the need to go faster

Josh Miller

Spearfish SD

jmiller@spearfish.k12.sd.us

Comment:

When you look at the list of big lakes in the Black Hills that have No Wake, the list is short. Kayakers, small boats, and anglers deserve a peaceful location to go that gives them relief of the big motors. Many people like camping at Deerfield because of the quiet and peace it offers. There are plenty of lakes for the big boats to zoom around on. Let Deerfield remain what it is - one of the geatesr Black Hills lakes

Medea Posser
Sturgis SD
ladyambir@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield should remain no-wake

Mark Vedder
Rapid City SD
sdvedder@vastbb.net

Comment:

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to removing or modifying the current no-wake regulation for Deerfield Lake. This lake's motorized restriction offers a place of serenity and calm in the otherwise very busy Black Hills recreational water areas. Families can experience scenic beauty, shore-fishing, canoeing, kayaking, float tubes, and yes boating less than 5 mph, a series of values unsurpassed and unprovided anywhere else in the Black Hills.

There are two other reasons to NOT reduce or amend the current restrictions: 1) there is a bald eagle nest on the north side of Deerfield Lake which requires noise and disturbance restrictions to permit successful nesting each year; and 2) the Bureau of Reclamation manages the lake for sustained, regulated flows for downstream uses - and wake damage to the shoreline will reduce the quality and quantity of the lake's water. Erosion of the shore's edge to wave action from boating will degrade Deerfield Lake by releasing additional sediments into a narrow body of water.

I understand Mr. Edel's request, but believe changing the Deerfield Lake's restriction regarding no-wake would be a detriment to the values presently in place for more recreational users and water quality and quantity. Mr. Edel can visit Pactola and Sheridan or other lakes within the Black Hills area if he desires faster fishing access and use.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment on this proposal.

Sincerely,
Mark Vedder

Kimberly Guy
Rapid City SD
Kguy74_@hotmail.com

Comment:

Should remain wake free

Lee Guy
Rapid City SD
Lguy66@hotmail.com

Comment:

Should remain wake free

Doug Miller
Nemo SD
ordwayantiques@msn.com

Comment:

For individuals who want to "speed around" Deerfield Lake, I say there are other lakes in the Black Hills they can use. I, for one, enjoy the serenity / low stress of being able to canoe / paddle boat on such a beautiful lake as Deerfield, without the noise / distractions of fast moving boats. Please do not remove this "no wake" restriction!

Ronald Mcarthur
Spearfish SD
dak3mac@rushmore.com

Comment:

I would like to see the 5 mph limit maintained on Deerfield Lake. Wouldn't raising the speed limit require more personnel to enforce the limit and ultimately require more money be used for the purpose. Keep it as it is please.

Kristi Bowie
Rapid City SD
bowiekbs@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the only places to go without boats zooming around everywhere. It's really peaceful and it would be a shame to lose it the way it is.

Vince Vidal
Rapid City SD
vidal@midco.net

Comment:

We have enough boating area in Western South Dakota without spoiling this treasured spot enjoyed by me, my family, my visitors and friends as great place for shore-fishing, canoeing, kayaking and other serene activities away from the noise and choppy water generated by speed boats and jet skis. Please do not change No-Wake. My name is Vince Vidal, 223 Alta Vista Dr., Rapid City, SD 57701

David Schneider
Sturgis SD
curbguy@vastbb.net

Comment:

Deerfield is the only no wake lake of any real size in the Black Hills for us that enjoy the peace and quiet of of it's no wake status. I have fished it many times from my boat and have no problem with the 5 mph speed limit. There are other lakes in the Hills for those who what to go fast,let them go there. Leave Deerfield as is !

Dennis Mallow
Black Hawk SD
fireman@rushmore.com

Comment:

Please leave the lake as is. As a retiree he has know place to be and all day to get there.

Bryan Peters
Rapid City SD
bryanp1972@gmail.com

Comment:

Please DO NOT CHANGE the no-wake regulation for Deerfield Lake. Deerfield is the only sizable reservoir in the Black Hills where shore anglers, canoers, kayakers, float tubers and boaters can peacefully and respectfully coexist in much the same space. Deerfield should remain as quiet and serene a place as possible. Deerfield should remain a cold-water specie lake managed primarily for trout species and perch. Largemouth bass, rock bass and other warm water species should be eliminated from the lake. Walleye and/or northern pike should never be introduced. It is the closest thing we have to a true mountain reservoir--please keep it the same and let Pactola and Sheridan take the brunt of the recreational watercraft traffic.

Jeffrey Vetter
Belle Fourche SD
team95monte@yahoo.com

Comment:

oppose

Linda Harris
Rapid City SD

Comment:

As a kayaker, I'm in favor of keeping the no wake zone (5 mph) classification for Deerfield to maintain the peaceful recreational enjoyment of this water body.

Blake Lohman
Denver CO
blohman85@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Lesa Mcdermott
Custer SD
Lesamcdermott@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake should stay a no wake area

Mike Bulich
Rapid City SD
Mbulichrealtor@gmail.cim

Comment:

Leave Deerfield lake the way it is.

Jim Stewart
Black Hawk SD
jim@blackhills.name

Comment:

I support the 5 mph speed limit on Deerfield Lake. Power boaters have many places to run fast, let's keep Deerfield Lake quiet.

Thank you!

Doris Mertz
Custer SD
dmertz35@msn.com

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield Lake as it is. Pactola and Sheridan Lake are nearby and offer options for faster boating.

Linda M. Hasselstrom

Hermosa SD

lindamichele777@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is too small for motorized vehicles; the racket would disturb people and wildlife for miles around. And it's one of the few lakes left where the elderly or children can fish quietly without some moron with a motorboat ruining the day. Let them go to Angostura.

Mark Warren

Rapid City SD

2nv502@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake the way it is. Speed boats will ruin it. Thanks!

Sue Schwaneke

Rochford SD

schwaneke@aol.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a jewel in the middle of the Black Hills where the solitude is wonderful. People can bird watch, kayak, and fish without the artificial noise from motors. Most of the other lakes in the Hills do not have a no-wake restriction. Keep Deerfield Lake peaceful.

Melanie Tollefson

Lead SD

melanietollefson@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

**Sd Canoe & Kayak Assoc. Sd
Canoe & Kayak Assoc.**

Sioux Falls SD

sdcka@midco.net

Comment:

Dear Game Fish and Parks Commission:

The South Dakota Canoe and Kayak Association is writing this letter in opposition of the petition to remove the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Reservoir. We are a statewide organization of paddle sports supporters who utilize water resources throughout South Dakota. We are composed of over 1,800 members and enthusiasts who enjoy canoeing, kayaking, stand-up paddle boarding and other human powered water sports. Deerfield Reservoir is the largest lake in the Black Hills where people can enjoy recreational opportunities without fear of boat wakes. However large, it is still approximately 2 miles long and measures approximately 1,500 feet at its widest. An increase in wake producing water craft in its narrow confines will increase unwanted interaction between motorized and non-motorized craft. The issue of waves caused by wakeboarding boats and by jet skis is a great safety concern to the paddling community. Wakeboarding and jet ski operation near shorelines also creates erosion damage. In most areas the lake is not wide enough for a heavy wake to dissipate before it reaches a shoreline.

We the executive board and members of The South Dakota Canoe and Kayak Association feel it would be a disservice to the outdoor recreation community and the tourism industry to change the atmosphere of this gem of a lake. Many of our members travel to this destination annually to enjoy the camping, swimming, fishing, paddling and hiking Deerfield provides.

We respect the rights of motorized boats and many of us are owners of motorized watercraft as well. We respectfully request this change not be made and the solitude and uniqueness of Deerfield Reservoir be preserved for the enjoyment of all South Dakotans.

Regards,

Roger Foote
President
South Dakota Canoe and Kayak Association

Dane Finnesand

Fairburn SD

dane.finnesand@gmail.com

Comment:

This is the only lake No Wake Lake in the hills that has a boat launch large enough to launch a pontoon or fishing boat. There are many anglers and sportsman that want a lake like this to avoid all of the recreational boaters during the peak summer months. These high speed boaters have many options for larger lakes that have no speed limits. If you remove this restriction, anglers with larger boats will have zero options to avoid these groups. There are also many kayak and SUP enthusiasts that use this lake to avoid the sound of motors and wakes. Deerfield has been know for many years as a quiet peaceful lake to enjoy. I encourage you to leave the restrictions in place.

Dane Finnesand
Rapid City SD
dane.finnesand@gmail.com

Comment:

Why in God's name would you have a meeting about this on a weekday afternoon in Pierre SD?! Should the people local to the Black Hills not have any opportunity to voice their opinions? What do the locals in Pierre know about this subject? Do you expect people that live in Hill City and Custer to take a day off work and drive 3+ hours to make their voices heard? Have a meeting about this in Rapid City and gauge the reaction of the locals that use the lake frequently. This proposal is garbage. That is the only No Wake Lake of decent size in the area. If you remove this restriction, there won't be any no wake lakes left for people that have pontoons or fishing boats.

Sonja Merrow
St. Onge SD

Comment:

We don't need ANOTHER boat party lake! Keep one lake peaceful, PLEASE

Kassie Shiffermiller
Rapid City SD
kshiffermiller@lynnjackson.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose lifting the Deerfield Lake Reservoir wake restrictions. This lake is frequented by fisherman, canoeing enthusiasts, kayakers, and stand-up paddleboarders. All of these activities, as well as wildlife and local vegetation, would be better served by a no-wake restriction that is already in place. There are plenty of lakes in Western South Dakota where one may go jet-skiing, water-skiing, and the like. Leave Deerfield Lake as is.

Christopher Kattke
Hot Springs SD
c_kattke@hotmail.com

Comment:

Absolutely not. Deerfield is one of the last great places to get away from all of the noise in the Hills.

Ralph Mumm Jr
Hill City SD
boojmumm@msn.com

Comment:

When I go fishing on Deerfield Lake the peaceful atmosphere of the Lake is as much of the enjoyable experience as is catching a fish. It takes a person at least an hour to pull your boat up to Deerfield from Rapid City why would you be in a big hurry to get to a certain spot on the Lake. Slow down, enjoy the experience, fish while you putt to where ever it is you want to be on the Lake, you more than likely will catch fish on the way.

Nick Lindsley
Rapid City SD
nmlindsley@gmail.com

Comment:

If you have been at any of the other hills lakes during the summer and seen or been a part of the boating chaos you would understatnd my oposition to lifting the speed restriction. We sold our boat becasue the lack of law enforcement, chaos, and danger. Deerfield is the only lake No Wake Lake in the hills that has a boat launch large enough to launch a pontoon or fishing boat. There are many anglers and sportsman that want a lake like this to avoid all of the recreational boaters during the peak summer months. These high speed boaters have many options for larger lakes that have no speed limits. If GFP removes this restriction, anglers with larger boats will have zero options to avoid these groups noise and chaos. There are also many kayak and SUP enthusiasts that use this lake to avoid the sound of motors and wakes. Deerfield has been know for many years as a quiet peaceful lake to enjoy. So please consider keeping this gem of the hills peaceful.

Terry Long
Custer SD
tlong53.tl@gmail.com

Comment:

Speed boats etc have enough places to enjoy their recreation. Leave Deerfield the way it is for those that prefer it's no wake designation.

Vicki Franzen
Rapid City SD
kivimi@msn.com

Comment:

I would support an increase to a lower speed limit; i.e. 10 to 15 mph since the goal is to "get across the lake faster".

Mike Ray

Rapid City SD

Cmichaelray@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep motor boats off Deerfield lake.

Thomas Baffuto

Rapid City SD

bbaffuto@aol.com

Comment:

I oppose because:

- 1) only large lake with peaceful tranquility and NO-WAKE policy.
 - 2) only large lake my wife and I can float tube without being swamped!
 - 3) Infrastructure would be costly to accommodate the added boaters and traffic under the proposed policy.
 - 4) Funds should be used for improving the fishery not boat ramps, drives, parking lots, etc.
 - 5) NO speeding Jet skis!
 - 6) LEAVE GOOD ALONE!
-

Bethann Baffuto

Rapid City SD

bbaffuto@aol.com

Comment:

I have always appreciated fishing at Deerfield because it is an ideal family atmosphere. It feels safe for people with young children and also the Eagles that live there. We float tube and need an environment that is not deluged by boat wakes, and loud racing engines. I know it is ideal for a quiet, peaceful day of fishing. Please don't make any changes, except to improve the fishery. Thank you.

Mike Sherry
Rapid City SD
mjsherry13@gmail.com

Comment:

I beg you not to remove the no wake restrictions on Deerfield Lake. It is a tranquil spot treasured by those of us that need a quiet lake in the Black Hills to escape to. The serenity and quietness of the spot is therapeutic when we have to escape the pace and stress of everyday living.

I have had to good fortune to fish in places like Maine and the Adirondack Mountains in New York and I think Deerfield Lake has the cleanest water I have ever seen. If you lift the no wake restriction, oil and gas pollution in the water will markedly increase. There is no denying that. Shoreline trash will also increase, (styrofoam worm containers come immediately to mind because I see those eyesores littering the shore line of almost every lake I have ever fished). Lake bottom pollution will also increase (beer and soda cans).

Why would you want to pollute such a beautiful place?

More fishermen rushing from one end of the lake to the other will mean more trout will be caught and more trout caught means more accidental trout kills (because they are difficult fish to catch and release safely).

I question the petitioner's motives for trying to overturn the restriction. It is not a big body of water and my wife and I often traverse the length and width of the lake in our kayaks multiple times every time we fish there. And, I am 60 years old. So I think the rationale about improving his fishing experience may be disingenuous.

I am worried that the power boat retailers are eyeing Deerfield Lake as an asset that will help them sell more fishing boats.

I also worry that the jet ski crowd will discover the lake and test the 25 mph limit every chance they get. In my experience, jet ski operators are the least considerate people on any body of water. They seem to have a need to perform their "stunts" as close to an audience as possible. And that audience, in my experience, is usually people in canoes and kayaks.

In summation; if you lift the no wake restriction, noise pollution is not the only downside to consider. You will be ruining a unique resource.

Mindy Holsworth
Hermosa SD
Mindy.holsworth@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Elysia Hunter
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I spend time at deerfield lake BECAUSE it is a wake-free lake - it is nice to escape the noise and chaos of other lakes like pactola where, frankly, people are obnoxious with their boats.

Toby Madsen
Rapid City SD

Comment:

There are plenty of other lakes in the area that can be used for sport boating!

Melissa Cosme
Spearfish SD
mela.cosme@bhsu.edu

Comment:

Good Morning! I oppose the replacement of Deerfield Lake's no-wake restriction with a 25mph restriction. This is the only lake in the Black Hills I can feel safe while paddleboarding or kayaking. I can go without having to worry about the dangers of speeding boats, especially drunk drivers that usually take over the lakes in the summer or jet skiers. This is also the only lake I trust and love to take my friends who have never tried kayaking before, not having to worry about speeding boats with the added calm and relaxing atmosphere makes Deerfield a perfect lake to try water sports in. This lake a hidden gem for us Black Hills locals! Please keep the lake with no wakes.

Roger Jackson
Custer SD
jacksonrogera@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Iver Finnesand
Grenville SD

Comment:

This is not a good decision for anyone !!

Colin Zilverberg
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I take my daughter to this lake to enjoy fishing, kayaking, and swimming. Lifting the no wake restriction would greatly hinder many people's enjoyment of this peaceful body of water. Please leave the no wake restriction in place.

Jim Thompson
Madison SD
thompsji.69@gmail.com

Comment:

I love Deerfield for the piece and quiet. Jet skis and ski boats would ruin the mountain lake essence. The pleasure boaters have other lakes to play on. Leave Deerfield alone.

Jason Renken
Rapid City SD
jasonrenken@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please do not increase the speed of boats at Deerfield. The Lake is a great spot for quiet, calm, peaceful relaxation. Kayaking, paddle boarding and boat fishing at the no wake speed are perfect for the lakes setting. We camp there on the north side at least 5 to 6 times per year and call Deerfield our favorite lake in the hills. I own a boat and know many big time lake and river fisherman. There would be no benefit in my eyes to go flying across Deerfield to catch the normal trout or perch catch. The lake trout are much smaller that can be caught in Pactola. Again please leave it a no wake lake!

Dave Oyler
Rapid City SD
daveo@theclubforboys.org

Comment:

My family and friends spend a lot of time at Deerfield Lake because of the quiet, peaceful, serenity you find there. Unlike Pactola and Sheridan lakes where boaters, jet skis, and party-goers dominate the scene. Deerfield Lake needs to remain as it is. Please leave it alone. Besides, putting a 25 mile per hour restriction will be impossible to enforce on a regular basis. We need to leave Deerfield Lake alone.

Tim Walton
Rapid City SD
Imperial_sun@yahoo.com

Comment:

We need some lakes that people can enjoy their peace and quiet. Fishing. Family time. Putting these boats on the water ruins that experience.

Pamela Weinzapfel
Waccabuc NY
pamdem@optonline.net

Comment:

This is unconscionable. Not on our public lands. Thank you.

Bill Brisk

Custer SD

bbrisk@goldenwest.net

Comment:

I would suggest Edel re-evaluate his retirement. It is utterly ridiculous that he is on such time restraints to go fishing and that he can't take the time to enjoy the tranquility of the area. He is a hypocrite in Rapid City Journal article as he says he can't fish after 11 AM on the other lakes because of power boats and jet skis. A 25 mph limit would do the same at Deerfield! I have been going to Deerfield Lake for over forty years. LEAVE DEERFIELD LAKE ALONE!!!!!!

Chris Valencia

Summerset SD

chris@egmrc.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield a No Wake Zone! It is the only lake in the Hills that we can enjoy kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, etc without being harassed by large wakes, fast boats, and jet ski's. Please keep Deerfield open to us other sportsmen.

David Coleman

Rapid City SD

COLEBUDDY@OUTLOOK.COM

Comment:

changing this tranquil setting of kayaks and slow fishing boats would completely destroy the ambiance, wildlife, and clean water and general boating safety of this lake. This clearly has not been thought through. i can't imagine who it is that wants party barges and jet skis on this. My friend and I are placing petitions at bait shops and sporting goods stores and will see you at the meeting in Pierre on June 6. The very least you can do is hold this hearing in Rapid City. I will be requesting that the governor step in and begin an environmental impact study.

Andrew Craven

Belleville WI

AndrewCraven23@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not change the current no-wake restriction at Deerfield. It is one of the few remaining peaceful lakes.

Andrew J Jackson

Rapid City SD

Getandyjackson@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is not big enough to support boats that go fast enough to create a wake. Please leave the lake as is. It is nice to be able to go somewhere and appreciate nature without the roar of pwc and power boats! Enforcement will be an issue, too

Joshua Hewett

Custer SD

Comment:

After reading the article in the Rapid City Journal, I was surprised to see that the wake/speed limit on the lake was suggested to be increased. Deerfield Lake is the only larger lake in the Black Hills that serves as a peaceful retreat for all the outdoors people that do not want to hear loud engines, fast speeds, and loud people. Edel stated that he dislikes the choppy waters of other lakes. So if the no wake was lifted at Deerfield it would be the same as the lakes that he does not enjoy. In my opinion Edel is a hypocrite, and wants the rules and laws to apply to his own interests and agenda, not to the well-being of all the outdoors people. All the water sports that Edel mentioned, that create choppy water, are achievable at 25mph. As a local, born and raised in the Deerfield area I strongly oppose lifting the no wake law that exists.

Jodi Brisk

Burke SD

jbrisk@goldenwest.net

Comment:

Keep No-Wake Law in place at Deerfield Lake! In regards to the Deerfield Lake proposition of doing away with the No-Wake law, I cannot OPPOSE this enough. Mr. Edel speaks about how other lakes in the Black Hills, which do not have the No-Wake laws, can't be utilized past 11:00 a.m.

Jayme Scherr

Rapid City SD

jaymescherr@hotmail.com

Comment:

I am in favor of removing the no wake zone in deerfield with a speed limit in place for the whole lake. I believe this will open the lake up to more people who want to use it for recreation and help decrease the congestion on sheridan lake. We still have many other small lakes in the hills like sylvan that will never allow boats and can be used by people who are looking for that kind of recreation or atmosphere. This will be a strong economic increase for the areas business as well as those other people bringing motorized vehicles will spend money.

Tom Frank
Hill City SD
tomfrank.hillcity@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake preserves the peace and tranquility for non motorized water sports in the Black Hills, there are plenty of other water bodies where boaters have access already

Don Wrede
Rapid City SD
Dangerdon5500@gmail.com

Comment:

A 25mph speed limit on Deerfield will have jet skiers, wave runners and other boats screaming around the lake. 25 mph is fast for boats.

Michelle Fischer
Custer SD
goodys86@hotmail.com

Comment:

opposed to no-wake restriction

Jennifer Kirk
Rapid City SD
johnjsjenn@msn.com

Comment:

Please Please Please keep the no-wake zone in place at Deerfield Lake. It is so beautiful, calm and quiet there. It is a place that restores peace to our souls and we need more not less of them. No one loses anything with retaining the no-wake zone but many lose their quiet enjoyment of the lake with the elimination of the no-wake zone. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. J. Kirk

Myrna Garhart
Black Hawk SD
wolfdreamin69@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting removal of the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake, because we enjoy fishing, camping, kayaking on the lake and not having to worry about boats speeding towards us not seeing us running over us. Or our fishing lines. Please leave Deerfield Lake as it . Peaceful and fun

Cheyne Cumming

Rapid City SD

Redtrigirl@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose any change to the no wake designation at Deerfield Lake. The beauty and peace and quiet of this lake would be ruined. I go there to hike in a quiet place and listen to nature's sounds. Allowing loud motors would destroy that experience. We need places that are not noisy!!

Lonnie Schryvers Schryvers

Custer SD

lschryvers@bhec.coop

Comment:

I think taking the no wake law off from Deerfield lake is not a good idea keep the lake peaceful.

Jesse Sorenson

Custer SD

jsorenson@bhec.coop

Comment:

I am not in favor of an increased speed limit on Deerfield Lake, it is a very peaceful lake to enjoy without large wakes.

Amy Fahey

Rapid City SD

amytoe2012@hotmail.com

Comment:

This is the only quiet large size lake in the black hills area. Please leave the 5mph speed limit and no wake. Safer for kayakers and dogs. It is a nice quiet place to camp especially where they do not allow fireworks over the 4th if July.

Andy Bernard

Rapid City SD

ajbernard48@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a pretty incredible spot, tranquil, and peaceful. A lot of folks out here in the Hills head up there on hot days to swim, fish, kayak, canoe, and paddle board. The lake is not that big, I canoe around it. There is no reason to need more speed boats up there. GF&P would just be asking for more trouble, you would consistently have people break the 25 mph speed limit. Keep it quiet, keep it slow, keep it how it has been. We already have too many UTVs and ATVs buzzing around, leave the jet skis and the motor boats to Pactola and Sheridan.

Sincerely,

Andy Bernard
City Forester
Rapid City Parks and Rec
Citizen of the Black Hills

John Newland

Rapid City SD

spotsplace@rushmore.com

Comment:

Having lived in the Black Hills since the early 70's I have always loved driving to remote Deerfield Lake to hike and fish enjoying its peace and quiet and relative uncrowded shorelines. I was sorry to see the gravel road paved years ago and houses pop up in the beautiful meadows leading up to the lake and today we have ATV's buzzing everywhere you go in the Hills so this one spot of tranquility is especially treasured. With the lake measuring less than two miles between its farthest points it seems odd that Mr. Edel needs 25 minutes to boat anywhere on the lake depending on where he puts in but if so I suggest he plan his time more wisely and not be in such a hurry.

Michelle Booze

Hartford SD

DrMLBooze@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the no wake zone on Deerfield lake. We love to fish and have been going to Deerfield for over a decade as a family. Having speeding boats and jetskies and the like racing across the lake will severely hamper our fishing to the point that we may not visit or camp at the lake again. Why does South Dakota need another lake with crazy boats?

Keifer Huntley

Spearfish SD

Comment:

Leave Deerfield lake as is. There are plenty of boating lakes in the hills without upping the speed limit there.

Jo Kallemeyn

Spearfish SD

joandlarry87@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please - let there be a few places in this state where there is no motorboat or jet-ski noise- where people can go to experience the natural noises of the environment and commune with nature. Fishermen have plenty of places to run their motorboats, they don't need one more place where they can speedily get to their fishing spot. I have no objection to quiet electric motors, and the sound of a canoe or kayak paddle in the water is the way to enjoy Deerfield Lake.

Sean Fahey

Rapid City SD

sfaheysd@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake on any summer day is a haven for paddlers, shore fisherman, and anyone who enjoys being on or around the water without speed boats flying around. A calm body of water is treasured by people who enjoy shore-fishing, canoeing, kayaking and other activities. Deerfield lake is the only large body of water in the hills where these people can go and enjoy a wake free lake.

I understand that it may take motor boats longer to work their way across the lake. I myself fish the lake from a motor boat on occasion. But I also enjoy fishing from a boat on a quiet lake in calm water. I do not see the sense in denying so many people the opportunity to enjoy this one of a kind lake just so that they can get across the lake a few minutes faster.

25 mph also opens the lake up to water skiers and wake boarders who create huge chop on a lake that size.

Please do not ruin this quiet, peaceful lake experience by allowing the 25 mph limit.

Andy Ainslie

Rapid City SD

andy@andyainslie.biz

Comment:

I oppose revising the no wake rule in place currently. please leave this pristine lake peaceful and quiet. Motor boaters have Pactola, Sheridan and Angostura already.

Kevin Forrester

Sturgis SD

k4ester@yahoo.com

Comment:

Why can't the SD GFP support anything but increased motorized use

Laura Korogi
Sturgis SD
zebrokilaura@gmail.com

Comment:

I am writing to ask that you keep the no-wake zone in place. My children and I look forward to fishing and using their Kayaks this summer and it has always been easy for the kids to kayak her

Marge Maken
Rapid City SD
Margem@rap.midco.net

Comment:

It is such a beautiful lake so why spoil it with big waves. Let the big boats go where there are lakes that let you speed.

Bill Baker
Rapid City SD
bbakesd@gmail.com

Comment:

We have plenty of lakes where we can go fast. Please keep this one for the canoes ,kayaks ,float tubes and small fishing boats. Thanks

Jessica Smith
Rapid City SD
jsgibben@gmail.com

Comment:

Deer field Lake, we need to have a lake where you can go up and relax or take kids to go kayaking, without boats trying to run you over.

Dennis Bernal
Rapid City SD
bernal tire@midconetwork.com

Comment:

If you want to go 25 miles an hour go to any of the other lakes. We don't need water skiing on Deerfield

Buddy Seiner

Pierre SD

buddy@fishstories.org

Comment:

I am animately opposed to this proposal. Please do not allow the serenity of Deerfield to be ruined by recreational wake making machines. Leave the area as it is please. Thank you.

Casey Ellerton

Custer SD

cellerton@hotmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the change proposed of taking the no wake law off of Deerfield. Great way to ruin this lake.

Catherine Frey

Hill City SD

cathyatdeerfield@yahoo.com

Comment:

We live at Deerfield Lake and it would be a sad day to see some boat cruising across the lake at 25mph - we have fly fishers in floaters, kayak-ers, and paddle-boarders who would appreciate the present speed left alone - as would I.

Rob Taylor

Deadwood/Galena SD

Comment:

This is saddening. As a Blacks Hills resident, we are seeing more and more infiltration of motorized vehicles. This keeps proving that money talks and paddling/walking.....doesn't. This is our last big lake in the Hills with no wake. Please leave Deerfield Lake as is for the enjoyment of the rest of the populace that does not need to go too fast to get where we want to be. We are already there. The gentleman in the RC Journal article that wants the restriction removed even stated that the motorized lakes are too busy already. There are four lakes for "fast fishing" and pleasure boating skiing to include Angostura and Orman. Please do not add another one to that mess. Please leave Deerfield, the last big beautiful peaceful lake in the Black Hills, as is.

Dennis Anderson

Deadwood SD

Dennis_Anderson198@yahoo.com

Comment:

I have fished Deerfield for 60+ years and would hate to see the no wake requirement removed. That would destroy the serenity and peacefulness of the lake. We do not need any speed boats on that lake. Pactola and Sheridan are a zoo because of boat traffic and disrespectfullness of the boaters. Leave Deerfield the way it is, at least we can get away from the rat race that exists on the other lakes. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

James Girard

De Smet SD

jlgirard75@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake. Deerfield is such a beautiful and serene environment, we don't need high speed traffic on every lake in the state, let's keep this one pure.

Ken Parker

Custer SD

Comment:

Would really like to see this lake left alone on the speed and wake zone. It's a great place to take my family and enjoy no concerns of high speed watercraft around, as we kayak and fish from shore. We have a bigger fishing boat as well, and there is a place for them also. But it nice to have a go to place in the hills to enjoy peace and calm!

Travis Carlin

Custer SD

Comment:

This is one of the most peaceful lakes in the hills. No loud boats. Don't have to worry about getting swamped in my canoe. Please don't change it.

Telca Paprocki
Hot Springs SD

Comment:

LEAVE THE NO-WAKE RULE!!!!!!!!!!

Deerfield is peaceful the way it is. That is the reason my family goes there. We can have PEACE, SOLITUDE, SERENITY and kayak in a dreamland area. Taking that away will be the same as ME finding where you plan to spend a restful/relaxing/peaceful night of sleep in your bed and I WILL come around to make as much irritating LOUD noise as possible outside your window as you try to enjoy the comfort of your house. It is sad that public land agencies do not have strong leaders to protect the resource so badly deserving of protection and have lost the concept of preservation.

Bob Mayson

Lead SD

bobmatson750@gmail.com

Comment:

There are three big reservoirs in North- Mid and South Black Hills. These are big waters. Deerfield is a quiet respite for those who DO NOT want to contend with jet skis, big boats, fast speeds and big wakes. It is a place which offers refuge from that crap.

That guy from Rapid who wants to get across faster can go to the others or Sheridan Lake... OR he can get a kayak or canoe like those of us who like that way to fish and boat and paddle his ass out to where there might be some fish feeding.

That self serving attitude is what is threatening our terrific Black Hills. ... not only at Deerfield bit with all of the 4 wheel bastards who get their thrill by shredding up the forests and meadows.

DO THE RIGHT THING... serve all and protect our Hills at the same time.

Thanks... Bob Matson

Tim Bjork

Rapid City SD

Bjork10@pie.midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield Reservoir is a quiet, beautiful place to get away in the Black Hills. Please leave it that way by rejecting the request to increase the speed limit. Thank you.

Ashlee May

Fairburn SD

Comment:

Keep peace at Deerfield Lake

Shawn Zinda
Edgemont SD

Comment:

keep to a no wake zone. It is the only enjoy lake around jet ski wave boats.

David Brooks
Black Hawk SD
dabrook20@gmail.com

Comment:

Boat wake would ruin the recreational activities for all the kayaks and paddle boards

Laurie Montgomery
Rapid City SD

Comment:

There are very few peaceful lakes in the Black Hills. Pactola and Sheridan have become very busy on the weekends. Deerfield needs to be left as it is, allowing those looking for serenity and quiet the one place that still offers that. Many people fish here but they don't need speed in order to do that Raising the speed limit will bring out the jetski's and power boats towing skiers and tubers. There will be more need for oversight and patrols. Don't ruin a gem. Enough of the Hills is ruined already.

Rick Mines
Laramie WY
pukwana63@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield has always been a very quiet, peaceful lake. Let's keep it that way.

Kenneth Booze
Madison SD
ken.booze@outlook.com

Comment:

I though one of the reasons for the no wake zone was to reduce the erosion of the shore line. In addition, we need to have a decent lake in the hills that we can go fishing at and not have to worry about water and jet skiers making it so that we can't fish.

Chris Stover
Rapid City SD
cbstover@outlook.cm

Comment:

Raising the speed limit on Deerfield Lake will result in one more busy, over-crowded lake. There are very few quiet places left in the Hills; let's keep Deerfield a quiet place.

Micheal Brickman
Black Hawk SD
msbrickman@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deer Field Lake is a great place to shore fish and enjoy the quiet of the area without the noise of a boat cruising across the lake. A trolling motor or rowing is adequate enough on the lake and there is no two stroke oil pollution.

Kent And Zindie Meyers
Spearfish SD
kzmeyers@spe.midco.net

Comment:

Department of Game, Fish, and Parks:

We are writing to urge the GF&P to maintain the no-wake rule at Deerfield Lake. It makes no sense for a person to argue that a quiet and peaceful, 25-minute boat ride across a quiet lake is a hardship when, at the end of the ride, he wishes to engage in quiet and peaceful fishing.

We have camped and canoed at lakes that allow speedboats. The noise and activity degrade the experience, and their unregulated allowance discriminates against people who seek the diminishing resource of quiet in our public realms. Changing the no-wake rule will attract more boats, more speed, more noise, and eventually a request for even higher speeds. There are plenty of lakes in the Black Hills where people can operate their boats at any speed they wish. Please keep Deerfield Lake one where people can enjoy the water and the surroundings as they wish, without the intrusion of mechanical noises and unnatural speeds.

Sincerely yours,
Kent and Zindie Meyers
1745 Third Street
Spearfish, SD 57783

Jukka Huhtiniemi

Hill City SD

jhuhtiniemi@gmail.com

Comment:

Dear Gary Jensen and Commissioners,

I'm writing in response to the Deerfield Lake petition for rule change which proposes an increase in boat speed from 5 to 25 mph. I strongly oppose this petition.

Deerfield Lake's length is only a little over 2 miles from the dam to Castle Creek outlet. Average width is about 0.25 miles. With 5 mph it takes only 30 min to reach any point of the lake.

I'm fishing year-round at Deerfield Lake. In the summertime, the lake's steep shores gives excellent fishing. Wintertime it is normally easy to walk to any point on the lake. Best fishing spots seem to be by the Dam and at Gold Run, which are about one mile apart.

Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan lake has been spoiled with fast boats and other gadgets. Deerfield Lake is the only one left where you can still enjoy serenity and peace, and you can safely swim, use kayaks, canoes, paddle boards etc.

Deerfield Lake is the highest elevation and has the coldest and cleanest water of all Black Hills lakes. It is one of the main drinking water sources for Rapid City. Let's keep it that way! All motorized vehicles (motorboats, ATVs, snowmobiles) are endangering the lake's situation.

Please keep Deerfield lake at 5 mph speed restriction. It is the best utilization of this resource by allowing all users the right to a serene water activity in the Black Hills. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jukka Huhtiniemi

John Wolf

Rapid City SD

johnwolf1940@midco.net

Comment:

do not change speed on Deerfield lake. have fished the lake for 50 years without a problem. like it the way it is. five mph fine.

Ethan Stoner

Rapid City SD

ems328@me.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the best lakes in the hills for lazy day canoe and kayak paddles around the beautiful scenery. It's one of the few places that this can be enjoyed without having to be disturbed by jet skis and boats being operated by idiots who almost hit you every time you go out. Anyways it's a place where I have a lot of fond memories and I'd hate to see a future where those memories aren't the same.

Brett Hunter
Rapid City SD
Brettalberthunter@yahoo.com

Comment:

oppose

Julie Erickson
Rapid City SD
julie.janderso@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake provides access to quiet, peaceful lake access. Please do not change the current status.

Cher Burgess
Sundance WY
TEAMchark74@gmail.com

Comment:

Part of the charm of Deerfield Lake is the "no wake" status. The quiet, the ability to use canoes and kayaks without fear, the peacefulness of the area all contribute to the allure of the lake. Changing to allow larger motors will generate noise, attract a different clientele, and make the lake less attractive. There are lots of other places for folks to go and speed around the lake, but there is only one "no wake" opportunity in the area. Please don't change this!

Patsy Carney
Rapid City SD
tigerrose.pcs.1968@live.com

Comment:

We fish Deerfield just because there are no speed boats, party boats or jerks who just don't care about fishers.

Robert Zimmerman
Rapid City SD
Szimmerman2006@gmail.com

Comment:

I enjoy fishing, boating, and camping Deerfield reservoir. It is quiet and a very peaceful place to be in the outdoors. I often see kayaks, canoes, and other small craft because it is a nice lake where people can enjoy a lake without disturbance. It would be horrible if it were destroyed by wake board boats and other noise makers when they already have places to do closer to Rapid City. I can't understand why this rule change is even considered - please leave one lake where we can still enjoy nature.

George Kreber
Piedmont SD

Comment:

Please leave it as it is , quite and calm

Allen Harwood
Spearfish SD
Uj7895@gmail.com

Comment:

There is not enough slow speed fishing water in western SD. Removing the biggest body of water would be terrible for the users looking for peaceful fishing opportunity.

Michael Burgard
Rapid Ciry SD
mikeburgard15@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not ruin a nice quiet lake. Keep the ref boats to the other options.

Lisa Modrick
Rapid City SD
Lisa@modrick.com

Comment:

Oppose allowing Wake at Deerfield Lake.

Keep the NO WAKE

Michael Beutler
Rapid City SD
rapidmikeb@yahoo.com

Comment:

It's been great having a lake to relax and fish without being bothered by other boats coming by at faster speeds. If people want to drive their boats faster they can go to Pactola or Sheridan.

Tim Brumbaugh
Rapid City SD
dakotatim@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake 25mph. don't even try and make it more than a no wake lake it is the only one in the Black Hills where you can paddle board and kayak without fear!

Angelia Dale
Sturgis SD
imaginedale@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield has always been a quiet lake that you can get out and kayak on, take in nature without the worry of boats roaring past you.

John Roberts
Spearfish SD
jroberts256@hotmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the use of noise making, polluting, wake making vehicles at Deerfield Reservoir.

Jeanette Flood
Rapid City SD
Jeanettegg@rushmore.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose removing the no wake zone.

Dylan Laughlin
Rapid City SD

Comment:

oppose

Elijah Bezpaletz

Lead SD

Comment:

This is the one lake of solitude for everyone who enjoy peaceful camping, fishing, and any other water sport that is hindered by the wakes and noise of water sports. It is also a place where people can go and actually feel safe while using. Comparing the numerous accidents that other lake experience each year around the hills. I hate to see this lake lose it beauty. Especially due to improper representation on the subject from the populous that use the area the most. It just shows how unjust and knifing even the local government of South Dakota is anymore. Having a meeting about something so far away in the middle of a work week, without any concern of what the people acually feel. Unbelievable!

Glenda Jenniges

Custer SD

Comment:

I would like to ask you to keep in place the no-wake restriction at Deerfield Lake. As the Black Hills becomes more populated as time goes on, it is harder to find quiet places to go. Please do not change the peacefulness we still have at Deerfield. Faster and nosier fishing can be found elsewhere.

Kristina Ward

Rapid City SD

wardson@rap.midco.net

Comment:

oppose

Kevin Jenniges

Custer SD

Comment:

I am 68 years old, born and raised in the Black Hills and I am against changing the no- wake restriction at Deerfield Lake I have many fond memories of spending time at Deerfield Lake with family and friends. I feel that a change to the current ambiance of this area would be a terrible mistake. Please do not consider replacing the no-wake restriction. Thank you.

Leroy Rohrer
Rapid City SD
mlenter@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is the only larger lake in the Hills that one can enjoy peace and quiet while fishing, kayaking, canoeing, or hiking. I go there because of this, to be away from the noise and speed of fast boats. I canoe and can reach most parts of the lake at a speed slower than 5 mph. Even though other lakes have no wake areas there are still some wakes and the noise. I shore fish mostly and wakes definitely disturb this. Once a lake is open to higher speed boats the numbers will increase and it is back to wakes splashing the shore constantly. We need one larger lake in the Black Hills that has the current tranquility of Deerfield Lake. Therefore I strongly oppose removing Deerfield Lake from no wake boating.

Kief Hansen
Rapid City SD
kiefhansen@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Emily Asher
Pierre SD
emilynasher@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield as a NO WAKE lake -- the peace and serenity of this special place will be lost and buried by the roar of outboard motors, we have enough of that everywhere else.

Donna Waite
Custer SD
dkw652003@yahoo.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake is my absolute favorite lake to camp, fish, hike and horseback ride around. It is beautiful, quiet and serene. People are seen enjoying this lake by kayaking and fishing, while I'm riding one of the most beautiful trails available by horseback. We share this with bikes and hikers. There are plenty of lakes available to do speed recreation on. If someone wants to fish faster (a moronic statement really) then visit Sheridan, Pactola, Angastora or Stockade. It would increase the need for law enforcement as speed sports brings out the parties and partiers. Please leave one lake for quiet serenity and natural enjoyment. Without the sound of motors, yelling, screaming and all that goes with this. The lake trail must follow a portion of the highway also and having the increased speed boat and sports type traffic is surely going to run into some issues with this. There are enough lakes that have speed accidents, along with drownings and death, leave one that rarely sees these kinds of issues. That rarely needs the sheriff's office called for loud parties and drunken brawls. Thank you for your consideration

Tim Villa
Rpid City SD
tkgb4@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please maintain the quiet and serenity this lake provides by keeping boats at no wake speed. Even the proposed 25mph would not be adhered to on the excuse that they are just going to "fly"over there and then slow down. I have observed may times, folks not following the "No Wake" law in the marina without consequences. How could you possibly enforce this on a lake the size of Deerfield. This would leave it up to sportsmen having to turn in these offenders which would be more difficult to prove than a possession limit violation. I believe the lake access at current boat ramps give convenient access to all areas of the lake. NO WAKE!

Sarah Sharp
Rapid City SD

Comment:

This lake is a peaceful place for fishing, canoeing, and kayaking. Changing the motorboat restrictions would ruin Deerfield Lake.

Bonnie Jenniges
Rapid City SD
nmblj@hotmail.com

Comment:

Do not remove the no wake restrictions for boats on Deerfield Lake

Kathie O'Donnell
Rapid City SD
chatkat.odonnell@gmail.com

Comment:

I truly hope you will not change the no wake, 5 mph designation for Deerfield Lake. This is the only lake in the Hills that I have felt safe on in a canoe or kayak. It has also keep this area peaceful and a good place to observe eagles. I've been camping at Deerfield since the 1990's and have seen the increased use of canoes and kayaks as people seeking a quieter experience compared to Pactola and Sheridan Lakes. Please don't make this change!

Kevin Lyons
Custer SD
kmlyons1964@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield no wake. I enjoy the serenity of it the way it is.

Jenna Carda
Rapid City SD
jenna.carda@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake wake free! There are SO many lakes in the Black Hills that sport fishing and speed boats can access. It's awesome to be able to take kids paddleboarding and kayaking at Deerfield without worry of a fisherman racing to "his

Lori Biel
Summerset SD

Comment:

No wake, Deerfield lake!!

Willie Hasart
St. Lawrence SD

Comment:

Both my husband and I want to vote no on changing the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake. We spend 18 years living at Hill City and spent many hours enjoying the peace and quiet there. We now live on the East side of the state where we grew up and return to Deerfield Lake to camp in the summer and the fall. We will be there in June. Even in your webpage you write "travel on the reservoir is limited to 5 miles per hour and there is a no wake restriction which provides for peaceful fishing and boating experiences. Thanks you for listening.

Edward Hague
Hill City SD
ebhague@wildblue.net

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the few places in the Hills that you can fish or enjoy the wildlife in peace. Please keep it that way!
Ed

Jim Phillips
Deadwood SD

Comment:

This correspondence is in regard to the SD Dept of GFP. Consideration of lifting the no wake zone on our beloved Deerfield Lake in the Black Hills! I have been utilizing the lake for over 60 years as have many of my relatives, friends, neighbors and visitors to our Black Hills. The main draw of the lake is the peaceful serenity and not having to put up with the high speed non-considerate, sometimes intoxicated, wake making, noisy, high powered speed boats. It boggles my mind that with the availability of Pactola Lake, Sheridan Lake, Belle Fourche Res (Orman) and Angostora that the GFP would even consider taking away the Lone Lake where people like me, my family, my friends, visitors can get away from the insane power boaters! Thanks for you time and consideration.

Judith Wegner
Pierre SD
judith.l.wegner@gmail.com

Comment:

We go to the Hills regularly and have been to Deerfield Lake many times. I'm asking the GF&P not to take the "no wake" from The Lake. The peace and serenity of keeping motorized boats off the lake is a wonderful thing. I love kayaking here and hope you listen to those of us who want to keep it as it is. Thank you.

Jason Steele
Hill City SD
js3dantkd@gmail.com

Comment:

Th

Bob Puetz
Rapid City SD
hdfatby67@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Heather Cooper
Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

John Hopkins
Hill City SD
jh420900@gmail.com

Comment:

Not everything in the world has to be dictated by speed. Deerfield Lake is one of the few bodies of water where a person can safely canoe . Additionally, I am a shore fisherman and don't need continuous wakes eroding the shore, as well as disturbing the fishing.

Kara Bradeen
Custer SD
owenandmommy@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Sarah Shoop
Lead SD
ss38958@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Glenda Robertson
Rochford SD
rochfordracer@gmail.com

Comment:

The big boats already have Pactola. Deerfield is one of the few lakes that is big enough for a good kayaking run but small enough to be manageable. With big boats & wakes that would no longer be true. Please don't run this great safe & quiet waterway !!!

Wayne Burleson

Lead SD

Comment:

We just heard that people want to have the wake speed limit changed on Deerfield Lake so they can go faster. We think it would really affect all the people who like to go to the lake to camp, fish, ride their kayaks, and boat in a calm lake. It would be noisy, waves would be horrible, couldn't fish from shore. We went to Sheridan Lake once. they were having something for Fathers Day, so we went. The boats were bad enough, but the wave runners (I think that is what they are) were awful and had no respect for anyone fishing off shore. We finally pulled in our lines and left the lake and went to Deerfield for the rest of the day. Wayne is 91 and I'm 86, we have been going to Deerfield for 60 years camping with our kids when small now its grand kids (12) and great grand kids (12). What great times we have had out there. Surely there enough other lakes individuals can go to do their wild boating. Yes! we do only live about 15 miles from Deerfield which also makes it special for us. No matter where we have lived in the Hills, Deerfield has always been our destination. This has nothing to do with the speed limit, but Deerfield is also the best place in the world to ice fish. Once the ice is good we never worry about falling through always have ice house out there. Please, Please don't allow this speed limit change, We pray you hear a lot on this subject.

Jeremy Coller

Rapid City SD

Coller.jeremy@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Greg Evans

Pierre SD

Gregcarolevans@aol.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Johanna Hohle

Rochford SD

johanna.hohle@gmail.com

Comment:

Please don't allow the boaters to ruin another lake in the Black Hills

Kelli Ford

Pierre SD

Kelliford77@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Brian Felde

Lead SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Gerald Powers

Sturgis SD

jerry-deb@rushmore.com

Comment:

I would rather put up with 5 mph with no wake rather than have to fight someone else's wake at 25 mph. I'm been fishing at Deerfield Lake for 65 years. It is hard to still find a place to fish and enjoy using a canoe, kayak, paddle board or float tube without boats with wake boards and skiers, and jet skis trying to take you out. Yes, it does seem to take a long time to get from one end of Deerfield to the other, but I would dislike much more having to fight another boat's wake. If I want speed, there are many other lakes that I can take my boat to. Leave Deerfield the way it is, it works.

Roseanne And Mike Pahl

Custer SD

Comment:

We agree with those who were interviewed in the Rapid City Journal who opposed removing the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake, particularly the one who said, "The Black Hills needs places for those of us who aren't in love with motorized vehicles and want peace and quiet." Please keep Deerfield Lake peaceful and quiet.

Mark Vickers
Rapid City SD
wbg@rushmore.com

Comment:

I have lived in the Black Hills my entire life, and have fished the area extensively. I have supported trout habitat projects for the past thirty-six years.

Deerfield should maintain its 5mph speed limit for motorized watercraft. To change this regulation would effectively "ruin" the lake for many, many people. For those that wish to run jet skis, fast fishing boats, etc., there are many other lakes that can accommodate them. Thanks.

Thomas Main
Rapid City SD
mainusthm1@gmail.com

Comment:

Think of the number of the public users vs. boaters with large enough motors to run at 25 mph. Since this is a public lake do not discriminate against those hikers, kayakers, canoeists, shore fishermen in the interest of a small portion of boaters. We need at least one lake with no-wake restrictions.

Karen Perry
Pierre SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Linda Sandness
Rochford SD
lsandness@hotmail.com

Comment:

We have four kayaks and love to paddle at Deerfield because we don't have to fight the waves and motor noise we have experienced on other lakes in the Hills. Please, please let non-motorists have a place to enjoy. Keep the no-wake policy, please.

Misty Fish
Custer SD
Misty-may@hotmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Carla Laun
Deadwood SD

Comment:

I oppose the proposed replacement of the no wake at Deerfield Lake to the 25mph limit.

Jamie Kelley
Custer SD
Acmc700@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Juan Rascon
Spearfish SD
juanjrasconco@gmail.com

Comment:

NO WAKE!

Marilyn Jacobsen
Canova SD
marilynjacobsen@triotel.net

Comment:

People go to Deerfield Lake to enjoy the serene beauty of the lake. If you have boats going 25 mph, we may as well give up on shore fishing which is what we can afford to do. Please do NOT lift the no wake status of the lake. Preserve what we have....PLEASE!

Lorene Bowling
Rapid City SD
lorenebowling4@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Don Burger
Rapid City SD

Comment:

People go to Deerfield to camp hike, canoe, etc. because of the solitude. It is still available to all to use, if you're fishing it may take a little longer to get to your spot. Please do not remove the restriction!!

Vickie Dowdy
Spearfish SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Paul Nelson
Rapid City SD
wmbell1772@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep the Deerfield Lake no wake rule in force. Keep Deerfield Lake a quiet place to visit.

Wendy Siroshon
Hill City SD
Manager@mtmeadow.com

Comment:

As manager of Mt. Meadow Store and Campground, located across the road from Deerfield Lake, I do not want to see the no wake restriction lifted. Deerfield Lake is home to many in the area that enjoy the peaceful serenity Deerfield Lake has to offer. We have many returning campers and hunters in the area as well fisherman, come here for the sportsman atmosphere the lake has to offer. To lift the restriction means the kayakers and paddle boarders and the shore fishing enthusiasts will have to find a different spot that doesn't disrupt the serenity and tranquility Deerfield Lake offers. There are plenty of other lakes for boaters that want to speed through to enjoy themselves! Lifting the wake restriction will also cause an increase in accidents and I foresee problems with patrolling the lake to enforce any speed limit over 5mph.

Please consider this when voting about lifting the no wake restriction. Please don't take away the peaceful, serene beauty and family enjoyment of Deerfield Lake!

Do Not lift the restriction!!!!

Rick And Susi Ehrett
Alliance NE
sydney4321@msn.com

Comment:

Oppose

Moses Ward
Lead SD
moses.ward@gmail.com

Comment:

My family and I frequently enjoy kayaking and fishing on Deerfield Lake and we do not support raising the speed limit on the lake to 25mph. There are other lakes in the Black Hills that are closer to our home but we always make the trek to Deerfield because it offers the quiet, peaceful recreational experience that we cannot get anywhere else. Keeping the speed limit at 5mph will not prevent anyone from enjoying the great recreational opportunities at Deerfield lake, but raising it to 25mph will have a huge negative impact on the people who are there to enjoy the peaceful, natural beauty of the lake and surrounding land.

Mr. Edel states in his petition, that he is requesting this change because he finds the fishing conditions at Pactola and Sheridan unacceptable because of the wakes caused by the ski boats and jet skis. I am not sure how he expects the very same conditions he complains about on the other lakes not to occur on Deerfield if the speed limit is raised. This position seems completely illogical.

Additionally, how would the new speed limit proposed by Mr. Edel be enforced? Currently it is not difficult for GPF employees to determine if a boat is making a wake or not while traversing the lake. How would GPF employees determine whether a boat towing a skier is going 25mph or 35mph? Would this change require there be additional personnel, equipment, and training at taxpayer expense?

I hope you will consider carefully, the unique recreational environment that Deerfield Lake offers and reject this proposal.

Very Best Regards,

Moses Ward
Lead, SD

Jennifer Becker
Rapid City SD
Jnjbecker@icloud.com

Comment:

This lake is small and does not need to be turned into a speedway for boats. It is the right size for kayaks and if you get multiple boats speeding around who knows what could happen... nothing good that's for sure. We go to Deerfield to relax and take in the beauty of the stillness, if we want to boat we go to a bigger lake. PLEASE DO NOT remove the no wake status.

Matthew Heard

Burbank SD

matthewdheard@gmail.com

Comment:

It's silly to propose such a thing. One of the gems of the hills. Don't ruin it by allowing wakes.

Dana Daniels

Alliance NE

daniels.dana63@gmail.com

Comment:

We own a vacation home at Mt Meadows Resort and use the lake frequently year round. We love the quietness of the lake and the surroundings and feel that the increased speed would be not only noise pollution but will ruin the lake as a fishing and kayaking lake.

Steven Pierce

Hermosa SD

Comment:

oppose

Liz Daniels

Alliance NE

danielsliz66@outlook.com

Comment:

We own a vacation home at Mt Meadows at Deerfield Lake. We use the lake year round. We love the quietness of the area. We enjoy the fishing and kayaking that the lake provides and feel that an increased speed would ruin the quietness and the lake itself. As well as be a negative impact to the wildlife, especially the eagles that nest in the area.

Eleisha Dooley

Custer SD

erdooley49@hotmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Heather Harvey

Gillette WY

heatherharvey@hotmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposed replacement of Deerfield Lakes no-wake restriction. Our family travels to the Deerfield Lake area almost every weekend April-October. We are from Wyoming and we bring revenue to the area via boat registrations, ORV permits, lodging, Michelson passes and Park passes etc... We are avid outdoor enthusiast and enjoy the peace and solitude that the Deerfield area provides. The hiking trails around the lake provide a tranquil hike listening to the birds and wildlife. We thoroughly enjoy kayaking and fishing on the lake and have seen a significant increase in kayaking, paddle board and canoeing over the past couple of years. The magic of Deerfield lake is that it offers non-motorized water enthusiasts to enjoy the water peacefully. This also allows people to canoe and kayak across the lake more safely as the fishing boats are going slow. Fisherman typically prefer a more quiet atmosphere while enjoying there sport. By providing this to the population, this provides options for all outdoor enthusiasts.

There are lakes for waterskiing, jet skiing and boating for those who enjoy that. For example, Pactola Reservoir and Sheridan Lake. These lakes are well known for water sports such as tubing, waterskiing and jet skiing. When you visit these areas, you will notice the noise level from the boats, people etc... which is wonderful, if that is what you prefer. Not everyone enjoys that atmosphere though. By keeping the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake, you are providing a peaceful retreat for the non-motorized water enthusiast to enjoy their sports in a tranquil setting.

Please consider this proposal carefully as I truly believe that the no-wake restriction is what draws so many of us to the area. Please keep this option open for those who prefer solitude.

Sincerely,
Heather Harvey

Darrell Pulscher

Sturgis SD

dpulscher@gmail.com

Comment:

Speed boaters have enough places to play. Nice to have a quiet place for folks to enjoy.

Connie Wolters

Hill City SD

conniewolter@gmail.com

Comment:

My husband occasionally fishes the lake and I have done swimming and kayaking. It is a relatively small lake and a tranquil site in our beloved Black Hills. Boating will contaminate the atmosphere, the water and the pristine beauty of the lake. The noise level will explode, the fishermen will leave, the eagles will leave, the deer will leave, and all the other natural beauties will be robbed of their living and nesting sites. Please oppose this change that is being introduced!

Scott Gengler
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I am VEHEMENTLY OPPOSED to petitioner Ken Edel's proposal. Deerfield's most valuable resource is its tranquility. His proposal would ruin this Black Hills haven with increased noise and traffic, just like countless others already destroyed by the exponential increase in ATV's.

Jessica Gladson
Gillette WY
Jgladson4@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Shane Augeson
Milan MN
saugeson@icloud.com

Comment:

When we originally decided on a place in the BlackHills to have our home away from home the quiet calm waters of Deerfield were at the top of our list. If it were up to me a complete ban of any motor on the lake would be fine with me. We need places free of the modern conveniences of everyday life. I love the fact that I can spend time at the lake away from crowds of fishing boats or recreational joy rides at any time of day. Please leave well enough alone and keep the NO WAKE LAKE rule in place!!!! There are hundreds of other lakes to take your fishing boats on. Enjoy the fishing at DeerField from the shore or in a canoe. I know the trout wouldn't mind either!!

Shane Augeson
Concerned Resident @ Mt Meadow

Walter Thompson
Rochford SD
Hippiesbo@gmail.com

Comment:

I believe we need at least one lake where you don't have to worry about getting run down by boats going o we idle

Amber Linneweber
Box Elder SD

Comment:

No wake at Deerfield!!

Phil Harvey
Gillete WY
Bighornhiker@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a special place. In addition to its beauty and ample fishing, it provides a quiet place to slow down and enjoy nature.

My wife and I love to kayak on Deerfield Lake. The tranquility we find there is priceless. We live in Wyoming, but spend a lot of time in the hills of SD. We have tried kayaking at Pactola and Sheridan Lakes, but the larger, faster boats make it difficult to enjoy.

I understand some people like the larger boats and like to go fast; that's fine, and there are places for that.

However, there are also a lot of people that like to slow down and enjoy the outdoors.

Please keep the no-wake restriction in place.

Sincerely,

Phil Harvey

Mark Thalacker
Rapid City SD
healinghands@rap.midco.net

Comment:

There needs to be a quite place in the Hills to paddle.

Jack Gray
Rapid City SD
jackosgray@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no wake restriction. Deerfield is the one lake in the Black Hills that is peaceful for shore fishing and paddle sports such as kayaks, canoes, paddle boards. Paddlers don't have to fight waves made by boaters that are in a hurry to get somewhere. Sheridan, Pactola, Angustora, Orman all allow speed boats and jet skis. Deerfield is the one peaceful lake where you don't have to listen to a boat motor and its noise pollution. Please keep it the way it has been for many generations to come.

Duane Claypool
Miles City MT
claypool@middrivers.com

Comment:

I request that the Commission deny/vote down the proposal to change Deerfield Lake from a No Wake lake.

Heather McNitt

Hill City SD

Heathermarie28@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a quiet peaceful lake people love going to. I work at Deerfield lake resort and campground, I have been working there for about 5 years now, I get calls all the time from people excited that there is a no wake lake they can come to get away from all the speed boats and water skiing. I also love to take a drive and sitting there and it's so peaceful

Kevin McNitt

Hill City SD

mcnittk@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake is a beautiful lake as it is, I routinely take my canoe up there fishing and if the boats are allowed to make a wake it will make taking my canoe out on the lake difficult. There are plenty of lakes in the black hills that allow a wake, we don't need another one. So put your boat in the water and drop a line and troll around and enjoy what makes this lake unique.

Aaron Ladner

Whitewood SD

aaroneggs@yahoo.com

Comment:

Speeding boats and jet skis pose a major nuisance and potential safety hazard. There are other reservoirs in the area to accommodate those who wish to boat or ski. Deerfield is the last reservoir in the hills for anglers trying to get away from jet skis and speedboats and spend a peaceful day fishing. Please keep it that way.

Debby Crowley

Custer SD

Petsville5@aol.com

Comment:

It will not be a pleasurable place to kayak, canoe or swim if higher powered boats are allowed on Deerfield Lake.

The calmness and serenity of a no wake lake will be ruined. You see lots of wildlife and waterfowl on a quiet body of water.

Some things are not meant to be combined.

Ami Schlosser
Spearfish SD
schlossa11@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose removing the no wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. Deerfield lake is a tranquil and peaceful get-away that will be negatively impacted by noise and speed of motor boats. It's deep in the hills and away from towns and population - and that's what makes it the most relaxing lake in the hills. Please keep the Deerfield Lake no wake restriction in place.

Reda Chambers
Custer SD
missreda@cox.net

Comment:

The last thing the Hills needs is another lake crammed full of drunken jet skiers and party animal speed boaters. Deerfield is and always has been a quiet fishing lake. Don't take this last refuge for the serious outdoorsman (and woman) away!

Matthew Scott
Whitewood SD
matthewcscott81@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep this lake a no wake zone. The black Hills are overrun with to much noise as it is.

Richard Lambert
Hill City SD
lambertbj_2@hotmail.com

Comment:

The only reason we bought a place across from Deerfield Lake was for our grandchildren to enjoy the lake with fishing and kayaking. We have enjoyed the peacefulness of the lake and beauty of it. Please do not remove the no-wake! There are a lot larger lakes around for people who wants speed to enjoy.

Nichole Oldani
St Charles MO
spamfree78@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Cody Asher

Pierre SD

cody.asher@state.sd.us

Comment:

Let the canoes and john boats reign! and have their peace and quiet :)

Valerie Brandsted

Rapid City SD

Valerie.brandsted@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Troy Emerson

Hill City SD

troy@msn.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

David Braun

Pierre SD

trackertarga2002@yahoo.com

Comment:

I am from the Black Hills and have fished Deerfield Lake many times. Simply stated Deerfield is not large enough to allow a wake zone upon the water. Please do not pass this change. Thank You

Sharon Frohme

Hill City SD

sharonfrohme@gmail.com

Comment:

First, Deerfield was made for a "fishing" lake. If boaters want to speed, go to one where they can. Leave Deerfield alone, it gets enough traffic as it is. Also speed boats are disruptive to shore fishermen as well.

Tony Hague

Piedmont SD

thague@commoncentsstores.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kelsey Bean

Custer SD

Beankelsey07@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep this lake a quiet and beautiful place.

Bonnie Guerre

Hill City SD

bonnieguerre22@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake a no-wake lake as it is now. It is ideal for kayaking and canoeing whereas it is too dangerous to enjoy these activities at Sheridan and Pactola Lakes. Thank You.

Lander Legge

Rapid City SD

lander.legge@outlook.com

Comment:

As a fisherman I already have a hard time finding any places in the Hills that are semi quiet to fish. Pactola and Sheridan are both ruined for 3/4 of the year during tourist season because of the higher speed limits. Keep Deerfield pure and quiet. The hills are supposed to be a place to avoid the loud noises of engines and everything. And we're running out of those quiet spots because of silly rules and tourists... If the tourists and people making these rules obey'd the rules to begin with that would be one thing but they never do. They come to the hills litter, be loud, and ruin the beauty my home. Please keep Deerfield's speed limits at 5mph max from now to the end of time. We need to have one QUIET major lake out of the 3. Balance in everything. Please don't make this massive mistake.

Darwin Sage

Pierre SD

egasniwrad@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Dawnette Owens
Hill City SD

Comment:

I read with horror, the article in today's Rapid City Journal regarding the proposal to remove Deerfield Lake's no-wake restriction. I urge you to keep Deerfield as a no-wake lake. As a long-time resident of the Hill City area, I love being able to visit Deerfield Lake for a quiet, relaxing experience. I actually spent some time at Deerfield last Wednesday afternoon and snapped a picture of the lake that was almost identical to the one that appeared on today's cover of the Journal. My husband and I own and operate the Annie Lode Coffee Cabin outside of Hill City. Many of our customers stop by the coffee shop on their way to or from Deerfield Lake with their kayaks or fishing rods in tow. They choose Deerfield specifically because of the no-wake policy. The Black Hills area is becoming noisier every summer (the Sturgis Rally, the increasing popularity of side-by-side four wheelers) I love living in the Hills because of its beauty, which includes its natural sights as well as its sounds. Nature's "voice" in the Hills is becoming harder to hear every year. Maintaining Deerfield Lake's current status is not a life or death situation. People on both sides of the issue will survive either way. However, it is a quality of life issue, and I hope that our beautiful Deerfield Lake remains no-wake.

Dennis Tuschen
Sioux Falls SD
Dtuschen@sio.midco.net

Comment:

This is a fishing lake, let's keep it peaceful

Patricia Nelson
Hill City SD
pknelson1231@hotmail.com

Comment:

Do not change the no wake restriction at Deerfield Lake.

Cheryl Whetham
Hill City SD

Comment:

I'm writing in response to the Deerfield Lake petition for rule change which proposes an increase in boat speed from 5 to 25 mph. I oppose this change. Deerfield lake's current no-wake restrictions allows a calm body of water for different water activities; fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, floating on air mattresses, etc. Speed in getting from one fishing location to another is not mandatory and therefore allows all participants to enjoy the lake. The maximum distance from the east end of the lake to the west end is 2.3 miles and the average width of the lake is .25 miles. Therefore, it requires less than 30 minutes to go anywhere on the lake at 5mph. It is getting harder and harder to enjoy the serenity of the Black Hills. Whether hiking, biking, or kayaking in the hills, it seems the noise pollution from ATV's, dirt motorbikes, motorboats, jet skis and other motorized vehicles increases yearly on forest roads, lakes and even Centennial Trail (the damage caused to our forest roads and trails will be around for generations and the cost to the taxpayers is far greater than the tax revenue generated from these permits.) It's extremely difficult to enjoy kayaking on Pactola or Sheridan lake where the speed boats and jet skis with the consequential wakes and traffic make for dangerous kayaking. Keeping the lakes at different speed restrictions is a good compromise for all users. Please keep Deerfield lake at 5mph speed restriction. It is the best utilization of this resource by allowing all users the right to the serene water activity in the Black Hills. Thank you.

Sharon Allard
Spearfish SD
hagar03@midco.net

Comment:

Part of the beauty of Deerfield Lake is the peace and quiet of not having boat motors and jet skis roaring around. Please do not take that away.

Carol Evans
Pierre SD
Gregcarolevans@aol.com

Comment:

Leave as is there are plenty of lakes for wakes

Nick Jenniges
Rapid City SD
nmblj@hotmail.com

Comment:

We need to keep Deerfield lake a no wake law lake. We have three lakes in and around the Black Hills where people can go to ski or just to use speed boats. Keep Deerfield a no wake lake. It would ruin the peace and quiet that Deerfield Lake now offers if this law is passed.

David Guerre

Hill City SD

daveguerrearts@gmail.com

Comment:

No-wake speed should remain at 5 mph to allow maximum use of the lake by all motorized and non-motorized water activities. The lake is approximately 2.3 miles long, but only 0.25 miles wide. My driveway is 0.25 miles long and I walk it every day. Surely a boater can boat that distance without it being a hardship. Also, 25 mph allows for intrusive jet ski and water ski wake and noise. I personally know of a local kayaking student who drown there due to wind and high waves. Incidents would increase with high speed motorized watercraft. Finally, please preserve the restricted eagle nesting area on the lake.

David Guerre

Hill City SD

daveguerrearts@gmail.com

Comment:

Leave it at 5 mph

Tom Inman

23535 Ditch Creek Rd. Dearfield SD

tom.inman@state.sd.us

Comment:

As a property owner by Deerfield lake (23535 Ditch creek Rd.) I strongly disagree with increasing the speed limit on the lake. It is perfect the way it is our family and friends paddle boat and kayak on the lake. For SAFETY reasons, for WILDLIFE habit, and to protect shore erosion Please leave the 5 MPH limit in place. Thank You

Rochelle Dokken

Pierre SD

docnrocky@icloud.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Larry Talley

Rapid City SD

larrytalley@rushmore.com

Comment:

I support restricting the spearing of largemouth and smallmouth bass year-round. In the past, Pactola had a decent bass fishery. Then came the option to spear these fish and now we have a depressed population of bass. I feel the commission has an opportunity to make this regulation change and it will provide angler opportunity for another type of fishing on Pactola.

Darci Collins
Hill City SD
drae1@q.com

Comment:

Please do not remove the No-wake restriction on Deerfield lake. The peaceful quiet of the lake is the reason so many people love it. I've kayaked, fished, camped and enjoyed the no- wake for over 45 years. it would ruin the experience if there are speed boaters on the lake. Please don't change the rules. Deerfield lake is like heaven

Karla Haagenson
Custer SD
karlahaagenson@gmail.com

Comment:

I love that Deerfield Lake is a no wake zone. As a year round resident, I love that we have a place to go to get away from some of the fast boats. Skiing, tubing, some of these get dangerous on a busy day. Maybe a 10 mph compromise would be good. Keep it under a skiing or tubing speed.

Larry Talley
Rapid City SD
larrytalley@rushmore.com

Comment:

I support changing the 5-mph restriction on Deerfield Reservoir to 25-mph. This lake is an under utilized resource because of this outdated & impractical speed restriction. Pactola and Sheridan Lakes are becoming so congested with recreational activity, we need to expand fishing activity to Deerfield, the second largest lake in the Black Hills.

Raising the speed limit to 25-mph would allow boaters to reach their fishing destination in a timely manner. Due to the condition of the roads down to the ramps, I do not feel that there would be a great increase in the number of boaters. And, the concern for serenity and peacefulness is a non-issue, as there are already snowmobiles and 4-wheelers speeding across the lake at unrestricted speeds during the winter.

This change should be made to allow the public a chance to use and enjoy this resource, not just the few locals that live by it.

Deb Murray
Chancellor SD
ddmurray_@hotmail.com

Comment:

We vacation summer and winter near Deerfield Lake and enjoy this Great Lake for fishing (shoreline and in inter tubes) canoeing and Kyaking. Why change it? You can still fish from a boat- just enjoy the tranquility while getting to that special spot.

Marsha McClain

Rapid City SD

marsha.d.mcclain@gmail.com

Comment:

I have a cabin close to Deerfield Lake specifically because it is a no-wake lake. We like to go fishing there and my family canoes, and likes to use belly boats. If those speed can't go fast enough, there are soooo many more lakes for them to go to. Please leave us our peacefull lake.

Gary Drewes

Rapid City SD

gary.drewes@gmail.com

Comment:

I am opposed to changing Deerfield Lake from a no wake zone lake.
Pennington County commissioner, Gary Drewes

Jo Nelson

Rapid City SD

Comment:

This is one of the last peaceful lakes in the Black Hills where you can hike, fish from the shore, kayak, canoe, or a host of other activities without hearing the roar of boat engines or fear of being run over by a speeding boat driver who fails to see you.

Eric Zimmer

Rapid City SD

ericzimmer@gmail.com

Comment:

Stay Glassy, Deerfield!

I strongly urge the SDGF&P not to change the speed limit or undo the "no wake zone" rule at Deerfield Reservoir. As you know, the Black Hills have four major reservoirs. High-speed boating is permitted at Pactola, Sheridan, and Angostura. Deerfield is the only lake where paddlers can go to avoid spending the whole day fighting waves from speedboats and their wakes. Kayakers, canoeists, and slow-boat anglers love Deerfield because it's the only large body of water that stays glassy and smooth. The water is clear, the lake is quiet, and the relaxation is there -- precisely because boat traffic is kept to a minimum.

Boaters should have ample opportunities to cruise. Luckily, they do -- at three lakes. The rest of us should also be able to keep our good place to paddle in peace. Please keep Deerfield glassy!

Aaron Costello

Rapid City SD

aaron_c_costello@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep the top boat speed at Deerfield Reservoir at 5 MPH. Deerfield is a unique and enjoyable place to quietly enjoy a peaceful body of water. The petitioner wishes to increase the allowable top speed so he can reach his fishing spot more quickly, yet he laments being driven off other reservoirs in the Black Hills by choppy water created by other recreational users. The petitioner's proposal has the potential to create that same situation at Deerfield. Keep Deerfield a gem of the Black Hills by denying the petition and retaining the 5 MPH top speed.

Rochelle Zens

Black Hawk SD

rochellenae@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep the current wake restrictions at Deerfield Lake in place. My husband and I enjoy going camping at the lake, and we thoroughly enjoy the tranquility that it offers us. We often choose to camp at this lake (and pay the associated camping fees) specifically because it is more quiet than either Pactola or Sheridan. Deerfield is a little gem and lifting the wake restriction would ruin it.

Andrew Zens

Black Hawk SD

andrewzens05@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield has always been a nice, quiet spot to go to for camping, fishing, and canoeing. Lifting the wake restriction would ruin that experience. Keep the current wake restriction in place.

Glenn Graff

Rapid City SD

Comment:

keep the rule the way it is. very peaceful lake. keep it that way please.

Douglas Thomas

Black Hawk SD

dougtr@rushmore.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is one of the few lakes left in western So. Dakota where one can fish, kayak and enjoy the peace and quiet of nature. I STRONGLY OPPOSE this proposal.

Jason Schneider

Spearfish SD

**Jason.R.Schneider@yellowjackets.
bhsu.edu**

Comment:

It allows a tranquil spot for the non-motorized outdoorsman to get away from the water sports. If the no-wake zone policy is removed than spearfishing could be allowed in the future. This would hurt the fish populations in a small lake.

Barbara Walker

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Greetings:

The news that the state Game, Fish & Parks Commission is entertaining a proposal to lift the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake is deeply troubling.

The proposal would limit speed on Deerfield Lake to 25 mph, but that begs the question, Who is going to enforce the speed limit? And why should those of us who love Deerfield Lake just as it is lose this precious and rare resource?

Moreover, as a kayaker who was once nearly plowed into head-on by an adolescent driving a personal watercraft on another South Dakota lake, I find the prospect of having to dodge powerboats on a lake that has long been a safe haven for paddlers alarming and unacceptable.

As Seth Tupper's May 19 story in the Rapid City Journal points out, operators of motorized watercraft have most of the area in the central Black Hills' two other large lakes in which to run at high speeds. According to the story, one such angler "resents being deprived of an opportunity to motor around Deerfield at a reasonably high rate of speed."

Yet this individual apparently has no qualms about depriving those who seek more-tranquil recreation of opportunities to enjoy their own outdoor pursuits in the peace and quiet they find at Deerfield Lake. I believe it's safe to say that attitude sparks plenty of counter-resentment.

Those of us who value stillness and find wholeness in listening to birdsong, observing wildlife (including aquatic life) and appreciating nature in a pristine, protected setting are as deserving as others of spaces in which to thrive and enjoy the benefits the Black Hills offer. South Dakota laws, policies and public-dollar expenditures must consider the recreational needs of all residents and visitors, not simply those who have the biggest, fastest, loudest toys.

Certain trails in the Hills are off-limits to ATVs and snowmobiles to accommodate the rights and wishes of hikers and cyclists to pursue their human-powered activities free of the noise, disruption and potential hazards of motorized vehicles. It is not asking too much that Deerfield Lake, whose use has long been restricted for the benefit of those who similarly seek to restore their spirits on the water, remain such a refuge.

A view expressed in the Journal story that no one benefits from the absence of noise- and wake-producing motorboats is not only preposterous and small-minded, it is also stunningly arrogant and insulting.

I implore the commission to leave Deerfield Lake's no-wake restriction in place. Once it's gone, it's gone.

Candy Allen
Hill City SD
Candyclaire1960@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please do not make Deerfield Lake like all the other lakes and remove the no wake status. I spend a great deal of time kayaking on Deerfield Lake and enjoy the no wake. There is nothing worse than being rocked because a boat went speeding past you. You at that point hope that you stay up right and don't get dumped. If I wanted that experience I'd kayak on Sheridan or Pactola lakes. I like the fact that I can take my grand daughter out in the kayak with me (she's 7) and not have to worry about a speeding boat rocking us to death or not see us and there fore hit us. Deerfield Lake is a wonderful lake just the way it is and I enjoy the fact that it is quiet and peaceful. We already have two lakes that allow fast boats, if I want to experience that I would go to those lakes. Please leave a lake where we can enjoy the Eagles, and Osprey and the peace and quiet and safe kayaking and canoeing! Thank you.

Dana Schubauer
Spearfish SD
Danaschubauer@outlook.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no wake restriction on Deer Field Lake. This lake is not large enough to support large wake creating boats and would ruin an otherwise docile place within our Black Hills. As kayakers we use this lake often as it offers safety and tranquility. Please continue wake restriction!

Kelly Strong
Rapid City SD
kstrong1234@hotmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Connie Fish
Rapid City SD
ean32nitrox@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Mitchell Joldersma

Sioux Falls SD

**mjoldersma@siouxempirepaddlers
.org**

Comment:

We make a family trip once a year to the hills. This reservoir is one of the last no wake lakes we can enjoy peace and natural beauty of the hills. Sometimes get lucky watching eagles. The hills has plenty of other places for boats speeding around like pactola. Unfortunately we can't paddle their after 11am for sake of my families safety so please consider all forms of recreation the hills can provide I'd Deerfield remains as a no wake reservoir.

To I Moriston

Sioux Falls SD

moriston_t@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Paul Bosworth

Spearfish SD

pbosworth@fs.fed.us

Comment:

This would totally ruin Deerfield Lake. For the following reasons:

1. Currently it is a very peaceful lake. Motor boat and jet ski sounds travel long distance on water. The camping, hiking/mt biking on a Forest Service Trail around the lake, fishing on shore or in a float tube would be destroyed by the sound of boats motoring all around the lake.
2. This would turn into a water skiing jet skiing lake and be dangerous for float tubing and kayaking. I no longer will go to Pactola Lake because it is a zoo out there on the weekends and not safe.
3. Impossible to enforce the speed limit. I don't believe the Game and Fish has the money to station a CO on the lake and I know people would push the limit on the speed.
4. At 25 mph most boats create a huge wake. The whole lake will be rough and no longer fun to be on a kayak. Not to mention dangerous has mentioned.
5. Small boats will be overrun by the larger boats. This gives the people with a smaller boat the opportunity to enjoy the lake without the threat of being buzzed by a large boat. Believe me this happens on larger lakes and it will ruins my day.
6. Poor reasoning to change the rule just to save the guy with the 75,000 boat 20 minutes. Sometimes you should have to work for your fish.
7. Global warming is happening and we are causing it. Lets be proactive and not contribute to the cause by allowing motor boats to cruise all around the lake just because they can.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Kenneth Miller
Hill City SD
Millerkw@msn.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Glenise Mille
Hill City SD
Millekw@msn.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Michelle Detry
Albuquerque NM
mdetry@yahoo.com

Comment:

I grew up in South Dakota and I have many wonderful memories of fishing, swimming and hiking at Deerfield Lake. My parents still live in Rapid City and I bring my husband and two daughters to Black Hills to spend time in the beauty of the Hills. We love Deerfield Lake because it is peaceful and beautiful. We go to Deerfield because we don't have to listen to boats or worry about the wake from the motors. We can fish, nap, swim, float and picnic in peace. Please do not increase the wake limit.

Laura Bosworth
Spearfish SD

Comment:

I don't not want the no wake restrictions lifted on Deerfield lake. It is the only large lake in the hills that is no wake and i enjoy kayaking on it with out worry.

Lucille Howey
Hill City SD
lou-howey@q.com

Comment:

This is the one lake in the Black Hills that can be enjoyed with out all of the noise of loud boats. A lot of people enjoy kayaking and canoeing on a quiet lake. Hard to do with boats speeding by.

Amber Braithwaite

Sioux Falls SD

amber.braithwaite67@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the lifting of the wake rule on Deerfield Reservoir. There are plenty of other options in the Hills for motorboats and other water sports. Please preserve the tranquility of this Reservoir for generations to come.

Roger&Barbara Nelson

Mankato MN

nelson1025@charter.net

Comment:

We want to see Deerfield Lake remain calm, quiet and pristine.
We do not want to see faster and noisy boats and jet skis on this beautiful pristine lake.

Josh O

Sioux Falls SD

Comment:

I am opposed to removing the no wake zone at Deerfield Reservoir. We need more areas that are paddle friendly in this state. Boats with engines have plenty of places to go otherwise and they are noisy and pollute the water and air.

Mike Chase

Custer SD

bechases@gwtc.net

Comment:

I am one who opposes the elimination of the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. Deerfield Lake is the largest lake with the five-mile restriction and many of us who want a peaceful lake outing go there. There is no reason to have a higher speed limit on the lake. For those who prefer water sports, the Hills and the state have plenty of lakes where they can ski and jet ski. For those who fish, it is nice to have a quiet lake to fish, either from shore or boat. If the only reason you are looking at changing the no-wake restriction is so one retired person can get around the lake quicker, than think of the hundreds of people who prefer the no-wake restriction. I am not even retired and still have time to enjoy the smooth water of the lake.

Please keep the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake and give those of us who are not always in a hurry a peaceful place to spend our valuable time off from work.

Karl Schwab
Rapid City SD
Kmschwab77@gmail.com

Comment:

Please retain the no-wake zone on Deerfield Lake. Deerfield is the only lake in the Black Hills that is not overrun by motorized water craft. It is the only lake that provides respite from the incessant roar of boat motors. Please leave one lake where people can go to enjoy the peace and tranquility of nature.

Danielle Evers
Pipestone MN
dani.evers11@gmail.com

Comment:

Areas like these provide refuge for people who prefer to have some quality recreational areas to peacefully place to paddle, fish, and enjoy nature. Many quality recreational areas do not have wake restrictions so its nice to have an option without.

A C
Rochford SD

Comment:

There is NO reason this needs to change. It does not take long to get around and it would be a danger to others if the speed changes from no wake to wake.

Carie Schneider
Yankton SD
cjopolis@yahoo.com

Comment:

Something similar was proposed for Lake Yankton, and it was defeated. Keep at least some of our lakes calm and peaceful. And safer. If you're swimming or just a few inches away from the water's surface (kayaking), do you really want the roar, wake, and gas fumes of a drunk boater potentially drowning you, or polluting your air? I think not. Thank you.

Maud Hopkins
Rochford SD
sixcountysearchllc@outlook.com

Comment:

Please leave at least one area that is quiet and calm for people to enjoy. We have enough noise and speed in the hills due to ATVs, speed boats and snow mobiles. Fishermen and canoe advocates need a place to actually enjoy nature instead chaos.

Elizabeth Krueger

Spearfish SD

ekrueger@rushmore.com

Comment:

I would prefer to see the speed limit on Deerfield Lake stay at 5 mph. It's quieter and a better place for non-motorized boating this way. Those who want to go faster have ample opportunities at Pactola, Sheridan, Angostura, etc. Thanks.

Adrian Sween

Hill City SD

apsween@yahoo.com

Comment:

It is a pristine lake for campers, picnickers, canoeists, kayakers and fisherman to enjoy.

David Maudlin

Hill City SD

bhfinancial@aol.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a place for peace and quiet, fishing and family activities - always has been and always should be. Lived here and have enjoyed Deerfield for 62 years. The proposed 25 mph limit is TOO much for that area. That just invites the party crowds and water skiing. Those activities have their place available at Pactola.

Dan Miller

Pierre SD

Carlsbait@midconetwork.com

Comment:

Leave it alone!

Sybil Rounds

Rapid City SD

cwskrounds@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is one of the few remaining serene outdoor activity areas and should remain that way. There are many opportunities for speedboat enthusiasts on other area lakes and reservoirs. Deerfield provides a wonderful natural outdoor experience for shore fishermen, hikers, kayakers, canoes, etc. The no wake designation should NOT be removed.

Carol Merwin
Rapid City SD

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a wonderfully quiet place to restore one's spirit. There are plenty of other places to use faster boats. The noise will affect the hiking trails as well and being in nature is part of what keeps us human. Young people deserve the chance for non-human dominated experiences. I do not want to lose a place to more speed and noise. Please. Just say "no"

Nancy Clary
Rapid City SD

Comment:

We read your article in the RC Journal about lifting the "no wake" restriction on Deerfield Lake. We are opposed to the idea, and want it to remain a no wake area. Our family spent many weekends and summers at Deerfield Lake, fishing and camping. It was very nice to have smooth water and a quiet setting for our family outings with our little pontoon boat. Opening the lake to speed boats would cause this serene lake to be just as choppy as the larger lakes Pactola, Sheridan, and Angustora, increasing the noise level and the potential for capsizing smaller boats such as the kayaks and canoes that use the lake on a daily basis. Please keep Deerfield as a no wake area, particularly for smaller watercraft. There are many other lakes where speed is common, servicing those who ski and operate jet skis. We used both Deerfield and Center Lake for fishing, and skipped Sheridan and Pactola, as well as Orman Dam. It worked for our family. We look forward to going to the lakes again this summer and enjoy the varied activities offered. Thank you for these things!

Pat Casteel
Sturgis SD

Comment:

I am definitely against removing the no-wake on Deerfield Lake! That is the main reason we go to Deerfield Lake is because we can fish off the bank and we can also use the pontoon, our young kids can use their kayaks, water boards with out fear of being run over or tipped over. Four years ago, we went to Sheridan Lake and the camping was wonderful till we got down to the fishing ramp and a boat went by pulling an inner tube and the wave was so big it rocked the fishing ramp and my nephew lost his fishing pole into the water. The water was so dirty we could not even see the pole to retrieve it. I have not returned to there because of all the waves from the boats and ski-do's, also the noise is terrible. I love the quietness and calmness of the lake and am refreshed after spending weekends at the Deerfield Lake.

Jerry Casteel
Sturgis SD

Comment:

I am definitely against removing the no-wake on Deerfield Lake! That is the main reason we go to Deerfield Lake is because we can fish off the bank and we can also use the pontoon, our young kids can use their kayaks, water boards with out fear of being run over or tipped over. Four years ago, we went to Sheridan Lake and the camping was wonderful till we got down to the fishing ramp and a boat went by pulling an inner tube and the wave was so big it rocked the fishing ramp and my nephew lost his fishing pole into the water. The water was so dirty we could not even see the pole to retrieve it. I have not returned to there because of all the waves from the boats and ski-do's, also the noise is terrible. I love the quietness and calmness of the lake and am refreshed after spending weekends at the Deerfield Lake.

David Sisk
Spearfish SD

Comment:

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule change to Deerfield Lake's no-wake regulation. I oppose any change to the current regulation. I support the 1964 memorandum "motor boats on the reservoir shall be limited to and not exceed a no-wake boat speed which is defined as normal docking and trolling speed." The current no-wake restriction does not limit my access to any part of the lake or hinder my fishing opportunities. I frequent Deerfield Lake numerous times during open water season and fish with a nine foot rubber raft propelled by a 40lbs thrust electric motor. Adhering to the current no-wake regulation three boat launch locations (Dutchman, Lake Shore, and Custer Trail) provide ample access to all locations of the lake within an acceptable time frame, which i feel debunks the argument that the current no-wake regulation limits fishing opportunities and lake access. The proponents who recommend changing the no-wake regulation to increase motor boat speeds to 25 mph at Deerfield Lake State that Pactola and Sheridan lakes become too rough to fish due to recreation boat speeds and activities. If that is true, my view is the same would be true of Deerfield Lake, Assuming motor boat speeds were to increase to 25 mph, affording the same water recreation activities (water skiing, tubing, and jet boating) can all take place at 25 mph motor boat speeds. This logistics of enforcing a 25 mph speed regulation should be considered in your decision. A no-wake regulation is a visual observation, while a speed regulation requires a type of feed detection device. As stated previously, I frequent Deerfield Lake often. On occasion, though limited, I have noticed the no-wake regulation violated. However, because no-wake is a visual regulation the rule is usually complied through peer pressure. Enforcing a speed limit is a much more difficult and time consuming regulation to enforce, if it is truly enforced. I have been fishing Deerfield Lake for 60+ years. Over the time the changes observed are mostly positive. Discarding the no-wake rule would be viewed as a negative change. I do not support the adoption of the proposed rule change from no-wake to a 25 mph motor boat speed regulation. Thanks you for considering my comment.

Laural Bidwell
Rapid City SD
labidwell@aol.com

Comment:

I looked at the uploaded public comment and saw me comment regarding the trapping season on public lands. I did not see my comment on Deerfield Lake. I am opposed to eliminating the "no wake" rules regarding Deerfield. It is important that citizens who enjoy quieter spaces get to retain a few of them. Jet skis and the like are noisy and peace disturbing. Save some space for those of us who enjoy nature quietly.

Lindsay Brown

Hill City SD

browniegirl1977@gmail.com

Comment:

Please don't lift the 'No Wake' rule from Deerfield Lake. It is the only body of water of decent size that you can paddle a canoe, kayak, paddle board or troll without worry of being run over by a speed boat. If you lift this ban, the Black Hills will be without a lake for this type of recreation. DON'T DO IT, PLEASE!!!

Gerald Thompson

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I am a retiree of 15 years and have been fishing Deerfield Lake, with great pleasure and success in my one man boat many many times each summer. The tranquility, serenity, beauty, and excellent fishing of this great lake of ours is due, in large part to the no wake rule. And Equally important is the fact that in no way does this rule inhibit or diminish fishing. In my one man boat, on any summer morning, I can cover before lunch, fishing the entire lake including every cove. The only things a 25 mph rule on Deerfield Lake would produce would be big wakes from all sizes of speed boats and jet skis along with much noise. It will not produce better fishing. Our other fine lakes are all good fisheries and they permit boats to speed to where ever they want to go. But Deerfield is different! And it should remain so. Many other local fishermen, kayakers, Canoes, and hikers well understand this. We greatly appreciate and prize Deerfield lake as is. It is truly unique. It should never be abandoned! Thank you!

Walker Witt

Custer SD

wwitt@bhec.coop

Comment:

I have enjoyed fishing at Deerfield Lake for over 40 years both from shore and from a boat. That enjoyment has been enhanced due to the no-wake restriction. Please keep the restriction in place.

Jeremiah Davis

Rapid City SD

Comment:

When i moved to South Dakota 45 years ago, I was told about a beautiful, secluded gem up high in the Black Hills, the mostly undiscovered Deerfield Lake. On a hot summer day, I check out the place for myself. This involved driving on gravel road from Hill City, but the lake was everything I had been told it was. Of course, it is not a natural lake, but it offers beauty and tranquility that is not found in many places. There are plenty of lakes in the Black Hills region that offer motorized recreation, among them Angostura, Pactola, and Sheridan. There is no need to allow faster moving boats on Deerfield Lake. Multiple use does not mean that every use is allowed on every inch of ground, or on every lake. Over the years, Deerfield has attracted the loyalty of residents and tourists who are seeking something special, and part of what they are seeking is peace and quiet. I strongly encourage you to reject the pending proposal to lift the "no-wake" restriction on Deerfield Lake and hope the Commission will respect the unique attributes of this special place. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Ray Degeest
Rapid City SD

Comment:

Having been a fisherman and having enjoyed the peacefulness and serenity of fishing at Deerfield Lake for over 50 years, I wish to express my strong disapproval of a change in the longstanding no-wake restriction of a 5 miles per hour limit to that of a 25 mile per house limit. I do have a larger boat that is capable of speeds of in excess of 40 miles per hour and still maintain that it is such a pleasure to have one lake in the Black Hills at which we do not have to experience speedboats, skidoos, and other recreational vehicles creating wakes, noise and otherwise disrupting the serenity of the lake. Please allow us at least one major lake in the Black Hills where we may find serenity in this otherwise fast paced world.

David Drobny
Rapid City SD
davidjen@live.com

Comment:

Way to many negative impacts of removing the no wake on the lake and I'm not sure what a plus would be. I highly doubt it would make a big difference on how crowded other lakes are. It would only ruin a great place, and make it just like the other commercialized lakes. Disturbing the habitats, the roads, noise, and many others. Please vote against lifting the no wake. My family has enjoyed going to Deerfield Lake for many years for the peace and beauty that is offered from this area. Thank you for your time!

Julia Emerson
Rapid City SD
emersjul@midco.net

Comment:

Leave the no wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. It is one of the few areas in the Black Hills were people ca go to canoe, kayak, paddle board, swim and fish away from noise and waves generated by speed boats and jet skis. This a SAFE place to go and enjoy these quite activities. Thank you.

Muriel Shepard
Rapid City SD
murshep@yahoo.com

Comment:

Leave the no-wake policy as it stands! Noise makers and speeders have plenty of other options.

Richard Lee
Rapid City SD

Comment:

An article in the newspaper about Deerfield Reservoir boat speeds prompted me to write. The proposal to allow boat speeds to be increased from 5 mph to 25 mph seems unnecessary to me. This lake of 414 acres or .65 square miles is about 1.5 miles long and up to .5 miles wide. A boat launched at the dock near mid lake would take about 9 minutes to reach either end. If the maximum speed were 25 mph and a no wake zone existed close to shore, the average speed would be about 20 mph which would then take about 2.5 minutes. This change creates more complications for administration and enforcement personnel while satisfying a few people in a hurry. I have seen walleye fishing tournaments where boat speed contributes to the chance of success. Let us not put trout fishing in that category.

Martin Bonorden
Custer SD
martinbonorden@gmail.com

Comment:

I am opposed to raising the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. This lake now has pristine water quality, minimal shore line erosion, an excellent cold water fishery, and abundant wildlife in the riparian zones.

As such, it has become a haven for small fishing craft, non-motorized craft from sailboats to paddle boards, swimmers, picnickers, and other recreationalists escaping the motorized mayhem of the other large Black Hills lakes.

I see no reason to upset the status quo so that Mr. Edel and company have to budget a little extra time to reach a favorite fishing area. Seems kind of selfish to me.

I urge you to keep the lake wakeless.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Larry Bowles
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I have fished Deerfield Lake several times a year for the last 30 years. I've always considered it a relaxing, stress relieving way to spend time. Some times I may catch a fish but the peace and quiet is priceless. It was no problem to relocate my favorite fishing spot to accommodate the nesting bald eagles. I've not seen them in the last couple of years but I always look to their nesting tree along the shore line. It would be a shame if we scared them away. One of my favorite recollections was early one morning as the sun was coming up and the lake surface was like glass. There were several geese silhouetted against the sun. I did not have a camera. I don't remember anything else about fishing that day but the peace and quiet was priceless. I have walked completely around the lake on the Deerfield Trail on more than one occasion fishing the bays and inlets, observing the forest and wildlife. I can't recall if I ever found a new favorite fishing spot but the stress relieving peace and quiet was priceless. I'd like to think I may have a few years left to enjoy the peace and quiet of Deerfield Lake as the experience is priceless.

Tyler Ford
Deadwood SD
tyfo83@gmail.com

Comment:

The worst thing you could do is remove the no wake rule. Been going there my whole life to get away from the norm of every other large black hills lakes of noise n choppy waters. Leave it alone so my children have a quiet relaxing place to fish and enjoy the outdoors. It says that there would be a 25 mph limit? Who's gonna enforce that? If it changes we will find out quick enough that fishing will go to the back burner and it will turn into another obnoxious lake just like Pactola and Sheridan lakes. Please don't do this. Keep it quiet. There's not much left of that around the hills.

Marcus Myers
Hill City SD
18marcusmyers@gmail.com

Comment:

Keep it a no wake lake for fishermen to enjoy

Paul Erickson
Sioux Falls SD
Erickbummels@gmail.com

Comment:

I prefer that we keep Deerfield Lake as a no-wake lake. We have more lake opportunities for motorized use and fewer lakes for quiet experiences. It is difficult to manage public use for everyone. Thanks

Janet Noble
Rapid City SD
noblest@rap.midco.net

Comment:

There are enough lakes in the Black Hills area where boaters can prove their masculinity by going as fast as they want without making Deerfield Lake another one. It is more remote and pristine than any other of larger lakes and needs to remain that way for others who want to enjoy nature in a quiet, relaxed environment. Please KEEP DEERFIELD LAKE BOAT SPEED AT NO-WAKE.

Lisa Monson
Sioux Falls SD
Lakneifl700@yahoo.com

Comment:

We have a second home at Deerfield Lake area and feel it would negatively affect the recreational activities that we enjoy there.

Kathy Stewart

Lead SD

cheyennecrossing@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please do not allow beautiful, tranquil Deerfield Lake to become another high wake boating lake. The current trend nationwide is non motorized kayaking and stand up paddle boards. Deerfield Lake is the perfect place for these activities because of the low wake rules that are currently in place. Please, do not change the current rules. Thank you!

Scott Zieske

Rapid City SD

SZeke1@aol.com

Comment:

To The GF&P Commission:

I have fished Deerfield Lake since 1976. I do so individually with a fly rod and from a float tube. One of the many reasons I enjoy fishing Deerfield is the tranquility and the opportunity to cast to rising fish occasionally because of the calmness of the lake. Therefore, I oppose the proposed change to the "no wake" rule. And importantly, I feel such a change would present a serious safety issue in that those of us fishing from float tubes present a very low profile and could literally be run over by power boats traveling 25--OR MORE--miles per hour. Deerfield lake is a unique still water fishery. To the best of my knowledge, there are no other major bodies of water in the Black Hills with similar restrictions. In my opinion, it is highly counterproductive for GF&P to try to manage all bodies of water for the preferences of ALL potential users. Such a change as proposed for Deerfield would result in mediocrity instead of excellence.

Thanks for listening!

Scott Zieske
Rapid City, SD

Chad Riesberg

Hill City SD

Comment:

I would be fine with no speed limit. The lake is hardly used.

Allison Caster

Silver City SD

allisoncaster@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Kathy Stiefvater
Sturgis SD
fun1@spe.midco.net

Comment:

Please, please keep Deerfield a no-wake lake.

Danielle Benne
Rapid City SD
bennedanielle.db@gmail.com

Comment:

One of my favorite memories growing up in the Black Hills is the camping trips my family would take to Deerfield Lake. It was always so peaceful and quiet no matter the time of year. You could enjoy time in the water with your family without it ever becoming crowded. It always felt like our own little sanctuary and there was something really special about that. I am strongly opposed removing the no-wake rule. It's one of the few lakes in the Black Hills that doesn't allow motor sports. Even if you kept the current regulation and allowed speeds of up to 25 mph, that leaves room for wake surfing boats to take the water and benefit, as wake surfing speeds are generally 10 mph and cap out at 12.5 mph. The waves that wake surf boats produce, would be disruptive to on fishing, kayaks, paddle boards and other non motorized sports.

Debra Jensen
Black Hawk SD
DEBRA@BLACKHILLSBAGELS.COM

Comment:

Please keep the no wake rule as it is.

Elaine Karsky
Rapid City SD
Skykar78@gmail.com

Comment:

This lake is one of only a few left where kayakers, paddle boarders, canoes, and fisherman can enjoy solitude and calm waters with no large motor boats. If removed, the jet skis will there in no time. Please leave the no wake Lake as is. There are plenty of larger lakes available in the Black Hills for that type of recreation with large motor boats. Thank you for listening.

Kim Zens
Rapid City SD
Zensk62@yahoo.com

Comment:

For years Deerfield Lake has been my family's favorite recreational retreat because of the wake restriction. Please do not lift the restriction. We love the quiet, solitude of the lake. We hike, camp, nature-watch, and canoe there. We have fishes as well. If the restriction is lifted we will need to find an alternative spot. I don't believe eagles will be as prominent and many shore fisherman and anglers who now use the lake will no longer chose to. Please consider this opinion.

Mike Zens
Rapid City SD
zens.mike@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not lift the restriction. We love the quiet, solitude of the lake. We hike, camp, nature-watch, and canoe there. If the restriction is lifted, those of us who enjoy the beauty and peacefulness of the lake will lose out. How many lakes in the Hills are there with a restriction compared to lakes without? Please leave Deerfield as is! Thank you!

Patrick Wyss
Rapid City SD
Patw@wyssassociates.com

Comment:

Not sure which to mark above. I support the no-wake at Deerfield lake and oppose allowing faster boating. "Quiet " is an important natural resource that should be protected in some of our public places.

Helen Ladner
Rapid City SD
gjladner@rushmore.com

Comment:

Do not increase the speed on Deerfield Lake. There are few places left in the Bkack Hills where one can enjoy the tranquility and quietness of nature

Helen Ladner
Rapid City SD
gjladner@rushmore.com

Comment:

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gjladner@rushmore.com

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Helen Ladner

Rapid City SD

gjladner@rushmore.com

Comment:

Do not increase the speed on Deerfield Lake. There are few places left in the Black Hills where one can enjoy the tranquility and quietness of nature

Valerie Howey

Hill City SD

howeyvalerie@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Greg Hoffman

Rapid City SD

Comment:

How does raising the speed to 25mph help anyone enjoy this area more? Please do not ruin this peaceful, beautiful, tranquil, full of life destination because a small few want to get to their fishing spot quicker. Ridiculous, sad, greedy, and selfish.

Matt Fitting

Rapid City SD

mfitting@rushmore.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no-wake ban on Deerfield Lake. It is the best place that we have for kayaking in the Black Hills. It is a quiet and pristine place to spend a summer day. Let's leave it that way.

Joan Nelson

Rapid City SD

joni_katie28@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake the way it is. Our family goes there many times a summer because of the no wake rule. It is so peaceful and quiet up there, and we feel safer with our 4 children being in/around the water. Keep it the way it has been, otherwise it is just like all of the other lakes. Different is good ?

Michele Caswell

Rapid City SD

pontoongirl@live.com

Comment:

I feel that Deerfield speed limit should be left as is. This lake gives the kayakers, paddle boarders, small boats, fisherman, etc a quiet lake to enjoy their activities without the wakes that a higher speed limit may cause. We have Pactola and Sheridan near by for faster recreational activities. My husband and I have a houseboat on Pactola with a top speed of 18-19, so we realize that 25 mph speed limit is quite fast. This lake should be left as the peaceful, safe lake it is now for those wanting to enjoy more leisurely activities.

Bonnie Edwards

Rapid City SD

Bonnieedwards@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a gem and has been for many years for those who like to get away from jet skis, motorboats, etc. It is safe for small children to fish, kayakers, drift boats. These are allowed on Pactola, Sheridan, Orman, Angostura. Isn't that enough? Deerfield should remain as is.

Kendra Groeneweg

Piedmont SD

Kendrakaegroeneweg@hotmail.co

m

Comment:

I believe removing the no wake restriction will bring pollution to the area and destroy the camp grounds tranquility.

Don Rausch
Rapid City SD

Comment:

The Rapid City Journal front page article should have been titled "Debating the serenity of Deerfield Lake." This lake is a hidden gem of the Black Hills that my friends & I have come to relish as the "getaway" Lake destination to recreate, fish, & camp & really refresh with its quiet beauty. It should be left as a no wake lake for boat fishing, shoreline & camping & walks. I appreciate the opportunity to express and share my thoughts for the decisions process.

James Mcreynolds
Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please, Please, Please do not change the no-wake policy at Deerfield Lake. There is so much noise in the hills with trail bikes, motorcycles, ATV's, helicopters etc that quiet in the hills is almost impossible. I fish at Deerfield and deeply enjoy the sounds of lapping water, wind in the trees, fish jumping, eagles calling. Again, keep Deerfield a no-wake lake. Thank you.

Conor McMahon
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I strongly oppose removing the no wake restrictions at Deerfield lake. I live in Rapid City and often drive the extra distance to take my family to Deerfield over Pactola and Sheridan for the specific reason that it is no wake. We enjoy the tranquility and being able to fish from shore or enjoy our kayaks without worrying about the wake from fast boats as well as the noise. Please do not raise the speed limit at Deerfield.

Kathryn Larsen
Spearfish SD
larsengirls@rushmore.com

Comment:

The fast boats have Pactola and Sheridan lakes to speed around and waterski and run their jet skis. All noise makers and unfortunately often times rude. Leave Deerfield for us that enjoy canoeing and kayaking and peace and quiet and nature. I believe law enforcement has enough to do controlling drinking and partiers on the two other lakes so please leave Deerfield alone.

Bill/Berlinda Lawson

Belen NM

Ber749@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Susan Froschheuser

Sioux Falls SD

suek_50b@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake has been a favorite spot for my husband, adult kids and friends to frequent every summer and fall. We spend many weeks in the summer/fall kayaking on Deerfield, camping there, and in the area. We love Deerfield because of the fact that it is kayak friendly and we are not competing with speed boats and jet skis. We choose Deerfield Lake specifically BECAUSE it is such a beautiful, calm and serene place for us. It would be an absolute tragedy to ruin this Lake by allowing waterskiing, jet skis and faster boats on the lake. We are personally looking for land in that area so we can have a permanent home near our favorite spot to kayak. Please please consider not changing the speed limits. Deerfield is like the last frontier and we would like to keep it that way. It is so sad that all it takes is a few people to change something at the expense of others who want to keep the Lake as it is. Please reconsider and look at the big picture. Why ruin this Lake by promoting more boat traffic. Again, it would be a tragedy for us outdoor enthusiasts that want a quiet, serene, beautiful last Frontier.

Lois Stewart

Edgemont SD

loisdal@gwtc.net

Comment:

We own a mobile home at Deerfield Lake Resort and spend our summers there. We enjoy the peace and quiet of the lake as it is. We enjoy fishing the lake without the wake tossing us around. Our grandchildren also spend time at the lake kayaking and canoeing. This becomes a safety issue with the faster speed limit. We also enjoy watching the bald eagles that nest in the trees on the shore of Deerfield. Please do not take this away. Thank you.

Scott Wittrock

Hartford SD

wittrock.scott@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the removal of the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. That lake should remain a quiet lake that caters to the fisherman and canoe/kayak people. There would be no way to police a 25mph speed limit with any kind of credibility and trying to would take resources away from other pressing needs of the GF&P.

Please leave Deerfield Lake as one of the last quiet lakes in the Black Hills. People recreate there because it is quiet.

Gregory Forstner

Rapid City SD

gforstner@bierschbach.com

Comment:

I oppose the idea of lifting the no-wake restriction on Deerfield. I fish the lake with my son in a 14ft. boat with a 9.9 hp motor. The draw to Deerfield is the fact there are no boats or jet skis ripping around the lake. If you decide to change it to 25 mph who will police that? It's quiet and peaceful and it is also heavily used by kayaks. For the people who say it takes to long to get to one end of the lake to the other.....relax and enjoy the ride.

Dennis Mxkay

Summerset SD

dmckay@rushmore.com

Comment:

Dear Fish & Game Commission,

I have fly fished Deerfield Lake since the 60's and intend fish it until I am face down in the lake with a flyrod in my hand and have a trout on the end of my line. The "no wake" designation allows this pristine bod

Duane Martenson

Rapid City SD

duaneandcherrie@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please keep this pristine little lake for Anglers and non-motorized water recreation such as kayaking or paddle boarding.

Stephanie Zacher

Custer SD

rszacher@goldendwest.net

Comment:

Safety 1st!!

Gerald Butz

Rapid City SD

gmbutz@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield quiet, no motors, we need places that are peaceful in the hills!!

Sammi Langendorf

Pringle SD

LANG@GOLDENWEST.NET

Comment:

I have enjoyed many hours of wake-less boating at Deerfield and would like it to stay that way. Thank you

Mark Monson

Sioux Falls SD

mmonson62@q.com

Comment:

We have a second home near Deerfield, and increasing boat speeds and increasing wake will affect the lake we enjoy. No reason to increase speeds

Virgil Hansen

Rapid City SD

wghansen1@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield is perfect the way it is. No speeding boats and big wakes please. Thank You!!

Jean Schubauer

Black Hawk SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Gordon Gleed

Rapid City SD

gdgleed@aol.com

Comment:

i have fish this lake for over forty years,I think

I am the first person to fish the lake in a float tube & fly rod,I am 79 yrs old and go ,and still do please keep as is thank you gordon

Jim Bussell

Rapid City SD

Local1040firefighter@hotmail.com

Comment:

I am very much opposed to lifting the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Reservoir. I am an avid angler spending many, many days on the water in my kayak. Because of the high amount of large recreational boat traffic on Pactola and Sheridan lakes, Deerfield is my one of my preferred lakes to kayak.

Despite efforts by the PCSO and GFP to enforce boating laws and improve safety on area lakes, I am quite hesitant to kayak on either Sheridan or Pactola during the spring and summer months because of safety concerns. There is zero doubt in my mind that lifting the no wake restriction on Deerfield will cause the same issue.

Part of the allure of Deerfield to me is it's relative remoteness and lack of large, fast boat traffic. Sheridan, Pactola, Angostura, Orman and Stockade all remain viable options for those wishing to speed boat and jet ski. I hope that Deerfield is not also turned over to the speed boats and jet skis.

Eileen Desmond

Rapid City SD

edesrap@gmail.com

Comment:

Please keep the serenity of this lake. I want to sit in silence and smell nature. I can go to pactola and angostura and Sheridan lake for the noise of motor boats and the smell of engine gasoline. They have 3 recreational waters. Please keep Deerfield as it is.

Brad Lawson

Plano TX

Comment:

As an avid shoreline lake fisherman, I am vehemently opposed to the removal of the no-wake restrictions on Deerfield Lake.

Edith-Maria Redlin

Rapid City SD

edithmaria@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is the only big lake in the Black Hills that is quiet and undisturbed by motorboats. I go swimming, canoeing and hiking there. Don't destroy this last refuge by faster speed motorboats!

Tamara Studioso

Piedmont SD

tamara@openbiblerc.org

Comment:

Please do not destroy one of the few places we can kayak or canoe in a peaceful lake without the threat of wakes from a boat tipping us over. We enjoy the serenity and peace at Deerfield lake

James Studioso

Piedmont SD

studiosojt@gmail.com

Comment:

We enjoy kayaking and canoeing on a peaceful lake we do not want boats at 25 mph disturbing the peace. Fishermen can fish from a kayak or canoe and there are other lakes that boats may travel at 25mph

Kent Hyde

Rapid City SD

hyde@nvc.net

Comment:

A day at Deerfield Lake promises a quiet day of communing with nature. Users of the lake—whether they are fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, or simply picnicking on shore—enjoy it quietly, peacefully. We always come home renewed and feeling that our day there has been well spent. As canoeists, we tend to avoid the other major Black Hills lakes, such as Pactola, Sheridan and Angostura, expressly because of the wakes created by faster boats, the noisy jet skis and the general risk that comes of adding haste to quiet waters.

While canoeing Sheridan Lake a few years ago, we were capsized when hit by the wake of a fast boat and suddenly found ourselves upside down underwater, looking up to the surface. We lost a lot of precious cargo that day. And received no help from the passing boat. Please don't let Deerfield Lake become such a lake.

Just as the administrators of the Boundary Waters of Minnesota have set aside some lakes where motorized boats are allowed and some that are left to the canoes, the quiet users of the waters of the Black Hills need a refuge as well. Let Deerfield Lake remain a wake-free lake.

I'm not asking that motorboats be banned, just that they not create a wake as they travel.

Krista Rear

Spearfish SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Kay Rear

Lead SD

k.rear@wildblue.net

Comment:

Many enjoy the "quietness and natural environment" of the lake. Always has been a favorite. Would ask that this proposal not be supported by the board. Thank you.

Richard Bell

Rapid City SD

etyview@yahoo.com

Comment:

I treasure Deerfield Lake the way it is. I like to enjoy shore-fishing, canoeing, and kayaking on the lake. I want a place that is serene, away from the noise and choppy water generated by speed boats and jet skis. You should stick to the no-wake restriction in accordance with the 1964 MOU.

Tim Brisk

Henderson NE

timbrisk@gmail.com

Comment:

You have a lake that is about as perfect as it gets for relaxing and nice quiet fishing . Anybody that thinks that you have to go fast to get to a fishing spot is not a person who enjoys fishing or nature he is only thinking about him self with no regard for nature or others.I sixty years old and live in Nebraska now but come to the hills every year to go to Deerfield lake have been enjoying the lake and the quiet of the area since the late 1960s hope it stays the same for ever.
AND FUTHER MORE I WOULD HATE TO SEE WHAT THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE HABITAT WOULD BE!!!!!!!

Nancy Brisk

Henderson NE

nancybrisk@gmail.com

Comment:

As a resident of Nebraska I can tell you that while we may be sitting on top of the Ogallala Aquifer with plenty of groundwater we are in a "water desert" when it comes to rivers or lakes that support water recreation. As am avid boater I understand the need to find places to boat. What I don't understand is why anyone would want to destroy one of their greatest natural resources by allowing speed boats on Deerfield Lake. This is the most pristine lake I have ever been on. My husband is a native of South Dakota and we still have family there. Deerfield Lake is a destination for us when we visit. Fishing there is amazing! I am also concerned about what speed boating will do to your native habitat! PLEASE do not ruin one of your State's treasures just to satisfy a few. Your state has many places already for water recreation.

Hans Stephenson

Rapid City SD

hansrc@gmail.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the increase in speed limit from 5 mph to 25 mph on Deerfield Lake. The current speed limit provides a solitude lacking in other large lakes in the Black Hills. Please preserve this unique opportunity for those who prefer quiet over the sound of boat motors. Wake boats and jet skis can operate under 25 mph and will change atmosphere drastically at Deerfield. I don't believe that fishing is hindered by the current speed limit. Please preserve the the current speed limit and preserve the quiet outdoor experience at Deerfield. There are no places like it left in the Black Hills.

Linda Pietz

Rapid City SD

Pietz_linda@yahoo.com

Comment:

Don't do it

David Stonefelt

Nemo SD

dstonefelt@gmail.com

Comment:

Trying to fish from a canoe, float tube, or kayak would be very dangerous if speed boats are allowed. We water skied on Pactola years ago with a forty five horse motor going 25 miles an hour and caused quite a wake. The gentleman supporting this doesn't realize that there are many other people using the lake besides him because of the serenity here.

Michele Blum

Walton NE

Comment:

This is a beautiful, quiet, pristine lake. Please leave it as is. If you raise the wake limit it will encourage skidoos, water skiers, boats etc and just ruin the whole atmosphere. There are plenty of lakes for those other activities. Please, please, please save this lake!

Kerri Stover
Rapid City SD
Kerri.berry@hotmail.com

Comment:

Leave the speed limit on Deerfield as is, please. There is no need to further reduce access to stillness, quiet, and tranquility in our beautiful Black Hills. If people want to boat at higher speeds, there are other lake options available.

Robert Beck
Sioux Falls SD
rbeck@flashesofspeed.com

Comment:

Am very concerned that the proposed changes to the no wake zone at Deerfield Lake will result in adverse changes to the pristine and calm nature of one of the best recreational opportunities in South Dakota. I've always have kiddingly called Deerfield Lake one of the best kept secrets in SD. I'm afraid that changing the no wake zone to a 25 mile an hour limit, or whatever, will draw so many more people interested more in ripping around the lake and seriously diminishing the experience of shore fisherman, kayakers and others who enjoy the lake that no longer will Deerfield Lake be that best kept secret. Also, I'd like to make the argument that boaters have several other choices in the Hills to boat at greater speeds. Lake Pactola is an example. But, those interested in a calm, peaceful environment have few places to enjoy that. I've been fishing and enjoying Deerfield Lake for 35 years. I so hope to enjoy it for many years to come under the rules and restrictions concerning a no wake zone as has been in place for so many years.

Rolland Owens
Hill City SD
purdybird@live.com

Comment:

As a resident of Hill City since 1979, I do not support replacing Deerfield Lake's no-wake restriction with a 25 mph restriction. Keep Deerfield Lake a no-wake lake.

Dennis Beck
Sioux Falls SD
dabecks4616@msn.com

Comment:

there are enough lakes in the Black Hills for regular boating. the current wake rule at deerfield lake is great. It is a calm piece of heaven for water sports in the black hills.

Sue Jorgensen

Rapid City SD

Shoppingsue@hotmail.com

Comment:

Please don't allow a Retired man, that has all day to find his fishing spot, change the only place for the working man and his family to go for a peaceful day. Please do not allow Deer Field Lake to change.

Brenda Jones

Rapid City SD

bjdj0313@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please keep it as a No Wake lake!!

James Frost

Rapid City SD

frosty283@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I oppose abolishing the no-wake restriction at Deerfield Lake. The serenity and peace of this lake is very special. It is the only good place for lake kayaking in western South Dakota.

Judy Frost

Rapid City SD

jcarsonfrost@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose getting rid of the No-Wake Zone for Deerfield Lake. This beautiful place is a sanctuary for kayaking, paddle-boarding and peaceful fishing boats and should be left that way. Please do not change the speed zones.

Kathy Cornelison

Rapid City SD

kac@rushmore.com

Comment:

I will also be sending a written letter by mail to further elaborate my position. Thank you

Bonnie Mccaskell

Rapid City SD

mommccaskell@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no-wake restriction at Deerfield Lake. The sound of boat motors would destroy the peace and tranquility we love about Deerfield.

Millie Holle

Rapid City SD

millieholle@gmail.com

Comment:

Please leave this beautiful and peaceful lake as it is! There are plenty of other lakes for speed boats and not that many peaceful places left. I strongly oppose raising the speed limit on Deerfield Lake.

Virginia Olson

Rapid City SD

Gingerlacey54@gmail.com

Comment:

I have lived in the Black Hills for 41 years, raised our family and now take our grandchildren out to enjoy the hills, too. If we want speed on a lake we go to Angostura, Sheridan , or Pactola. If we want to kayak or canoe we go to Deerfield. Even when we take the boat to Deerfield we enjoy the quietness by using the trolling motor to get around. I'd sure hate to see this lake be wrecked by boats speeding all over and churning up the water at Deerfield. Please keep the no wake or 5 miles an hour.

Nancy Johnson

Rapid City SD

jdnkj412@hotmail.com

Comment:

LIKE THAT DEERFIELD IS NO-WAKE. MAKE THIS DESTINATION PEACEFUL AND RELAXING. THERE ARE OTHER LAKES IN THE AREA THAT ALLOW WAKES

Jeff Johnson

Rapid City SD

jdnkj412@hotmail.com

Comment:

I have been enjoying Deerfield lake for the past 40 plus years. My family and I like the peace and quiet to camp and fish. I have fished from shore , canoe and boat and see no need to raise the speed limit . I think by raising the speed limit you will reduce mine,my families and many others enjoyment of this gem of the Black Hills. The Hills area has many other lakes with higher speed limits for those who want to get their destination faster. I for one am against the proposal .

Linda Hager
Hermosa SD
thistleridge@mt-rushmore.net

Comment:

PLEASE keep Deerfield a no wake lake. It is the last vestige of lake serenity in the Black Hills. People and wildlife can co-exist in nature. THE best kayaking/canoeing/shore fishing lake in the Black Hills. Please don't destroy that!!

Eugene Bingham
Rapid City SD
sgaw4@hotmail.com

Comment:

It would ruin one of the best quiet fishing lakes where you can still use a boat. And not have to worry about getting run over at 25mph.

Wade Bingham
Rapid City SD
lopebuster@hotmail.com

Comment:

I use deerfield because it has a wake limit. I dont want to fish among jetskis and skiers. it's a small lake, peacefull, let's keep it that way. the two major likes in the hills are a nightmare, dont ruin this one also.

Adam Newman
Rapid City SD
adampaulnewman@me.com

Comment:

Allowing Boats to go more than 5 miles an hour will allow wake boats to cause giant waves on the lake. Keep it the way it is. A 25 minute drive to get anywhere on the lake is not asking too much.

Vincent Hager
Hermosa SD
thistleridge@mt-rushmore.net

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is the only Pristine Lake Left in the Black Hills Area! I do not use Pactola Lake, Sheridan Lake or Angustora Reservoir in the summer time at all because of all the watercraft and inconsiderate operators on these lakes during June, July and August . If it takes Ken Adel and Don Holsworth a few extra minutes to get to there desired fishing areas, So Be It. I have fished this lake for many years and the no wake rule has never bothered me or the many people I visit with while there. I am an avid Kayaker and boat fisherman and enjoy the lake immensely for it's beauty and peaceful tranquility.

Tom Grissom

Rapid City (Johnson Siding) SD

au43@aol.con

Comment:

Boats designed to produce wake for wake boarding travel at 17 mph. The same boat pulls a boogie board at 22 mph.

I have first hand experience after piloting my neighbor's boat for the last couple of years. This boat has a V8 engine larger than my Ford F150 V8 5.4 liter. It also has 3 ballast tanks that are flooded with water to lower the boat in the water to produce the large wake needed to ride the wave behind the boat without a rope, at 17 mph. The boat is also GPS controled which requires the pilot to only push the throttle full forward, when set.

I do not support raising the speed limit on Deerfield Lake.

Susan Massopust

Rapid City SD

Comment:

No comment text provided.

John Cina

Black Hawk SD

john_t_cina@yahoo.com

Comment:

I oppose the proposal to increase the speed limit at Deerfield lake. The serenity of Deerfield would be greatly affected if boats were allowed to make wake, and the shores would also feel the impact. Please keep Deerfield for the shore fishers, kayakers, and people who enjoy going there to eat and watch a quite peaceful lake. Thank you !

Brett Sterkel

Rapid City SD

Comment:

My husband and I have leased a trailer lot at Angostura Reservoir for 10 years now. We enjoy our boating time there very much. In contrast, we also very much enjoy the quietness and calmness of Deerfield. It is a wonderful place to take the kids fishing and kayaking. Increasing the speed limit on the water would greatly impact the appeal of Deerfield. It is wonderful to have a variety of options in the hills for all types of water activities. I plead that we keep the speed limit low at Deerfield so it continues to be a calm retreat for families to visit in the hills.

Richard Emerson
Rapid City SD
emersric@midco.net

Comment:

I am avid outdoor recreationalist and use Deerfield Lake for paddling, fishing, hiking, biking, and camping - across all seasons. Please leave Deerfield Lake as no-wake and 5 mph speed. It is nice to have a peaceful lake.

Brenda Meier
Rapid City SD
rambam95@yahoo.com

Comment:

I opposed the motion to change the speed limit to 25 on Deerfield.

Clark Ladner
Vermillion SD
c.ladner1969@gmail.com

Comment:

I am not in favor of South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks to eliminate the No-Wake restrictions on Deerfield Lake by increasing the speed limit from 5 mph to 25 mph.

This increase will contribute to shoreline erosion causing a decline in natural trout.

Danielle Quail
Rapid City SD
Daniquail86@gmail.com

Comment:

As a frequent visitor and paddle boarder at Deerfield lake, I think increasing boat speed would detract from the safety and serenity that it currently provides to children and families who seek a quiet lake in which to recreate.

Frances Linn
Hill City SD
Fklinn@gmail.com

Comment:

I support maintaining the current speed limit at Deerfield Lake. Since the BH are utilized by a variety of sports enthusiasts, it is wonderful to have one quiet, speed-free lake. It makes sense to have this be the lake that is one of the farthest from Rapid City. Sheridan and Pactola provide opportunities for water skiing and other speed activities. It is important to have a lake where people can enjoy quiet, or kayak, or fish without wakes. The BH have a long history of being managed exceptionally well for a multitude of uses. Let's continue that tradition.

Maryann Adams Gregson
Keystone SD
Mgregson57751@icloud.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is unique in the type of visitors it attracts. It is the only one of its kind and changing its dynamic would ruin this. It would increase demand on its resources and the increased fishing and camping would make it too congested to sustain its integrity over time. Leave it as is, we have so few peaceful places as it is.

Whitney Van Ommeren
Hill City SD

Comment:

I would love to keep this beautiful lake a no wake lake!

John Wrede
Rapid City SD
dakota225@live.com

Comment:

Adamantly opposed to removing "no wake" zone on any part of Deerfield Lake. Justifications sent via letter to each commissioner as attachment.

Kenneth Anderson
Rapid City SD
Kennand61@yahoo.com

Comment:

There are already too few low wake or no wake zones in the Black Hills. Deerfield is the largest reservoir a kayaker can go to without chop created by other boats. Please keep as is!

Greg Wittenberg

Rapid City SD

wittenberg4@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I strongly oppose the proposal to remove the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. This would be detrimental to both the pristine environment currently at Deerfield Lake, as well as the unique recreational opportunities provided by the current no-wake restrictions.

The removal of this restriction would result in increased bank erosion along the shoreline due to the waves generated by boats and jet skis. This may also result in increased turnover of lake water and lead to murkier water, potentially harming the aquatic species, such as fish and ecologically important insects.

Furthermore, the removal of no-wake restrictions would negatively impact the recreational activities that so many people enjoy at the lake. Deerfield Lake is one of the last relatively larger pristine lakes left in the Black Hills where people can enjoy kayaking, canoeing, paddle boarding, and fishing without having to worry about dodging speed boats and other motorized watercraft. In my opinion, nothing ruins your fishing spot quicker than a boat speeding by and creating a bunch of waves. Another reason people love to go to Deerfield Lake is because it has not been ruined by noise pollution, but with the removal of the no-wake restriction, this would be a thing of the past. In conclusion, I oppose the removal of the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake for both environmental and recreational reasons.

Andrea Wood

Lead SD

andriamichele@gmail.com

Comment:

I am a kayaker. I know there are kayaking deaths every year on lakes that allow "wakes".

It scares the heck out of me to kayak on Pactola and Sheridan. As much as I love those lakes, I usually only go there early or late in the season.

Last year, I discovered Deerfield at the end of the season and fell in love. I have been looking forward to kayaking there all summer WITHOUT FEAR OF DEATH.

Boats are already allowed on Deerfield, just not wakes so it creates a lovely and peaceful environment for fisherfolk, kayakers, and swimmers.

Please keep Deerfield as a "no-wake" lake!!

Julie Martin

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I have lived in the Black Hills for 62 years, most of it in the Hill City area. Deerfield has always been the place of peace because of the boating restrictions. To change it to 25 mph so someone can get somewhere faster will ruin the atmosphere of this beautiful place. You say its so more people will use it, so you can empty the garbage more often, clean the toilets more often, patrol the campground more often. All so somebody can get to a spot faster, well maybe they should stop and smell the roses. The quieter you become the more you hear, who wants to hear more motors, NOBODY. I find it ironic that the closest campground owner says NO, and you say it will bring him more people. Please don't ruin what has been for decades with happiness to most.

Glen Lakner

Wall SD

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield lake as is. My best hours and days were spent at North Shore or Whitetail campgrounds, I returned from Korea in 1951 and "discovered" it. What a great place for unwinding! As motorized continuous could be banned. Less shore erosion. In front of every shore fisherman on the lake as quickly as he can.

Jack Duprel

Sturgis SD

Comment:

As our family frequently camp, fish, boat and canoe on Deerfield we prefer it remain a no wake lake. It is a quiet lake for young people to enjoy shore fishing and canoeing without a boat roaring next to you. As we are elderly we enjoy the quietness of the lake. There are plenty of other lakes for speed and water skiing. Please leave as a no wake lake.

Brody Brisk

Rapid City SD

brody.brisk4@gmail.com

Comment:

Increasing the speed limit to 25 mph to allow a single fisherman less time to cross the lake is a slippery slope. As someone who enjoys watersports, 25 mph is more than enough to perform numerous activities such as waterskiing, tubing, wakesurfing, knee-boarding, etc, etc. This will only invite people wanting to do watersports who are trying to get away from more crowded lakes. My other concern is how the speed limit will be enforced. There is no possible way a warden would be able to monitor the speed limit of every boat on the lake. I could see a scenario where a boat could easily go over the 25 mph speed limit and no one would ever know. Increasing the speed limit is just asking for trouble. Please don't let this beautiful, secluded lake be turned into a busy, overcrowded place that would be viewed as a "new" getaway for the high-powered boats.

Heidi Brisk

Rapid City SD

Comment:

If the speed limit is increased at Deerfield Lake for a fisherman to reach his fishing spot quicker, this is equivalent to raising the speed limit on a road just because someone wants to get to their desired destination faster. This just doesn't make sense. Let's leave this lake as is and enjoy the beauty in the peaceful Black Hills.

Brittany Neiles
Rapid City SD
Brittanayneiles@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose changing the wake status of Deerfield Lake. As a occasional paddle boarder (SUP), having a quiet lake is essential. Not only is it much harder to balance when you add wake permissions, it becomes dangerous for those in canoes, kayaks, and on stand up paddle boards.

Anne Britton
Rapid City SD
SOUTHDAKOTACANUCK@HOTMAIL.COM

Comment:

My family and I live in Rapid City and travel to Deerfield Lake to paddle board and kayak for the sole reason that the lake is a no wake one. My kids have learned paddling and swimming there and it is nice not to have to worry about a boat not seeing us. 25 mph does not seem fast until you're in the water and have a boat bearing on you and your family. There are plenty of regular fishing lakes in the Black Hills.

Charlie Ward
Rapid City SD
dirtdiggerchuck@gmail.com

Comment:

Please don't ruin Deerfield for those of us that enjoy the tranquility of this lake.

Charlie Ward
Rapid City SD
dirtdiggerchuck@gmail.com

Comment:

Please don't ruin Deerfield for those of us that enjoy the tranquility of this lake.

Les Job
Deadwood SD

Comment:

Oppose the change

Steve Hovland

Rapid City SD

stevehovland.sh@gmail.comkoi

Comment:

Leave speed limit ad is.

Wayne Oedekoven

Vale SD

Comment:

Deerfield is a beautiful lake with no-wake. We love fishing on lake with a big boat. We like the fast boats on making large wake. We have grandchildren who like kayak on lake, not to worry about large wake. It nice not have all the lakes fast moving boats. Leave as is NO WAKE!

Wayne Compton

Custer SD

Comment:

Deerfield Lake has been a favorite spot of ours to fish and just enjoy the beauty of the area for over sixty years. We are an elderly couple (in our eighties) and all of our fishing is done from the shore. We especially like Deerfield Lake because it is easily accessible as it gets more difficult for us to get around. We usually go there during the week, when it is less crowded. Once in a while a large boat is on the lake. The wake from it, even at trolling speed, causes a fairly large wake. Boats traveling at a speed of 25 miles per hour would make fishing from the shore with a bobber nearly impossible. We feel twenty - five minutes getting to a desired fishing spot not excessive. It gives one time to relax and enjoy the lake. We urge you not to change the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. Please leave it as it is, and not ruin fishing from the shore.

Kathy Cornelison
Rapid City SD
kac@rushmore.com

Comment:

May 26, 2019

Dear Game, Fish and Parks Commissioners,

I am writing to express my great disappointment upon hearing that you were considering raising the speed limit on Deerfield Lake, one of the most pristine, large, quiet lakes in the Black Hills, a place where you can carry on a conversation without straining to hear over the constant roar of boats. A unique environment to kayak, canoe, take a walk, hear the birds and just be at peace. If you raise the speed limit on the lake, this will all be lost and Deerfield Lake will no longer be the amazing experience it has been for fifty years.

I kayak, canoe, hike, and picnic at Deerfield Lake and cannot imagine what a huge loss it will be to so many who have loved the experience of Deerfield Lake for years if the speed limit is raised. There are so few serene places left in the Hills and the only large lake area, where you can kayak or canoe for hours and not be disturbed by speeding boats and the noise and wakes they leave behind. I strongly urge you to keep the speed limit on Deerfield Lake as it is, please do not raise the speed limit. Thank you.

Respectfully,
Kathy Cornelison
3514 Maple Avenue
Rapid City, SD 57701

Beth Scott-Thomas
Hill City SD
bethscottthomas@gmail.com

Comment:

I use Deerfield lake a lot to kayak and enjoy the fact that it is a no wake lake. There aren't that many no wake lakes in the Black Hills. Let the anglers that want to use a faster speed stick to the other lakes that allow this. I don't use their lakes and I don't want them to use Deerfield! This a a peaceful setting, please don't disrupt the serene beautiful lake by allowing people to come and make huge wakes making it difficult for the rest of us. Thanks for your consideration.

Frank Shobe
Rapid City SD

Comment:

The purpose of this letter is to register STRONG OPPOSITION to the petition to increase boat speed on Deerfield Lake from 5MPH to 25MPH. It seems appropriate to first address the claim of the petitioner that it takes him up to 25 minutes to take his boat where he wants to go fish. While i do not have access to specific details of the dimensions of Deerfield Lake, my topographical maps indicate the extreme distance from the inlet of the lake down to the face of the dam is approximately 1.5 miles. there are two boat launch ramps, each on opposite sides of the lake, roughly midpoint. This means when launching his boat, Mr. Edel should be no more than three-fourths of a mile from his intended fishing location, which would enable him to be on location in approximately 9 minutes at the speed of 5mph - increasing his speed to 25 MPH would reduce the duration of his trip to 2 minutes. - a saving of 7 minutes. Should he decide the fishing is better at the opposite end of the lake, cruising his boat at 5 MPH should require only slightly less than 19 minutes for Mr. Edel to traverse the entire length of the lake - increasing his speed to 25 MPH would reduce the duration of his trip to 4 minutes - a saving of 15 minutes. It is difficult to understand how he is experiencing a hardship - taking a 10 - 15 minute boat ride through some of the most beautiful scenery in the Black Hills hardly sounds like a wasteful expenditure of time, especially for a retiree, who should have learned by now to focus on the journey, not the destination. The consequences of saving Mr. Edel his precious 15 minutes will be to destroy the canoeing, kayaking, fishing, and swimming experience for everyone else at the lake. My wife and I both have kayaks and we enjoy going on long paddles on beautiful Deerfield Lake - a serene peaceful experience in gorgeous scenery, usually with an abundance of wildlife, deer, marmots, elk, fox, etc visible on the shore, ducks & geese on the lake, and osprey & eagles in the sky. This experience is denied to us on either Sheridan or Pactola lakes due to the dangerous conditions created by speeding boats and jet skis. Occasionally, we venture out of those lakes in early spring, or late fall, when the pleasure boater and water skiers are less likely to be out, but even then there are often fishermen charging around at high speed (Mr. Edel?), which means we rarely can simply relax and enjoy the experience. Deerfield lake offers a peaceful and beautiful setting for recreation - it is good for the soul. Please do not take that away from the many users of the lake who go there for quiet relaxation, just because of an impatient man.

Kevin Thom
Rapid City SD
Kevin.Thom@pennco.org

Comment:

I do not support changing the boating speed limits to 25 mph on Deerfield Lake. The current No Wake policy has worked well for many years. Currently, the Sheriff's Office provides year round patrol in areas around all the lakes in Pennington County and boat patrol that operates on Pactola and Sheridan Lake during the summer months. We partner with Game Fish & Parks on training and lake patrol activities. We both have limited resources so we coordinate the dates which agency will be patrolling on which lakes so we can maximize our coverage. I will not speak for Game, Fish & Parks, but I have two concerns with changing the speed limit. My first concern is the ability, or inability, to enforce a speed limit on Deerfield Lake. It would require us to purchase additional radar equipment to monitor the boat speeds. What is in place now is simple to enforce and works just fine. My second concern is that we would be splitting our boat patrol time between 3 lakes instead of 2 lakes. This adds a strain to limited resources. As an avid hunter, hiker and outdoor enthusiast, I would advocate that we have enough lakes that people can operate boats at high speeds on. Why not preserve what we have in terms of the unique character and setting that Deerfield Lake offers to our area. It is not broken, so let's not try to fix it. Thank you for your consideration of this information.

Randolph Rehm
Spearfish SD

Comment:

Ken Edel's proposal to remove the 5 MPH no- wake restriction on Deerfield Lake is a bad plan that disregards the recreational enjoyment of the lake and further, can also cause degradation to the shoreline and other physical aspects of the lake. Mr. Edel's comment that it can take 25 minutes (at 5mph) to get where he wants to fish on Deerfield is ridiculous! He should realize that he is not fishing on Angustura, Belle Fourche Reservoir, Pactola, or any other larger lake. If it does take him 25 minutes to travel from one end of Deerfield Lake to the other end, why does he see a problem with that situation? is he fishing in a tournament that requires him to hit as many hot spots on the lake during a short time period? Deerfield Lake should be maintained as a calm body of water that can be enjoyed by people who cherish a small amount of solitude and relaxation without having to deal with the few boaters who feel that it is necessary to get from one end of the lake to the other in the fastest time possible.

James Wilson
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I am a Pennington County resident and sportsman and writing in support of keeping the Deerfield Lake, no wake/5mph boat speed limit as it is. The lake is only a little over two miles from east dam to the west inlet and that takes only about 30 minutes to traverse at the no wake speed limit. Time and distances from the east landing/ramp are even less. Those who want to go fast have at least three other, bigger lakes in the hills. Let's keep Deerfield calm, serene, and not so noisy. Thanks for hearing my input.

William Lemley
Rapid City SD
wrl.jln.1808@gmail.com

Comment:

Preserve the solitude of this lake where kayakers, paddle boarders, canoers & swimmers can enjoy the lake without engine noise, wake boards, etc. Please do not destroy one of the last vestiges of quiet left in the Black Hills of S.D.

David Allen
Aurora CO
dave1918@comcast.net

Comment:

I grew up In Lead and fished Deerfield a lot over 20 years. Colorado has ruined many great fishing lakes like Deerfield by allowing faster boats. I will be returning next year and I ask You not to ruin Deerfield. I realize many large companies may want this so They can sell more. Please do not succumb to the almighty dollar and Coloradicate Deerfield. Leave it alone for the true Sportsmen. Thank You for considering this.

Ev Hoyt
Rapid City SD

Comment:

We write to express our concern and opposition to a proposed rule change pending before the SD Game, Fish and Parks ("SDGFP") Commission which would eliminate the No Wake and 5 mph speed limit for boats on Deerfield Lake in Pennington County, South Dakota. It is a common misconception that these three lakes in the BHNF are the principal lakes available to recreational users in the Rapid City area - but, in fact, there are two much larger lakes located just outside the boundary of the BHNF and within about one hour's drive from Rapid City which are major recreation venues for Black Hills residents - those lakes being Angostura Reservoir (4,407 surface acres) located near Hot Springs and

Belle Fourche Reservoir/orman Dam (8,063 surface acres) located a few miles east of Belle Fourche. Because these reservoir lakes are not located within the BHNF, SDGFP owns and operates extensive campground facilities and boat docks on these two large lakes. These popular lakes are managed by SDGFP as warmwater fisheries, where walleye are the principal gamefish sought by anglers. Deerfield Lake comprises only 30/o of the surface area of the larger lakes within about an hours drive from Rapid City. Little is to be gained by transforming the nature of Deerfield Lake from a safe, serene alpine lake to a high speed, large boat lake.

Background: As you know, Deerfield Lake is remotely located in the USFS Black Hills National Forest ("BHNF") about 12 miles West of Hills City, SD. Deerfield Lake (414 acres surface area) is one of three of the larger lakes located within the Black Hills National Forest, the others being Sheridan Lake (385 surface acres) and Pactola Lake (785 surface acres). All three lakes are located within an hour drive from Rapid City. All of the lakes within the Black Hills National Forest are operated and maintained by the US Forest Service/Black Hills National Forest. Unlike many lakes outside the boundary of the BHNF, SDGFP does not own or manage any properties, campgrounds or docks on lakes within the BHNF - those facilities and campgrounds are owned and managed by USFS/BHNF and US Bureau of Reclamation

("USBOR"). SDGFP manages the fishery in these three BHNF lakes primarily as coldwater fisheries, primarily for trout, although SDGFP has recently introduced walleye in Sheridan and Stockade Lakes in the BHNF. Background for Deerfield Lake With the exception of Deerfield Lake, all of the lakes discussed above are open to public recreation and use by large boats without speed limits, and the lakes are used for a variety of water activities, including high-speed boating, jet skis, wake boarding boats, water skiing, small non-motorized paddle craft like canoes and kayaks, swimming and fishing. Deerfield Lake, which was developed by USFS/BHNF and USBOR, maintains a "No Wake and 5 mph" speed limit in accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding (see copy attached) between these US agencies dated October 7, 1964, which provides that the USFS will implement the following regulations applicable to use of Deerfield Lake by the public: "5. The following specific regulations shall be adopted by the Service (USFS) a. Motor boats on the reservoir shall be limited to and not exceed a no-wake boat speed which is defined as normal docking or trolling speed. b.

Omitted as not applicable c. Management of the fish and wildlife resources of the area shall be vested in the State of South Dakota. At no time shall the area be closed to fishing or hunting without previous consultation with the South Dakota State Commission of Game, Fish, and Parks." in accordance with that Agreement between USFS and USBOR, Deerfield Lake has been managed for more than 50 years subject to a No-Wake speed limit for boaters on the lake. As a result, Deerfield Lake is a popular fishing lake, and fishermen operate boats at trolling speeds to fish for trout and other fish in Deerfield Lake. Boats may be launched from two boat ramps which are located at the east and west ends of Deerfield Lake. Shore fishermen enjoy the peaceful environment created by the quiet operation of boats using the lake. Users of small craft, such as kayaks and canoes, use the peaceful waters without fear of collision with high speed boats or wakes which might cause them to capsize. Picnickers and shore users enjoy the peaceful environment of the lake. During spring and fall seasons, it is so quiet at Deerfield Lake that you can hear the distinctive calls of the sandhill cranes as they soar high above the lake. Eagles and osprey fish the lake without concern for noisy, high speed motorboats on the lake. In considering the present petition to change the long-standing No Wake regulation for Deerfield Lake, SDGFP is encouraged to accord comity to the federal governmental agencies which have an interest in Deerfield Lake- It is those agencies which constructed Deerfield Dam and operate the reservoir as a water storage facility for the city of Rapid city and downstream irrigation users. It is those agencies which built, operate, and maintain campground and lakeside facilities for Deerfield Lake users. SDGFP has little or no capital investment in the Deerfield Lake facilities; SDGFP manages the fishery in Deerfield Lake. In the interest of intergovernmental

comity, SDGFP should give great weight and deference to the USFS/USBoR agreement regarding the establishment and continuation of a No wake and 5 mph speed limit on Deerfield Lake as it considers the petition for rule change. we strongly encourage the SDGFP commission to reject the petition for rule change and preserve Deerfield Lake as a peaceful and safe environment for lake users. Problem Areas with proposed Rule change: There are a number of problems which will result if the proposed rule to eliminate the "No Wake/5 mph

speed limit; presently applicable to Deerfield Lake is adopted and implemented. Among the problems anticipated if the proposed rule change would be adopted are: (1)The peaceful "environment and character of Deerfield Lake will be irreparably changed, and Deerfield Lake will become "just another noisy Black Hills lake" with the roar of motors on the large fishing boats and the wake board boats, the blare of loud music from the wake board boats, the loud buzz of the jet skis cruising at 25 mph, and other unnamed noise makers; (2) Operation of large boats at speeds up to 25 mph will endanger users of small craft, either by collision or by large wakes which could capsize a small canoe or kayak - just the increased vigilance required to continually be "on the lookout" for motorized boats and jet skis moving at 25 mph will create apprehension in the mind of a person in a canoe or kayak; (3) A 25 mph speed limit will be almost impossible to enforce on Deerfield Lake. It will be very difficult for another boater or shore user to accurately estimate the relatively high speed of a moving boat on the lake in order to substantiate a complaint with law enforcement, which will rarely be present on the lake. With a No Wake regulation in place, a boat operator exceeding the No Wake speed limit is immediately aware that he is creating an unlav'rful wake, as is the observer on the shore or in a small craft. And, the shore user can easily capture a picture of the wake and boat with a digital or iPhone camera; (4) A No Wake requirement is essential in that the newer wakeboard boats move at very slow speeds with a loud engine roar, but wakeboard boats are designed to produce a high wake on which the boarders "ride the wave". (5) A boat moving at 25 mph can create a significant wake. For example, my small 14'fishing boat equipped with a 25 hp motor tops out at 21 mph (per GPS speed measurement), but this little boat creates a significant wake at top speed. The proposed rule is just not needed. In addition to these reasons to reject the proposed rule change to eliminate the No Wake and 5 mph speed limit, an additional reason is that there is just no compelling need to change the No Wake rule on Deerfield Lake. The total lake surface area on the 5 lakes mentioned at the outset is 14,054 acres; and the surface area of Deerfield Lake is 414 acres - just 3% of the total. Very little water "high speed water" would be gained by adding Deerfield Lake to the "wide open" list. Fishermen can fish from boats on Deerfield under the present regulation - trolling is done at very slow speeds, under No Wake conditions. There are 2 boat ramps on Deerfield Lake, so boaters can launch a boat near the area where they plan to fish - there is no need to travel at speeds of 25 mph to over from one trolling spot to another on Deerfield Lake. Fishermen, shoreline users, canoes, kayaks, hikers, campers, and others have enjoyed the serenity of Deerfield Lake for many years - there is no good reason to change the character of Deerfield Lake by permitting "high speed-wake creating" operation of boats on Deerfield Lake. Please reject the Petition to eliminate the No Wake/S mph speed limit on Deerfield Lake! Please - don't make Deerfield Lake just another noisy Black Hills lake! Keep it special!

Mikal Lewis

Hill City SD

Comment:

I'm 75 year old retiree from GE. I moved to the Black Hills after the flood in 1973. I'm here because I run, hike & mountain bike. Over the years I have seen the quiet areas being taken over by jet skies, side by sides & a host of other mechanized vehicles. I hike, bike & snow shoe in the Deerfield & Flag Mt area because of its beauty & especially its natural areas. When I hike the Bald Hills off US 385 I can hear the boats & jet skis, many miles away. This is NOT what we need in the proposed area! Let Sheridan & Pactola have the modern up to date "things", Let Deerfield stay the gem it is. Think about future generations.

Craig Alexander

Rapid City SD

craigalexander1071@gmail.com

Comment:

Dearfield Lake is the only lake of its size that I can kayak without fear of being run over by a speeding boater. If you throw alcohol into the boat operator then the risk multiplies. Please keep Dearfield as a no wake lake. Thank you.

Virgil Hansen
Rapid City SD

Comment:

Deerfield and the surrounding area are pristine, quiet, and most enjoyable. Let's keep it that way. Boaters who want to race around making big waves and lots of noise have many choices. They do not need to spoil Deerfield for the rest of us. I fish from shore and from a small pontoon boat (Hobie) propelled by oars. I can get around Deerfield just fine. The launch ramp from motor boats is well situated and it certainly does not take 25 minutes to get to the inlet, the farthest point from the launch ramp. I also fish from my Hobie in Pactola and Sheridan. I do not appreciate being buzzed by speeding boats and being rocked violently by their big wakes. I have observed very little enforcement of the existing rules on speeding at either of these lakes and doubt that it would exist at Deerfield either. Fishing is supposed to be relaxing and enjoyable. It is not necessary to zip from place to place. Deerfield is a wonder place. DO NOT SPOIL IT!

Dan Wessels
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I would like to request that the no-wake status remain in effect. I say that as a person that has taken my family camping and hiking there many times. We used to camp with several friends that would bring their children, canoes, and kayaks. We have done camping at other reservoirs throughout the hills, each having their own special character. Deerfield is the only reservoir that offers the peace and tranquility we sometimes desire. Boats with engines revved up to get to the speed of 25 MPH would definitely break that tranquility. If speed limit is the only regulating factor who is to say that we won't see any motorized vehicles on the lake such as jet ski's? How will the speed limit be regulated? There has been a history of dangerous behavior at other hills area reservoirs with fast boats in the form of people in the water getting run over by boats. I felt comfortable with my children and pets in the water at Deerfield. Not sure I would feel that way with the no wake restriction gone. My children are grown but I would like for the opportunity if I am lucky enough to be a grandfather someday that my children have the same opportunity to take their children to the lake I had.

Dallas Stewart
Edgemont SD
lois/dal@gwtc.net.

Comment:

This a lake that the grandkids can go & kayak & canoe without fear of being swamped or run over by a wake, it is a good learning lake, keep as is, if it ain't broke don't fix it.

Cynthia Harlan

Lead SD

charlan2013@gmail.com

Comment:

As a kayaker, camper, and frequent visitor to Deerfield Lake, I am shocked and dismayed by the proposal to remove the No-Wake restriction. Please realize that there are so many users -- both locals and visitors -- and more all the time -- that are looking for a quiet and peaceful experience in our beautiful Black Hills. These are the folks that don't require speed and noise but just the opposite to appreciate our amazing area and there are so few lakes left to do so. Surely, their interests need to be represented as well. Please PLEASE keep the No-Restriction on Deerfield Lake.

Thank you for your time and attention

FYI -- I will be mailing a more extensive comment via USPO

Merlene Broer

Hill City SD

busygrma41@gmail.com

Comment:

Raising the speed limit to 25 would encourage more snowmobile traffic during ice fishing season and cause too much interference with fishing and kayaking with increased size of wakes.

Roger Broer

Hill City SD

roger@rogerbroer.com

Comment:

It is a pristine mountain lake, current speed is sufficient for canoers, kayakers, boaters, and snowmobilers (even in the winter). It should be enforced to prevent loud parties and excessive machine noise.

Weyland Anderson

Rapid City SD

WEYLANDRSN@MAC.COM

Comment:

INCREASING SPEED LIMIT IS LIKELY TO ATTRACT MORE MOTORIZED TRAFFIC. PLEASE RESERVE THIS LAKE AS A TRANQUILL RESOURCE.

Quinn Ward

Lead SD

quinn.ward03@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake is a quiet, calm, and beautiful lake that is fantastic for fishing due to it's no-wake policy. I, as well as the rest of my family strongly oppose raising the speed limit, as it would make Deerfield just like Pactola and others; too choppy!

Jeff Bradeen

Custer SD

Jandkbradeen@yahoo.com

Comment:

The lake is not big enough. Some one will die.

Robin Powell

Johnson City TN

Comment:

Please keep the current speed limit and wake restriction in effect at Deerfield Lake. Deerfield is an oasis of peace and serenity. Lifting the wake restriction would ruin the serenity that so many enjoy.

Jay Hammerquist

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please leave the no wake zone in place at Deerfield. It is a pristine lake precisely because of the lack of noise and rough water. We enjoy kayaking the back channels and it is the quietest place to be on the water in the in the Hills. Thanks

Donald Knudsen

Rapid City SD

dknudsen@gpna.com

Comment:

There are few places left in the Black Hills where one can go and enjoy nature without some motorized noise. Deerfield Lake is one of them. Yes, one might hear a generator once in a while but not likely. Yes, one might hear a drone overhead occasionally. But motorboats would be operating from dawn to dusk and beyond. And I live in RC and don't hear people complain that there aren't enough places available to enjoy their motor boats. Draw a line. This far but no farther. Preserve some places for peace and quiet.

Betty Backus

Rapid City SD

backusba@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield is a beautiful lake offering many recreational opportunities for the public. Increased boat speeds will greatly interfere with the current uses on the lake and the surrounding lands. We have several other nearby lakes where boating anglers can travel at higher speeds. Please leave Deerfield a 'no wake' lake.

Tim Elseman

Custer SD

tselsemangmail.com

Comment:

This is the only lake of any size in the Black Hills where it is safe to kayak or fish from a kayak or float tube without being threatened by power boats traveling at high rates of speed. As a no-wake lake it provides a more solitary outdoor experience than lakes such as Sylvan, Horse Thief, Lakota, and Center, to name a few.

Kari Strong

Rapid City SD

willow13_7@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Craig Johnson

Black Hawk SD

jsc.8572@yahoo.com

Comment:

I have used this lake all my life because of its beauty and peacefulness. There are no beaches and I've never seen anybody swim in it, the lake is very cool. The skiers and jet skis have so many options is it so wrong that people who want the peace and quite have one. Keep it like it has always been.

Ruth Esperance

Rapid City SD

Wyflyfishing21@yahoo.com

Comment:

I strongly oppose the lifting of No Wake at Deerfield Reservoir within the administrative boundary of the Black Hills NF. There are three large reservoirs just West of Rapid City, this reservoir (Deerfield) is highly popular with non-motorized users. I frequently see many people kayaking and boating and fishing and enjoying the serenity of the sounds of nature. Frequently I see kids and young families out enjoying Deerfield. There is just not a large reservoir with no wake to enjoy safely. I struggle to understand why we would change this feature of Deerfield just so fisherman can get to another fishing spot faster? Please keep the no wake in place so we can all enjoy Deerfield.

Zach Dosch

Rapid City SD

zach.dosch@gmail.com

Comment:

Do not change this rule. It is the only nice lake left in the hills that isn't over run by people. It's truly a beautiful, quiet camping location to go to on the weekends. My family only goes to Deerfield to camp because of the no wake rule. We can use our paddleboards and canoe without having to worry about large boats and waves. Please keep it the way it is currently set. As the old saying goes, if it's not broken why fix it.

Justin Taylor

Rapid City SD

Jtaylor83@gmail.com

Comment:

Leave the lake the way it is. We don't need motorboats and jet skis zooming around, making noise and destroying the peaceful environment. They can go to pactola or sheridan lake.

Kyle Kopren

Rapid City SD

kkfishhook_kyle@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Brady Gabel

Rapid City SD

Brady.gabel.1@gmail.com

Comment:

My name is Brady Gabel, and I strongly oppose lifting the wake restrictions at Deerfield Lake. My family loves camping at Deerfield due primarily to the piece and quiet it offers. We can canoe safely and I can fly fish without worry of huge wakes.

This is the only Lake we have like this in the Black Hills. In addition, the lake supports a very healthy spawning run of rainbow trout, which will certainly be impacted by increased turbidity and erosion due to increased wakes.

I have not met one person who supports this measure. Please leave Deerfield Lake as is.

Carter Taylor

Rapid City SD

cartert@dakotabusiness.com

Comment:

Deerfield is unique in that it is a no wake-lake.

There are plenty of larger lakes in and around the hills that appeal to the motor boats, but few places where people can take a small boat and row, sail or troll without the danger and annoyance of a wake. Please keep Deerfield as-is.

David Montz

Rapid City SD

d_montz@hotmail.com

Comment:

I oppose the lifting of the No Wake Zone on Deerfield Reservoir for many of the same valid reasons expressed by the Black Hills Fly Fishers. Degradation of water quality, noise pollution, water safety, etc.. It would be nice to keep one medium sized reservoir free from the effects of increased motor use age. I would be interested to know if the petitioner has any personal commercial interest in seeing this legion past. Deerfield reservoir is not easily accessed as are other reservoirs in the Black Hills. The increase in traffic with larger boats towed on that road create. Even more safety issues. Please keep Deerfield Reservoir a no wake Lake for our future generations to enjoy as we have.

Carolyn Mastin

Hill City SD

300mastin@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do NOT lift the Deerfield Lake no-wake restriction! As a local - it is nice to have one quite lake and area to enjoy without mass tourists, garbage, fast boats, noise & chaos. There are plenty of other lakes in the area for that. Deerfield Lake is the only quite peaceful lake in the Hills. Please - it needs to stay the same, a NO-WAKE zone or there will be NO tranquil places in the Black Hills. Let's preserve this place.

Carolyn Mastin
Hill City SD
300mastin@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do NOT lift the Deerfield Lake no-wake restriction! As a local - it is nice to have one quite lake and area to enjoy without mass tourists, garbage, fast boats, noise & chaos. There are plenty of other lakes in the area for that. Deerfield Lake is the only quite peaceful lake in the Hills. Please - it needs to stay the same, a NO-WAKE zone or there will be NO tranquil places in the Black Hills. Let's preserve this place place.

Levi Bertolotto
Blackhawk SD
levi.bertolotto@gmail.com

Comment:

I'm against the change because Deerfield Reservoir is the last bastion of peace for people who don't like waste, the wasteful ways of the people who enjoy wakeboarding and jetskis will undoubtedly contaminate the lake and it's peace. Let them have pactola and Sheridan and Angostura and Orman and the Missouri River system, but let us have Deerfield. It's a long ways to drive most will have have to drive past more suitable water

Matt Nofziger
Sioux Falls SD
walleye792@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Dallas Abbott
Rapid City SD

Comment:

I and many other citizens of the area DO NOT WANT to increase the speed at Deerfield lake.

David Veilleux
Rapid City SD
mickeyfinn@vastbb.net

Comment:

I am totally against the increase. In fact let alone I don't think there should gas powdered boats on the lake period. First off it's a great lake for canoeing and kayaking
It's a beautiful place to relax and get away from all the noise we deal with every day. There is no need for anyone to be crushing around with a motor on such a small lake .

Matt Schneider
Rapid City SD
matt75schneider@gmail.com

Comment:

Please leave Deerfield Lake no wake!!!

Jack Backer
Monroe SD
Jbackerus@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please, leave the no wake rule as it is for Deerfield Lake

Bill Holec
Rapid City SD
bholec@rapidcityeyecare.com

Comment:

There is no scenerio that I can think of that removing a no wake zone would be beneficial for any part of the watershed, fish, wildlife, or asthetics. Many people have already commented on the effects of wakes on bank erosion, poorer water quality. This is the closest we have to a pristine alpine lake, lets keep it that way.

Ron Koth
Rapid City SD
ron.koth@gmail.com

Comment:

Please leave the existing no wake zone in place. It is good to have one of the larger Hills reservoirs available to those seeking solitude, whether angling or other water based activities.
Thank you
Ron

Samuel Farrar
Rapid City SD
Samuelf@bhigr.com

Comment:

Leave it the way it is. I enjoy the calm water and quiet of Deerfield. He can boat at Sheridan or pactola. It's unsafe to use small boat around fast motor boats.

Joshua Osterbur
Rapid City SD
Osterburj@yahoo.com

Comment:

There is no reason to lift the no wake zone. Deerfield is a small lake ment for fishing recreation... There are plenty of bigger lakes for others to partake in recreation of wave runners, tubing and others sports. This lake is safe for kyakers, standing boarding, and fishing. There aren't many places for people to go with out a wake zone and they are constantly put in danger from those who don't look for others and are drinking while out on the lakes. Take care of those who want to enjoy the lake not ones who want to tear it up constantly.

Dale Peters
Lead SD
bhanglersd@gmail.com

Comment:

Speed increase for boats to 25 mph is not needed and could endanger those on shore--especially those wading. Canoes, kayaks row boats & float tubes may also be in danger. Fishing boats have no speedometer...those monitoring lake can now see if no-wake rule is being followed. Please leave no-wake rule on Deerfield Lake. Preserve the peace & quiet on this SD jewel. Please keep it a safe lake for all to enjoy.

Joe Doerges
Spearfish SD
jdoerges@me.com

Comment:

Please keep the no wake zone in place for Deerfield Reservoir.

William Busse
Rapid City SD
william@busseproperties.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a critical habitat for eagle nesting. I am opposed to the new wake proposal.

Josh Daiss
Hill City SD
jcdaiss@gmail.com

Comment:

Please leave the 5-mph (no wake) boating restriction in place. I believe the speed restriction has very little impact on the ability for fisherman to enjoy the lake. This would however have a large impact on the kayakers and canoeists who currently enjoy the peaceful "no wake" aspect of the lake.

Dean Rose
Newcastle WY

Comment:

oppose

Christine Mccart
Spearfish SD
cdmccart@gmail.com

Comment:

Please leave the no wake zone rule in place in Deerfield Reservoir. Reasons: RC water supply (increased sediment in water from bank erosion), there are already lakes that allow motor boats in the Black Hills, fly angler and paddle sport concerns, and the need for quiet recreation - not loud motors.

Marcus Warnke
Rapid City SD
mwar86@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is the best lake for canoeing/kayaking because of it's size and the tranquility with the no-wake restriction. It is perfect the way it is.

Eric Mack
Rapid City SD
erichunter1234567@hotmail.com

Comment:

Leave the lake alone, its peaceful the way it is, there are plenty of other lakes for higher speeds!

Kevin Eilbeck
Rapid City SD
kevin@kevineilbeck.com

Comment:

oppose

Marc Ohms
Custer SD
Marcohms@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please leave the no wake on Deerfield! One of the few places in the hills you can enjoy being on the water without worrying about being ran over or swamped by boats.

Not to mention bank erosion will greatly increase and as well as siltation.

Big boaters are not the only users of our waters!

Brett Johnson
Rapid City SD
Brett_mjohnson@yahoo.com

Comment:

Keep the it a no wake lake, no to the 25mph.

Amy Dirienzo
Rapid City SD
adirienz@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is the only large reservoir in the Hills I can canoe without worrying about being capsized by other boats' wakes. It has been my favorite canoe and fishing location for years because of its peaceful atmosphere thanks to the no wake regulation and 5 mph speed limit. Increasing the speed limit would completely alter the atmosphere and would be a huge loss for recreation in the Hills. Plenty of options are available for jet skis, surf boats, and other wake boats! I strongly oppose the change to the speed limit increase.

Mark Raderschadt
Hill City SD
mraderschadt@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please do not increase the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. Plenty of Motorhead lakes around. leave this one a tranquil place to be.

Chuck Henris
Rapid City SD
c_rphoto@yahoo.com

Comment:

The lake is not that big. The rule should stay the same.

James Muhlbeier
Rapid City Sd SD
jamesmuhlbeier2@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Dennis Landguth
Rapid Coty SD
dlandguth@aol.com

Comment:

oppose

Kris Weinberger
Piedmont SD

Comment:

Leave it the way it is.

Joshua Kusser
Rapid City SD
Joshuakusser@hotmail.com

Comment:

Why not keep one lake pristine and untouched by Recreation Boaters

Jamee Allgier
Rapid City SD
Griffymom@gmail.com

Comment:

Leave one decent lake for those of us who like to enjoy the water without fear of being run over by some drunk partygoer in a ski boat. They have enough lakes to choose from.

Gary Miles
Hartford SD
MilesRüfus@aol.com

Comment:

oppose

Marcia Pischke

Custer SD

snickersam@goldenwest.net

Comment:

25 mph is way too fast and was proposed by Mr. Edel because he feels it takes too long to travel across the lake to a new fishing spot. Perhaps a compromise of 10 mph could be considered. It would be a bit of a decrease in Mr. Edel's travel time while still protecting the enjoyment of other lake users such as canoers, kayakers and bank fishermen.

Carl Mathews

Rapid City SD

Comment:

The lake is a nice size for paddling. Changing the rule would make the lake unsafe for those who use it currently.

Kelly Abraham

Black Hawk SD

fxsbkelly@hotmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Brad Clocksene

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please leave the speed limit at 5mph as it is now. There are plenty other "recreational " lakes for jet skis, wake boats and the like. Removing the speed limit not only will ruin the lake and it's atmosphere, but also the SDGF&P reputation on everything and you know this...

Matthew Seney

Hill City SD

Skeletongelatinstudios@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield lake is one of the few lakes in the hills you can enjoy fishing, kayaking, and camping, with out constant boat motor noise and boat wake. There are plenty of other lakes for that. Keep Deerfield as it is. It's the only lake in the hills I enjoy.

Bryant Reinert
Rapid City SD

Comment:

The people that make the drive, do it for a reason. It's one of the most peaceful places around. Please don't ruin that area like you have Sheridan.

Marcia Finck
Rapid City SD
tmfunck@live.com

Comment:

This is a lake we travel more than an hour to in order to avoid large speeding boats.

Lorna Richey
Spearfish SD
Landmriche@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not replace Deerfield Lake's no-wake restriction. My family has been enjoying this lake for more than 50 years. We enjoy the peace and quiet and no wake fishing. Don't mess with perfection, please.

Mike Richey
Spearfish SD
sdricheys@gmail.com

Comment:

Please do not allow boats with wakes on Deerfield. There are not enough lakes in the hills for peaceful and quiet swimming and fishing. Jet skis, water skiers, and motor boats with tubes are loud and disruptive. Do not replace this restriction!

Jack Edwards
Rapid City SD
jackedwards1@hotmail.com

Comment:

It is not a lake for water skiing, jet boats, or motor boats. Kayaking, float tubes, fishing from shore (both fly fishing and regular) and should be kept for kids, slow moving traffic, canoes, etc. There are four lakes (pactola, Angostura, Sheridan, Orman) for these activities. Deerfield does not fit that description. If a fisherman out of a boat can not take 15 minutes out of his time with a trolling motor for a low wake, then he doesn't need to fish Deerfield. Keep Deerfield the peaceful and quiet area it has been for many years and enjoyed by families and others.

Austen Erickson

Spearfish SD

austenerickson@gmail.com

Comment:

In an ever increasing noise enhanced world, SD has held on to a ruling that becomes more valuable with time. But why change that ruling now? It is in the visitors & locals of the black hills best interest to have Deerfield as a no wake zone as the noise & activity involved would degrade the quality to that of a common MN lake. A lake held in the past is more valuable in the future. Further, it is my opinion the small lake would reach capacity often which could mean 1) degraded quality of each public persons recreation and 2) greater enforcement. I do not believe there is any economic merit to this decision and the desire to navigate this small lake faster is unreasonable.

Rick White

Rapid City SD

jdavis1@rap.midco.net

Comment:

Deerfield is the only place not in Custer Stae Park that you can go in the summer with a kayak, float tube, canoe, or just waders and not have to worry about getting swamped by the wake of a boat.

Charles Rounds

Rapid City SD

cwskrounds@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose changing Deerfield from a no wake lake to allowing a 25 MPH speed. We need a lake that is quiet!

Roger Herman

Custer SD

cann99@yahoo.com

Comment:

I have fished Deerfield Lake for about twenty years. Have taken wife, grandchildren and friends for a day of usually good fishing. Seen eagles and osprey circling. Saw a deer swim across. Have never had the urge to dash from end to end. Have caught fish trolling from one end to the other. We enjoy the lake as it has been and I see no pressing need to up the boat speed.

Brad Humbracht
Hot Springs SD
bah00@hotmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is a peaceful and out of the way place that needs protection. There is already Pactola, Sheridan, Angostura, Orman and many other places that people can speed and tear around in boats. Deerfield provides quiet water for kayaks and canoes to use and recreate without fear of getting ran over by a boat or dealing with their wake. Boats are already allowed, but can only slowly go about. Speeding to a fishing spot isn't needed, slow and steady provides a peaceful place for all. If you need to rush and speed, go to another lake.

Sawyer Corr
Hermosa SD
soysauce876@gmail.com

Comment:

oppose

Wyatt Kammerer
Philip SD
Wyatt_kammerer@yahoo.com

Comment:

oppose

Joe Hawthorne
Hill City SD

Comment:

There are two lakes nearby you can go as fast as you want to leave Deerfield as it is.

Jeremy Stover
Austin MN
jeremyjstover@gmail.com

Comment:

My vote is to not increase the speed of boats on Deerfield Lake!!!

Alfred Vanderwarka
Custer SD

Comment:

People that want to go faster have several other lakes they can use. Leave Deerfield as it is for the rest of us to enjoy.

C Erik Larson
Rapid City SD
ceriklarson@yahoo.com

Comment:

I am against any change to the current rule prohibiting watercraft from operating at wake- creating speeds in excess of 5 mph on Deerfield Reservoir. Allowing such use would fundamentally alter the current use of the lake, creating noise and environmental disruption. There are other nearby locations where powerboat and jet-ski users can find entertainment.

Tom Troxel
Rapid City SD
t_troxel@hills.net

Comment:

The proposed change would adversely affect the character and atmosphere at Deerfield Reservoir. I recommend leaving the speed limit as is.

Michaelle Laird
Hill City SD
mlaird7691@gmail.com

Comment:

I do NOT want the increase of 25 mph. There are kayaks, canoes, small fishing boats that would suffer.

Blane Cuny
Wasta SD
cunybka@aol.com

Comment:

I speak on behalf of our family. We use a small Jon boat to fish this lake. We enjoy this lake for this reason. The rules as they are now are perfect. This allows us to keep an eye on all of the young fishermen we have. This is our family get away for that reason. Thank You.

Kenette Carlson

Lead SD

rkenettecarlson@gmail.com

Comment:

We strongly oppose changing the no wake zone on our beloved Deerfield Lake! Please leave it alone. You will forever ruin the solitude of a majestic place. Leave the speed to Pactola and Sheridan!

Ashley Kurtenbach

Spearfish SD

ashleykurtenbach@hotmail.com

Comment:

There are plenty of lake options in the area for wakes and larger motor boats to use. Why disturb the tranquility that Deerfield Lake has to offer, one of the unique lakes that make the Black Hills area attractive. Additionally, there are a number of deep concerns that need to be addressed. Who is actually going to patrol it, to my knowledge we are short on staff to patrol all the areas that already need to be overseen. Environmental concerns, include large wakes causing bank erosion, just how will you ensure to keep the water clean for those who depend on it for a source of drinking water?

I have yet to hear a good argument as to why raising the speed limit is a good idea.

Please take these concerns for the future of the land and water into consideration, let's not make another problem we have to fix down the road by making a large mistake today.

Jerry Densmore

Rapid City SD

densmorejerry@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is somewhat off the path for water skiers and Jet skies. It is the one reservoir where it is quiet and the only waves are created by nature. It is a nice place to relax without a lot of motorized noise. Please keep things as they are. Sheridan and Pactola have been turned into fast boating playgrounds, leave us one large slow/quiet boating area in the hills.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Densmore

Rapid City SD

densmorejerry@gmail.com

Comment:

Deerfield is somewhat off the path for water skiers and Jet skies. It is the one reservoir where it is quiet and the only waves are created by nature. It is a nice place to relax without a lot of motorized noise. Please keep things as they are. Sheridan and Pactola have been turned into fast boating playgrounds, leave us one large slow/quiet boating area in the hills.

Thank you for your consideration.

Bryan Schnell
Rapid City SD
pir@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I am in opposition to changing the no wake policy at Deerfield Lake. As an 50 year+ Black Hills active hunter, fisherman & outdoor rec enthusiast I believe there are enough other options on other BH water bodies for watercraft to be driven and create wakes upon. Please protect the solitude and serenity of this important and unique Hills treasure. Thank you.

David Carpenter
Rapid City SD
dak.carpenter@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose lifting the no wake restriction on Deerfield Reservoir. The abundance of loud marine engines and loud music systems ruins the outdoor experience at all the other major lakes in the Black Hills area. Let's keep it peaceful at Deerfield.

Phil Kahnke
Salem SD
Pkahnke@yahoo.com

Comment:

I sure hope this isn't get actual consideration. We have thousands of lakes that are open to regular boating and then there's Deerfield Lake that is beautiful and quiet and someone wants to ruin that. I can't understand the reasoning behind it...besides laziness and the fact that some fisherman can't spend an extra few minutes to get across the lake.

Whitney Driscoll
Spearfish SD
wdriscoll@me.com

Comment:

I am strongly opposed to changing the speed limit on Deerfield to 25mph and believe it should be left at 5mph. The petition put forth says an increased speed limit will "allow the public to better utilize this resource". Changing the speed limit has nothing to do with the number of people using the lake only how they will use the lake. I am familiar with "surf boats" and they only need to travel at a speed of 8-10 mph to create a large enough wave to surf on. It would be detrimental to the shoreline, fisheries and overall quiet experience of a mountain lake to allow such activities. There are plenty of other opportunities for this type of activity in the Black Hills. I have fished with an 18' boat on Deerfield and there is absolutely no reason to increase the speed limit other than to get someplace faster or partake in other water sports. This lake has been managed for fisheries and quiet enjoyment for years and should remain as such.

Steve Hirtzel
Rapid City SD

Comment:

The Black Hills National Forest opposes the public petition to remove the no wake zone restriction on Deerfield Reservoir and increase the motorized watercraft speed limit to 25 miles per hour.

Historically, federal management on Deerfield Reservoir has always emphasized providing a unique opportunity for recreationists seeking a non-motorized experience rather than higher-speed motorized watercraft use that is available on other larger reservoirs, such as Pactola or Sheridan. Deerfield Dam and Reservoir are part of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR) Rapid Valley Project. As such, the water rights (US509-2) to Deerfield Reservoir are held by the USBR. The Black Hills National Forest manages the National Forest System lands, including the recreation facilities, around the lake.

Interagency management of Deerfield Reservoir between the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the USBR is described via Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The initial 1948 MOU between the parties' outlines general Agency roles, including "the Bureau . . . has primary jurisdiction over the water surfaces of the reservoirs . . .". This MOU also provides the first mention of watercraft restriction under article 5.d.:

"No boats longer than 16 feet or boat motors greater than 5 horsepower will be permitted on Deerfield Reservoir".

This initial restriction was likely in response to the heavy use when the lake was first opened to fishing in May 1948. The USBR's 1948 Annual Project History Report states "Boats with large motors were used on the reservoir and became a menace to the smaller boats."

The still valid 1964 Deerfield Reservoir MOU, which superseded the 1948 MOU, has an updated section under Article 5 that reads:

5. The following specific regulations shall be adopted by the [Forest] Service.

a. "Motor boats on the reservoir shall be limited to and not exceed a no-wake boat speed which is defined as normal docking or trolling speed".

We are aware that South Dakota Administrative Rule 41:04:02:51 designates all waters of Deerfield Reservoir as a "no wake zone". It is our understanding that this rule was put in place to assist the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks (SDGFP or Department) with law enforcement regarding watercraft speed on the reservoir, given the limited staffing and availability of Forest Service law enforcement personnel.

This no wake restriction helped with law enforcement, but it also kept the recreation use much more manageable and significantly reduced user conflicts. Deerfield Reservoir is a long, narrow waterbody which has the potential to increase the negative interaction between boaters going 25 mph with those creating no wake, such as kayakers or canoeists. This was the justification for the original 1948 MOU between USFS and USBR. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this proposed change for Deerfield Reservoir and we recommend that the current no-wake restrictions remain in place for the reasons mentioned above. Please feel free to contact me at (605) 673-9203 if you have questions or need additional information.

Bryan Schnell
Rapid City SD
pir@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I am in opposition to changing the no wake policy at Deerfield Lake. As an 50 year+ Black Hills active hunter, fisherman & outdoor rec enthusiast I believe there are enough other options on other BH water bodies for watercraft to be driven and create wakes upon. Please protect the solitude and serenity of this important and unique Hills treasure. Thank you.

Robert Donaldson

Sturgis SD

Stretch@rushmore.com

Comment:

I have been enjoying the lake for almost 70 years. (I am 73). The last 20 years or so I even just use an electric motor early morning so as to not disturb the tranquility. The no-wake rule has worked for most of us so please leave it.

Beatrice Begley

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake a quiet peaceful lake. It does not need the noise & stench the higher wake would cause. It is bad enough we have to listen to the roar of 4 wheelers about everywhere.

Jan Rippel

Rapid City SD

Comment:

I'm writing to let you know I would like the no wake rule to remain in effect for Deerfield Lake in the Black Hills. My husband and I have canoed on the three large lakes in the Black Hills. We are always careful when going across Sheridan or Pactola, but we feel safe when at Deerfield. Once, several years ago, we were canoeing at Pactola, and we were staying close to the shoreline because of power boats. We were headed to the west end of the lake and had gone past a slow speed buoy. As we get to the far end of that area a power boat came speeding by and then turned and roared away. On the way out of the slow speed area we saw the buoy had been blasted to pieces by that boat. A no wake rule give a sense of security.

Cameron Miller

Hermosa SD

Comment:

In regards to removing the no wake zone on Deerfield Lake I strongly oppose this. Every other large lake in the Hills currently have speed boats & jet skies on them. This is the only large lake that is peaceful & serene because of the no wake zone. So many people enjoy the lake with canoes, kayaks & paddle boards. Sportsman without the "need for speed" also deserve a place to quietly & calmly enjoy the outdoors as much as the other type do & they have "their lakes Angustora, Sheridan,& Pactola" Please leave us one lake, leave it alone.

Laurie Miller
Hermosa SD

Comment:

I am writing in regards to removing the no-wake restriction on Deerfield Lake. Currently Angustora, Pactola & Sheridan Lakes don't have no wake zones & very rarely do we use those lakes because of the speed boats that consistently fly by our fishing boat while we are trying to relax and fish. The constant rocking of our boat, from their waves diminishing our experience, so we prefer Deerfield Lake, the only lake in the Hills that people like us can enjoy. We see other young people on paddle boards canoes & kayaks enjoying the serenity of the lake. I do not understand how one impatient angler can change the only tranquil lake we have. He has other choices of "fast fishing" if this is removed we won't have any. This doesn't seem fair to me. Please don't remove the no wake zone.

Lynn Taylor Rick
Rapid City SD
ltaylorrick@midco.net

Comment:

Please leave the NO WAKE zone rule in place. This lake is the only in the Black Hills where you can take your canoe and/or kayak and enjoy a safe and quiet paddle without fear of being struck by a boat.

George Larson
Rapid City SD
glarson2@gmail.com

Comment:

I want to be able to have Deerfield remain a safe place for self-powered boats (kayaks etc). The erosion and safety concerns of waked recreation boats outweigh the need for speedy transit of the lake for fishing or recreation.
Keep Deerfield wake free .

Jason Sanderson
Rapid City SD
jtsander@gmail.com

Comment:

We would prefer to keep Deerfield a no-wake lake as it's one of the few in the area that offers these opportunities for kayaking, canoeing, etc.

Sheri Ketelsen

Rapid City SD

angelsk@rushmore.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake is a very special place to go. It promotes serenity and peace. It is somewhere you can go just to get away from all of the hustle and bustle and noise of the world around us. Please maintain the no wake restriction.

Cheryl Bridwell

Hill City SD

cheryl.culver@yahoo.com

Comment:

We live 1 mile from Deerfield Lake, and we love the quietness, solitude, and no wake law this beautiful lake provides. There are plenty of other lakes that provide people with no wake options. There are nesting eagles and many other wildlife, that live on or near the lake. I do not want theirs, or our, enjoyment of this peaceful, quiet spot to become just one of many. It's a very special place, and thats how it should remain.

Michael Bridwell

Hill City SD

bridwelltransport@yahoo.com

Comment:

We live 1 mile from Deerfield Lake, and we love the quietness, solitude, and no wake law this beautiful lake provides. There are plenty of other lakes that provide people with no wake options. There are nesting eagles and many other wildlife, that live on or near the lake. I do not want theirs, or our, enjoyment of this peaceful, quiet spot to become just one of many. It's a very special place, and thats how it should remain.

Kelly Vorachek

Rapid City SD

k.vorachek@yahoo.com

Comment:

I float and kayak fish on Deerfield Lake and would pretty much be out of luck if the law were to change. There are plenty of other lakes for fast boating, not many for my type of recreation. Please, do not allow this change. Thank you for considering my opinion.

Matt Larson
Hill City SD
kix4six@aol.com

Comment:

I'm opposed to removing the no wake zone from Deerfield lake. Deerfield lake is my family's favorite spot to enjoy the black hills, and escape the busy tourist season. I don't understand wanting to rush fishing. To my, that is the opposite of why I go to Deerfield.

Renee Mckinley
Rapid City SD
reneemckinley@juno.com

Comment:

As a camper and kayakers, I appreciate a lake with no wake! Deerfield offers an opportunity for the disabled, like myself, and children to kayak without fear of being capsized by a passing motor boat. Deerfield is a small lake which is easily crossed paddling a kayak in a matter of 15 or 20 minutes. There is no need for an increase in the speed limit for boats.

Gary Witt
Lead SD
gswitt@vastbb.net

Comment:

this is one of very few lakes that have a no wake restriction. there are plenty of other lakes to use. Please keep this restriction. this lake is used by many for peaceful purposes.

Stephen Bailey
Rapid City SD
Spbailey22@gmail.com

Comment:

There are precious few places to escape the noise makers that have seriously degraded the Black Hills. It would be another blow to those of us who seek solitude and renewal at Deerfield. I am a SD native recent for 37 years.

Brenda Hofer
Rapid City SD
beachlhofer@yahoo.com

Comment:

Please leave some lakes in the Hills where a person can simply sit and enjoy quiet and nature. Some of us like simpler recreation, let us have a place too.

Chris Brandriet

Sioux Falls SD

chris.brandriet@gmail.com

Comment:

This location is a hidden gem for people wanting to get away from the speed and recklessness of other lakes. Please leave Deerfield the way it is.

Marg Battista

Black Hawk SD

margaret.a.battista@gmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Mary Garrigan

Rapid City SD

marygarrigan@rushmore.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake free of speedboats and other watercraft that create a wake. It is beautiful for kayaks and kids

Kevin Stumpff

Sterling CO

Comment:

It's quiet for now. If this goes through it will not be quiet at all. Where are you to go with out the noise?

Bryan Nelson

Rapid City SD

bryan6772@gmail.com

Comment:

Oppose

Lisa Haslip
Sturgis SD
haslip@spe.midco.net

Comment:

Please keep Deer Field Lake the way it is. We enjoy going to this lake of quiet solitude. I enjoy boats and jet skis look like fun, but somewhere else. We all need to leave quiet lakes alone. We camp here and love to fish from shore.

Linda Cartwright
Hill City SD
lkcartwright@comcast.net

Comment:

I spend my summers at Deerfield Lake and thoroughly enjoy the quiet and peaceful surroundings that Deerfield Lake offers. The lake provides great fishing, canoeing and bird watching. Increasing the speed on the lake will detract from the peacefulness of Deerfield Lake. There are other lakes that anglers can access with the larger boats. Leave Deerfield Lake alone. Thanks

Mike Sliper
Rapid City SD

Comment:

Leave Deerfield NO wake.

Mike Schortzmann
Rapid City SD
mjsdas@rap.midco.net

Comment:

This is regarding the request to remove the no wake law on Deerfield Lake. Changing it would ruin the peace, quiet, solitude, and tranquil experience there. I am an avid fisherman and have never heard any other fisherman, myself included, complain about the 5 MPH limit on Deerfield Lake. Please keep it at 5 MPH.

Steven Thimas
Deadwood SD
miksteve@outlook.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Shanda Channer

Hill City SD

Shandachanner@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Michele Thomas

Deadwood SD

miksteve@outlook.com

Comment:

Please keep Deerfield Lake AS IS — a no wake area!

Marcia Diagostine

Hill City SD

mdiagostine@gmail.com

Comment:

I kayak a couple of days a week in the central black hills & truly appreciate Deerfield Lake as a no wake lake. I live close to Sheridan, but do not visit it much due to the fast boats & my safety. When I take friends to kayak, they are timid & afraid if we are on a lake with motorized boats. This occurs at Jenny Gulch, quite frequently, even though they go at a slower pace. It is still not as nice as Deerfield Lake without the boats.

Rodger Dooley

Sioux Falls SD

RodgerDooley@hotmail.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Scott Diagostine

Hill City SD

sadiagostine@gmail.com

Comment:

Very much enjoy the quiet, peaceful atmosphere at Deerfield Lake now. If it is not broken, don't fix it, please.

Amy White
Rapid City SD
Sdsightseer@gmail.com

Comment:

I oppose increasing the speed of water craft on Deerfield Reservoir to 25 mph. Please do not increase the speed limit. Keep Deerfield peaceful.
Thank-you

Elizabeth Kleffner
Custer SD
lizkleff@goldenwest.net

Comment:

Please DO NOT change the no-wake rule at Deerfield Lake. As one who enjoys shore fishing, Deerfield is a very special, peaceful place that needs to stay as it is.

Geoffrey Sheehy
Rapid City SD
Geoffrey.Sheehy@gmail.com

Comment:

My family camps every summer in the Deerfield Lake area. Our favorite spot is Ditch Creek, and my wife has been camping at Ditch Creek for 40 years. But I would never want to camp at Sheridan Lake. What is the difference? Distance from Rapid City is part of it, but a bigger part is the partying lake crowd doesn't come to Deerfield Lake. The campers at Ditch Creek, White Tail, and Dutchman are quieter crowds—people looking to get further out and in quieter places. If the speed limit at Deerfield Lake is changed, it won't only change the mood of the lake itself, it is likely to change the mood of the entire area around it. The ATV traffic in the area has already changed the area significantly, but to draw the partying/boating crowd will seriously alter the vibe in that part of the Hills, leaving very few options for those of us who cherish quiet in the forest.

Dave Vaughn
Rapid City SD
dvaughn@hughes.net

Comment:

I enjoy a quiet paddle in my canoe without having to compete with the power boats common to other area lakes. I support keeping the no wake limit on Deerfield.

Kay Knudson
Lexington NE
frkay@q.com

Comment:

My family camped and fished at Deerfield. The environment is quiet and peaceful without boats racing around.

Justin Whitehead

Mitchell SD

jstnwhitehead@yahoo.com

Comment:

No comment text provided.

Barry Houdyshell

Rapid City SD

bhoud3@gmail.com

Comment:

I have been fishing on Deerfield Lake for over 50 years. It is the perfect place to go and get away from the daily grind. Quite and peaceful as it should be. We don't need another lake with speeding boats and jet skies.

Ken Wesche

Rapid City SD

hockeynut@rap.midco.net

Comment:

I strongly oppose allowing high speed boat traffic on Deerfield Reservoir. Deerfield is the last sizable piece of water left in the Black Hills that has not been taken over by the speed-and-party crowd, and they have plenty of other places to party. Keep Deerfield Reservoir pristine and wake-free.

Kelly Kistner

Mccook Lake SD

iwlasdpresident@outlook.com

Comment:

May 31, 2019

South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission
523 East Capital Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Commissioners,

The South Dakota Division of the Izaak Walton League of America (Division) appreciates this opportunity to comment on the proposal to change speed restrictions on Deerfield Reservoir.

The proposal would establish a 25 mile per hour maximum speed restriction for watercraft operating on Deerfield Reservoir in Pennington County in place of the current "no wake zone".

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The Division urges the Commission to reject this proposal.

Many people enjoy camping and fishing at Deerfield because of the peace and quiet the current no wake zone provides. Deerfield, at only 435 surface acres, is a very small reservoir. With that limited size the Division believes there is simply no reason to make this change.

Many other waters in the area and across the state are available for people that want to recreate in other ways. We believe having some waters, including Deerfield, that still offer a peaceful, quiet and tranquil environment is needed today more than ever.

With that we respectfully ask you to please reject this proposal and keep the no wake zone in place on Deerfield Reservoir.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly Kistner
National President and President of the South Dakota Division
Izaak Walton League of America
603 Lakeshore Drive
McCook Lake, SD 57049
605-232-2030 – 712-490-1726
iwlasdpresident@outlook.com

Maurice Hurd

Pierre SD

Comment:

Growing up in the Black Hills I spent many a day fishing from a boat with my Dad. We used a 3.6HP which was more than adequate. Keep no wake. 5 M. P. H. Deerfield lake is a wonder place. Please do not ruin it.

Dale Peters

Lead SD

Comment:

We are writing in response to the proposed change to Deerfield Lake. As life-long residents of South Dakota, we feel the no-wake status should remain unchanged. Fishing boats are not equipped with a speedometer. How would a fisherman know when he is going "25 m.p.h."? No wake is obvious to those monitoring and checking for rule breakers. The 25 m.p.h. speed increase is not necessary. If it "takes too long" to get to a favorite fishing spot, that fisherman should allow more time or take his boat to Pactola Lake or Sheridan Lake. We feel that shore fisherman, those in float tubes, those in canoes and row boats will be adversely affected if the speed limit is increased. We also feel it will be a danger to those who fish in chest waders. Deerfield has always been a lake that offers a peaceful, calm experience for those who wish to avoid those requiring more speed. Let's not destroy that!

Logan Schaeffer

Hermosa SD

Comment:

I'm writing this to oppose changing the no wake zone at Deerfield Lake. Currently Deerfield Lake is the only large lake that can be enjoyed by the "slower" angler. Families with small children often do not have the resources or perhaps the desire for speed boats & just want to enjoy the peacefulness of Deerfield on paddle boats, canoes or shore fishing. Let us have one lake in the Hills where people can slow down & enjoy the beautiful atmosphere.

Jo Nelson

Rapid City SD

Comment:

Quiet afternoons sitting on the shore fishing with my dad - we didn't have a boat, but we enjoyed the time we spent together watching bobbers bobble on the surface of the lake. I strongly oppose increasing the speed limit for boats on Deerfield Lake and support keeping the current no-wake restriction in place. Deerfield is a lake where you can watch families fishing from shore and they don't have to worry about being knocked about by the wake of a boat speeding by. Deerfield is a place you can go for a hike, paddle a canoe or kayak, picnic, or go swimming and not be disturbed by the sound of loud outboard engines racing by. Deerfield is one of the only lakes where you can paddle a canoe or kayak and not have to worry about being bashed about by the wake of a power boat or worry about capsizing. Deerfield is a place where children can learn to enjoy the quiet of nature and discover that motors are not necessary to get from one place to another. It is pleasant to sit on a hillside overlooking the lake and watch fishermen slowly move across the water. Deerfield is a place where kids can hunt for frogs or chase dragonflies. Deerfield is a unique lake in a magical setting that should be maintained by present and future generations. As we know too well, if you are driving your car through a neighborhood with a 25 mph speed limit, most drivers are actually going 35 to 40 mph. If the speed limit on Deerfield is increased to 25 mph, the same will happen. Law enforcement personnel will be needed to patrol the lake and enforce the speed limit, which is an expense we do not incur at this time. Unfortunately, when the speed of boats goes up, so does the consumption of alcohol. We have had several tragic accidents on other lakes in the Black Hills that have involved alcohol and speed, resulting in death or life altering injuries. On Deerfield, with a 5 mph speed limit, we do not have those types of issues. Because Deerfield Lake is located in the Black Hills and the people who use Deerfield and who might be most affected by the proposed change also live in the Black Hills, it would have been nice if the public hearing could have been held in Rapid City rather than Pierre so there could have been more opportunity for public participation and comments.

Bruce Uhrig
Rapid City SD

Comment:

Please, do not change the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. I grew up in Lead, SD, I have many memories of going to Deerfield Lake during my grade school and high school years. Later moving to Rapid City in the mid 1970's and still to this day, 55 years later, go to Deerfield Lake. My daughter lives 1.5 miles from Pactola Lake, but in the summer, we still pack up and go to Deerfield Lake to get away from all the hustle and bustle of speed boats, jet skis and other fast-moving watercraft. If someone complains just because it takes 25 minutes to boat to their favorite fishing spot, just slow down and enjoy the 25 minute ride. Trolling to the spot would most likely lead to catching fish before getting to the "favorite spot". Deerfield is, and has always been one of those special places where a person can get away from the all hustle and bustle of daily living and working, and really relax for a change.

Gary Seidel
Lead SD

Comment:

We want to comment on the proposal to raise the speed limit on Deerfield Lake. We are both life-long residents of the Black Hills and are now retired. We really enjoy fishing as a relaxing hobby. We go to Deerfield lake because of the no wake policy. We have a small pontoon boat and it is so nice to Deerfield with no waves constantly rocking the boat. The shoreline on the lake is nice now but will soon erode with waves. There are plenty of lakes in the Hills to go to if you need to go fast! Please do not raise the speed limit on Deerfield Lake.

Beth McIntyre
Hill City SD

Comment:

I'm writing in response to the Deerfield Lake petition for rule change which proposes an increase in boat speed for 5 to 25 mph. I oppose this change. Deerfield lake's current no-wake restrictions allows a calm body of water for different water activities; fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, floating on air mattresses, etc. Speed in getting from one fishing location to another is not mandatory and therefore allows all participants to enjoy the lake. The maximum distance from the east end of the lake to the west end is 2.3 miles and the average width of the lake is .25 miles. Therefore, it requires less than 30 minutes to go anywhere on the lake at 5 mph. It is getting harder and harder to enjoy the serenity of the Black Hills. Whether hiking, biking or kayaking in the hills, it seems the noise pollution from ATV's, dirt motorbikes, motorboats, jet skis and other motorized vehicles increases yearly on forest roads, lakes and even Centennial Trail. (The damage caused to our forest roads and trails will be around for generations and the cost to the taxpayers is far greater than the tax revenue generated from these permits). It's extremely difficult to enjoy kayaking on Pactola or Sheridan lake where the speed boats and jet skis with the consequential wakes and traffic make for dangerous kayaking. Keeping the lakes at different speed restrictions is a good compromise for all users. Please keep Deerfield lake at 5 mph speed restriction is a good compromise for all users. Please keep Deerfield lake at 5 mph speed restriction. It is the best utilization of this resource by allowing all users the right to a serene water activity in the Black Hills. Thank you.

Kathy Kling
St. Onge SD
kakling@vastbb.net

Comment:

I have many concerns regarding a 25 mph speed limit vs. the current "no wake zone" at Deerfield Reservoir. My concerns include the GF&P cost to manage the definite increase in boaters (particularly those towing water skiers); the safety issues regarding higher speeds (more deadly accidents); the effect on water quality (more fuel and trash in the water); the disturbance of fish by high noise and increased water surface activity; the boat noise effect on people and wildlife in the surrounding areas; and, perhaps mostly, the disturbance of calm water now cherished by kayak, canoe, float tube and low speed boat anglers, passive watercraft users, and shore swimmers.

I hope that you will thoughtfully consider each of these concerns, and that the result will be your opposition and rejection of this petition.

Thank you.

Kathy Kling
Concerned Citizen
Local Property Owner (Family has owned property on Ditch Creek Road since the late 1940s)

Dowell Caselli-Smith
Rapid City SD
dowell1007@gmail.com

Comment:

My wife and I often enjoy kayaking at Deerfield lake. We see lots of fishermen as it is. The change would basically ruin our fun to save a few fishermen a few minutes. We definitely think the change would be very wrong.

Nicole Kruske
Lead SD
nickruske@gmail.com

Comment:

I love fishing that lake, I prefer it over the other lakes in the area because you don't have the wakes there that you do at Pactola or Sheridan.

Karen Leichtnam
Silver Spring MD
kleicht@verizon.net

Comment:

No comment text provided.

James W Speirs

Rapid City SD

jameswspeirs@icloud.com

Comment:

Deerfield Lake wake restriction should remain. A quiet lake is needed for quiet activities such as fishing and canoeing. I oppose changing the current no wake regulation.

Thomas Tyson

Rapid City SD

thomastyson@lycos.com

Comment:

I am 72 years old and was transferred to Ellsworth AFB SD in 1977 and have lived in Rapid City since then except between 1984 and 1991. I have been a hunter and fisherman all my life. I fish Deerfield Lake all year long. I have used a small 12 foot boat and a 14 foot kayak. For me, the ambience and safety of the no wake policy at Deerfield is as important as the fishing. Over the past 4 years, the number of people using canoes, kayaks and stand-up-paddle boards has been increasing and I believe that this is because of the no wake policy. It is not as enjoyable and safe with larger faster watercraft causing the wake and noise. Pactola and Sheridan are available for those uses and it is less enjoyable for the smaller watercraft when sharing those lakes. The small watercraft users are not the only ones who benefit from the no wake rule. The people on the shore and picnic area and the wildlife would loose the quiet if the rule changes to 25 mph. The wildlife may be adversely affected and not use the area. During the ice fishing season, motor craft do use the lake and although they do not make waves the noise does detract from the outdoor experience of the ice fishermen that venture out on foot. I strongly feel that this change will adversely affect the experience of the locals and the tourist.

We have rules on motorized land vehicles on public lands but they are not adequately enforced. How well would this 25 mph rule be enforced?

Susan Johnson

Nemo SD

susanj@blackhillsvacations.com

Comment:

We do not need the noise. We have plenty of boating at Pactola, Sheridan, Angostura, Rocky Point and the Mighty Mo. Please leave this pristine lake alone.

Katherine Kinsman

Rapid City SD

kkinsman@aol.com

Comment:

There are plenty of motorized bodies of water in the Black Hills. Deerfield Lake should remain a place for non motorized recreation.