

Lake Lure Marine Commission



Lake Use Regulations

Amended June 9, 2020

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

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LAKE USE REGULATIONS

SECTION 1: INTENT AND DEFINITIONS

§ 1.01 INTENT

All land covered by the waters of Lake Lure at full pond is owned by the Town of Lake Lure. Said lake is held in trust by the Town of Lake Lure for the benefit of the citizens of the Town. The Lake Lure Town Council created the Lake Lure Marine Commission as authorized by special act of the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina for the purposes of regulating all activities on Lake Lure. The Lake Use Regulations were first adopted by Resolution on March 9, 2004 to govern use of the Lake for the purpose of enhancing the health, safety, and general welfare of the citizens. **Adopted 6-13-17**

§ 1.02 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of these regulations, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning:

“BOAT.” For the purpose of these regulations, the term “boat” shall mean any form of water vessel. **Amended 11-9-04**

“COMMERCIAL CRAFT.” Water vessels used in connection with any type of business, trade or commerce, for profit or non-profit, including but not limited to: boat rentals, marinas, real estate agents, resorts, inns, lodging establishments, camps, ski schools, fishing guides, tour boats, contractors, boat repair companies or house rentals (that are required to pay occupancy tax) with boats, real estate development companies or property owner’s associations. **Amended 11-9-04, 4-8-08, 6-13-17**

“COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS.” Any use of the lake in a manner that will generate direct or indirect revenue or by an entity that operates for profit or not-for-profit (excluding governmentally established entities) **Amended 4-08-08.** This is further quantified into eight classifications:

- (1) Liveries – Boating operations that provide watercraft for rent and may be associated with marinas or other establishments that provide boats to individuals to operate for short periods of time. **Amended 2-13-07, 10-8-19**
- (2) Resorts - Boating operations available to patrons at resorts, inns, or lodging establishments. **Amended 3-13-2018**
- (3) Camps - Boating operations at camp facilities. **Amended 3-13-2018**
- (4) Ski Schools - All commercial operations providing water sports activities, not associated with a specific camp, resort, inn or lodging facility. **Amended 3-13-2018**
- (5) Tour Boats - Boating operations that are used to provide piloted tours of the lake. Boats in this class require a concession agreement with the Town regardless of the number permitted. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (6) Fishing Guides - Boating operations that are not associated with a specific camp, resort, inn or lodging facility and are used to provide a piloted fishing excursion.
- (7) Services - Boating operations utilized by building contractors and boat repair companies. **Amended 6-13-17**

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(8) Vacation Rentals - Boating operations available to individuals renting a residential vacation rental during their stay. **Adopted 10-8-19. Amended 1-14-20**

“COMMERCIAL OPERATORS.” All boat operators who pilot boats for commercial classifications 2-7, inclusive. **Amended 11-9-04**

“DEVELOPED LOT.” A developed lot shall be a lot whereon a residence or business building is constructed. (Res. Passed 4-11-06)

“LAKE, also LAKE LURE” The body of water known as Lake Lure formed by the creation of the dam at Tumbling Shoals over the Broad River in Rutherford County, NC and including that portion of the Broad River above the lake extending below the elevation of 992 feet above mean sea level. **Amended 11-9-04, 6-13-17**

“LAKE COMMERCIAL LICENSE.” A license issued annually by the Marine Commission for commercial operations on the waters of Lake Lure. **Amended 11-9-04, 6-13-17**

“LAUNCHING.” Any method of placing a water vessel onto the lake from the land above the shoreline. This does not include launching of water vessels from lake structures. **Amended 11-9-04**

“LAUNCH SITE.” Any location on the land adjacent to the shoreline of Lake Lure that may be used for launching water vessel(s), provided that this term does not include lake structures as defined in the Lake Structures Regulations. **Amended 11-9-04, 6-13-17**

“LAUNCH SITE, PRIVATE.” A launch site available for use by one single-use family dwelling for launching only boats permitted in that family’s name. **Amended 11-9-04**

“LAUNCH SITE, GENERAL.” Any launch site other than a private launch site. **Amended 11-9-04**

“MARINE COMMISSION.” The Lake Lure Marine Commission as established by Ordinance 03-09-09. **Amended 11-9-04**

“NON-PEAK SEASON.” The period of each year starting on the Tuesday after Labor Day through the Thursday before Memorial Day. **Amended 11-9-04**

“NON-RESIDENT.” Any person not owning real property within the corporate limits of the town or any person who resides outside the corporate limits of the town for more than 50% of the calendar year.

“NO-WAKE.” Idle speed or a slow speed creating no appreciable wake (producing white water off the bow). **Amended 6-13-17**

“PEAK SEASON.” The period of each year starting on the Friday before Memorial Day through Monday, Labor Day. **Amended 11-9-04**

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“PERMIT.” A display permit issued by the Marine Commission to operate a boat on Lake Lure for recreational, fishing and/or commercial purposes.

“PERMIT LIMIT.” The maximum number of permits which will be issued for a specific permit classification. **Amended 11-9-04**

“PERSONAL WATERCRAFT” (ALSO KNOWN AS PWC OR SKICRAFT). An inboard powered craft using a water-jet pump as the primary source of propulsion and operated by a person sitting, standing or kneeling on the craft rather than in the conventional manner of boat operation.

“PROPERTY OWNERS.” This term shall be deemed to include corporations, joint property owners (i.e. a person listed on the deed of record as an owner of the real property), and “time share” owners.

“PUBLIC BATHING BEACH.” A public access to the waters of Lake Lure where swimming is allowed. **Adopted 6-13-17**

“RESIDENT.” Any person owning real property within the corporate limits of the town or any person who resides within the corporate limits of the town for more than 50% of the calendar year.

“RESIDENTIAL VACATION RENTAL.” The renting of a single-family dwelling, duplex, or any portion thereof, for occupancy, dwelling, lodging or sleeping purposes. Said term shall include a motorized pontoon or tritoon boat and/or non-motorized watercraft(s) which shall also be rented for the same duration of time as the dwelling, and registered in the property owner’s name. **Adopted 10-8-19**

“VACATION RENTAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY.” A business that is the responsible party as designated by the owner to act for and on behalf of the owner in managing the property, that provides motorized and/or non-motorized watercraft(s) that are registered with the business. **Adopted 10-8-19**

“WATER SPORTS.” Water skiing, knee boarding, wake boarding, tubing, and other similar activities which involve being towed behind a boat.

“WATER VESSEL(S).” Every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on the water. Said term shall include, but shall not necessarily be limited to pontoon boats, fishing boats, house boats, ski boats, pleasure boats, personal watercraft, row boats, kayaks, stand up paddleboards, sail boats, hydro-bikes, paddle boats or canoes. **(Adopted 3-9-04, Amended 6-13-17)**

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SECTION 2: FISHING

§ 2.01 LICENSE REQUIRED.

All required persons shall secure a license from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission in accordance with NC General Statutes before fishing in the waters of Lake Lure. (Authority: G. S. § 113-270.1B)
(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01. **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 2.02 LIMITS ON NUMBERS AND SIZE OF FISH CAUGHT.

The maximum number and minimum size of trout, bass and crappie that may be taken from Lake Lure is as follows:

The creel limits and size restrictions for all fish, including trout, bass and crappie, shall be the equivalent to current state restrictions. See the North Carolina state wildlife regulations for restriction details.

Lake Lure is classified by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission as “Undesignated Waters”. For mountain trout, there is no size limit or bait restriction.

For mountain trout, there is no size limit or bait restriction. There is no closed season and no trout fishing license is required. The daily creel limit for trout is 7 fish.

(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 4-11-06, 10-14-08, 04-08-14, 6-13-17**

§ 2.03 STATIONARY FISHING DEVICES.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to place basket trot lines or other stationary or unmarked devices, other than poles and those items normally used by sport fishermen, for the catching of fish in the waters of Lake Lure.
(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01

§ 2.04 TRESPASSING ON BOATS, BOAT HOUSES OR DOCKS.

It shall be unlawful for any person, firm, or corporation to fish or go in or upon any boat, boat house, pier, or dock belonging to another or so near thereto as to interfere with the owner’s possession of the same without permission of the owners thereof.
(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 6-13-17**

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SECTION 3: BATHING

§ 3.01 ENTERING THE WATERS OF LAKE LURE WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF AN IMPAIRING SUBSTANCE.

No person shall enter the waters of Lake Lure for any purpose while under the influence of an impairing substance.

(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 3.02 SWIMMING OFFSHORE.

It shall be unlawful to swim in Lake Lure off the shore of any town-owned property except permitted beaches. No person shall swim farther than 50 feet from the shoreline of Lake Lure unless accompanied by an observer in a boat, unless it is a marked-off area permitted by Marine Commission regulations.

(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 3.03 JUMPING FROM ROADWAYS OR BRIDGES.

It is unlawful to dive, jump or swim into the waters of Lake Lure from any road or road right of way, bridge or the area adjacent to any bridge within the town limits.

(Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 6-13-17**

SECTION 4: BOATING

§ 4.01 PERMIT FEE; BOATING PERMIT REQUIRED.

- (A) Except as hereinafter provided, all persons, firms, or corporations shall secure a permit from the Marine Commission or its designated agents before placing, operating, or allowing any water vessel to be placed or operated on Lake Lure.
- (B) All commercial operations must apply for a lake commercial license in accordance with section 4.08 and 4.09 of these regulations. **Amended 4-11-06, 6-13-17**
- (C) All town employees and any member on the active roster of the Lake Lure, Bill's Creek, Chimney Rock, or Fairfield Volunteer Fire Departments shall be entitled to receive one complimentary annual water vessel permit. A member on the active roster of the Bat Cave, Gerton or Sunny View Volunteer Fire Departments may purchase one annual water vessel permit at the resident rate. A member on the active roster of the Hickory Nut Gorge Emergency Medical Service shall be entitled to one complimentary annual water vessel permit. Only one boat permit allowed per household. **Amended 7-12-11, 6-13-17, 10-8-19**
- (D) Retired employees from the Town of Lake Lure that served 10 years and/or is a Town of Lake Lure retired police officer that served at least a total number of years equaling 10 or more by either full-term service alone or additional service as a Reserve Officer, with each four years equaling one full-time year of service. Only one boat permit allowed per household. **Adopted 10-8-19**

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- (E) (1) Federal, State and Local governmental agencies are exempt from this Section provided they are operating in an official capacity, including but not limited to training, research, data collection, emergency response, or other service related duties. Complimentary permits will be provided for the dates and times needed to perform their official duties, and will only require a valid registration. Vessel length restrictions shall not be imposed. Vessels permitted under this policy shall not be used for recreational activities. **Adopted 12-13-16**
- (2) Contractors that are providing a lake-related service to the Town of Lake Lure under a Town sponsored project, without a boat permit will receive a complimentary boat permit. Permits granted under this section are only valid for the duration of the project. Valid registration and insurance will be required. Vessel length restrictions shall not be imposed. Vessels permitted under this policy shall not be used for recreational activities. **Adopted 12-13-16**
- (3) Contractors that are providing a lake-related construction service for a property owner on Lake Lure that has specialized equipment generally prohibited by the Lake Use Regulations, may apply for a prorated commercial temporary boat permit for a specific job they are contracted for. Permits granted under this section are only valid for the duration of the project and are subject to a commercial license application fee. Valid boat registration and commercial boat insurance will be required in accordance with section 4.07(C) of these regulations. Vessel length restrictions shall not be imposed. Vessels permitted under this policy shall not be used for recreational activities or any other use than approved for. Approval of a commercial temporary boat permit will be at the discretion of the Parks, Recreation & Lake Director or the Town Manager. **Adopted 3-12-19**
- (F) All water vessel permit fees shall be assessed according to a schedule of permit fees adopted annually by the Marine Commission. **Amended 4-11-06, 6-13-17**
- (G) (1) Water vessel permit fees for “non-residents” may be set at a greater amount than water vessel permit fees for residents. **Amended 4-11-06**
- (2) Corporations owning real property in the Town of Lake Lure may purchase an annual water vessel permit at resident rates, provided the proper registration papers can be presented showing the boat is registered to the corporation.
- (3) Residents or their spouses who own a developed lot (a lot with a dwelling or commercial structure) qualify for up to three resident annual motorized over 10 HP boat permits, provided that the maximum number of permits for motorized over 10 HP boats have not been issued. **Amended 4-11-06, 2-13-07, 6-13-17**
- (4) Property owners or their spouses owning an undeveloped lot qualify for one annual motorized boat permit or one peak season weekday only permit. **Amended 4-11-06, 2-13-07, 9-09-14, 6-13-17**
- (H) The valid and current state registration of the water vessel must be presented to the

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designated issuing agent when purchasing a Lake Lure water vessel (boat) permit. A resident's or property owner's registration must match the name on the town's tax records for the permit to be issued as a resident permit. Commercial operators must present tax records if their water vessel is registered with a leasing agency.

- (I) Owners of timeshare properties within the Town of Lake Lure may purchase one motorized boat permit at the resident rate for the week(s) for which they have a timeshare contract. Verification of the contract is required. **Amended 4-11-06**

- (J) The Marine Commission has adopted the following limits on motorized boat permits:
 - (1) A maximum of 1,000 resident annual unlimited use permits for boats with more than 10 HP.
 - (2) A maximum of 250 resident annual peak season weekday (no use on holidays), unlimited off-peak season permits for boats with more than 10 HP.
 - (3) A maximum of 75 non-resident annual unlimited use permits and no maximum limit for non-resident annual town marina boat slip renters.
 - (4) A maximum of 75 non-resident annual peak season weekday (no use on holidays), unlimited off-peak season permits for boats with more than 10 HP. **Amended 12-11-12, 6-13-17, 6-9-20**

- (K) Owners of lakefront lots having structures thereon shall have the E911 designated address assigned to the property posted in accordance with §42.6 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Lake Lure titled Boat House Numbering. Said signs shall be ordered through the Town office before any annual water vessel permit may be obtained from the Town. **Amended 4-11-06, 6-13-17**

- (L) The Marine Commission will determine the total number of available commercial and/or non-commercial boat permits based on a schedule of permit limits. To insure the health, safety and welfare of those who use the lake, the schedule will be reviewed annually; utilizing standards established by the Marine Commission which may include, but are not limited to formulas utilized by the US Army Corps of Engineers, Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency and data from the Coast Guard and the Town of Lake Lure. To help maintain an accurate account of the number of commercial boats being permitted, all applicants who apply for and are approved for commercial boats to be permitted are required to purchase permits for all boats that were applied for and approved by the Marine Commission prior to April 15th of the permitted year, or their space will be reallocated to other applicants. **Amended 3-13-18, 6-12-18**

- (M) All applications for motorized boat permits must be accompanied by proof of marine liability insurance coverage written by a company approved by the State of North Carolina and AM Best. All non-commercial motorized applications must have minimum marine liability coverage of \$300,000.00 per incident. All applicants for commercial motorized boat permits must hold a lake commercial license, and adhere to the insurance requirements defined under section 4.07 below. Proof of marine liability insurance coverage shall be the actual marine liability insurance policy (or either a copy of the marine liability insurance policy or certificate of marine liability insurance provided directly to town from insurance provider) which specifically

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references the boat by listing the boat's serial number, state registration number or reference that adequately insures that the boat is covered by the policy that a permit is being requested for, states liability limits for said boat, and identifies effective and renewal dates for policy. (Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 11-9-04, 4-28-05, 6-13-17**

§ 4.02 PROHIBITED WATER VESSELS.

- (A) No pontoon boat, canoe, kayak, rowing shell, row boat or any motorized craft with less than 10 horsepower longer than 28 feet in length, nor any other boat type (including but not limited to runabouts, ski boats, deck boats, sail boats and canoes) longer than 21 feet registered length, will be permitted on Lake Lure. Rowing shells and dragon boats greater than 28 feet in length must be approved by the Town Manager. The Town of Lake Lure Lake Operations Department reserves the right to measure boats if staff finds it necessary. Boats will not be measured if the length listed on the boat's state registration exceeds the allowed length. **Amended 4-12-05, 12-13-16, 6-13-17**
- (B) No boat, other than pontoon boats, exceeding 4000 pounds dry weight, per manufacturer's specs, will be permitted on Lake Lure. **Adopted 1-12-16**
- (C) The Marine Commission shall allow the issuance of permits for personal watercraft only to:
 - (1) Residents of the town who were previously issued permits for the same personal watercraft in 1988; and
 - (2) All permits for personal watercraft as allowed herein shall be of the "annual" type only. No permits shall be issued for any other personal watercraft, including replacements for currently permitted ones. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (D) Water vessels with built-in kitchen and toilet facilities and/or houseboats shall not be permitted on the waters of Lake Lure.
- (E) (1) No vehicle, watercraft, seaplane, airboat, fly board, or hovercraft shall be allowed on Lake Lure unless said watercraft or vessel qualifies for and has obtained a current permit pursuant to the Lake Use Regulations of the Town of Lake Lure. Certain vehicles, such as seaplanes, do not qualify for permits under any circumstances and, therefore, are prohibited from the waters of Lake Lure. Any vessel, including a watercraft and a seaplane which is not specifically allowed and/or has a current permit shall not be placed on the waters of Lake Lure. **Amended 6-13-17**
 - (2) Emergency watercraft and emergency aircraft employed in actual firefighting and/or emergency activities are exempt from this prohibition. (Res. Passed 3-9-04) (Penalty, see § 5.01) **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 4.03 REGULATIONS REGARDING OPERATION OF BOATS; RESTRICTED AREAS.

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- (A) No water vessels shall be operated shoreward of markers designating restricted areas.
- (B) No water vessels shall be tied to any Town owned public dock for longer than two and a half hours, except for boats owned or permitted in the name of the Town, unless special permission is received from the Town Manager.
- (C) No water vessels shall be operated at a speed greater than “no wake” speed within 75 feet of another vessel or the shoreline of Lake Lure. **Amended 2-13-07**
- (D) No water vessels shall operate at a speed greater than “no wake” on areas of Lake Lure not regulated by (C) above, when such areas are properly marked with a lawfully placed buoy or marker.
- (E) No water vessel shall be tied to any lawfully placed marker buoy on the lake or shoreline of Lake Lure.
- (F) All buoys, including mooring buoys, or safety marker placements must be approved by the Lake Advisory Board. All markings will be in accordance with the Uniform Waterway Marking System and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission’s regulations. **Amended 9-11-18**
- (G) All water vessels must be operated at “no wake” speed from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. during the months of October through April and 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. during the months of May through September.
- (H) No person may operate a recreational vessel under way with any child under 13 years old aboard unless each such child is either:
 - (1) Wearing an appropriate personal flotation device (PFD) approved by the U. S. Coast Guard; or
 - (2) Below decks or in an enclosed cabin (Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01
- (I) All non-motorized boats, excluding sailboats and rowing shells, shall stay within 75ft of the shore or within the no-wake zone except when crossing the lake. **Adopted 1-12-16**

§ 4.04 MANNER OF OPERATION OF BOATS.

- (A) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate a water vessel on Lake Lure in a reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger the life, limb, or property of any person upon or near said lake. It shall also be unlawful for the owner of any water vessel to allow said water vessel to be operated in a reckless or negligent manner so as to endanger life, limb, or property of any person upon or near said lake. (Authority: N.C.G.S. § 75A-10)
- (B) No person shall operate a water vessel on the waters of Lake Lure while under the

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influence of an impairing substance or after having consumed sufficient alcohol that said person has, at any relevant time after the operation of said water vessel, an alcohol concentration of 0.08 or more. The consumption of fortified wine and spirituous liquor on the Lake is prohibited by N.C.G.S. §18B-301. The fact that a person charged with violating this subsection is or has been legally entitled to use alcohol or a drug is not a defense to a charge under this section. **Amended 6-13-17**

- (C) No person shall allow a minor (a person under the age of 16) to operate a motorized water vessel on Lake Lure unless accompanied by an adult (a person aged 26 or older). Anyone 16 or older who has successfully completed an approved boating safety education course can operate a boat independently on Lake Lure. **Amended 2-13-07, 6-13-17**
- (D) No person shall engage in motorized water vessel racing on Lake Lure.
- (E) The exhaust of every internal combustion engine used on any water vessel shall be effectively muffled by equipment so constructed and used as to muffle the noise of the exhaust in a reasonable manner. (Authority: N.C.G. S. § 75A-9)
- (F) No person shall place, throw, deposit, or discharge or cause to be placed, thrown, deposited, or discharged on the waters of Lake Lure, any litter, raw sewage, bottles, cans, papers, or other liquid or solid materials which render the waters unsightly, noxious, or otherwise unwholesome so as to be detrimental to the public health or welfare or to the enjoyment and safety of the water for recreational purposes. (Authority: N.C.G. S. § 75A-10) (Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see § 5.01 **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 4.05 WATER SPORTS.

- (A) All persons involved in water sports in Lake Lure shall wear proper U.S. Coast Guard approved life vest gear. No more than two persons engaged in water sports may be towed behind one boat (with the exception of water skiing shows permitted by the Town).
- (B) No person shall engage in water sports in any cove of less than 300 feet in width or in any cove marked by “no wake” buoys. (Res. Passed 3-9-04) Penalty, see §5.01

§ 4.06 FEES.

- (A) Water vessel permit fees. Various fees shall be assessed for water vessel permits for residents, non-residents, dealers, and commercial establishments (both resident and non-resident) and shall be as established by the Marine Commission pursuant to a schedule adopted annually. A copy of the schedule of current fees shall be kept at all times in the Town office. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (B) Slip fees. Various rental fees shall be assessed for slips at the Town Marina and shall be as established by the Marine Commission pursuant to a schedule adopted annually. A copy of the schedule of current fees shall be kept at all times in the Town office.

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(Res. Passed 3-9-04) **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 4.07 COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS.

Commercial operations shall be allowed on the waters of Lake Lure subject to the following conditions:

- (A) A lake commercial license shall be required annually prior to purchasing commercial boat permits. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (B) All commercial operators shall successfully complete a Marine Commission approved boating safety class annually.
- (C) All applications for lake commercial licenses shall be accompanied by proof of marine liability insurance written by a company approved by the state of North Carolina and AM Best for all associated motorized boats. Commercial classifications 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 8 must have minimum liability coverage of \$1,000,000.00. Commercial classification 7 shall carry the appropriate type of insurance policy (commercial/non-commercial) suitable for business operation, and have minimum marine liability coverage of \$300,000.00. All commercial operators shall name the town as co-insured on the required policies. **Amended 4-28-05, 6-12-18**
- (D) No single business owner or commercial operation may have more than seven permits for motorized boats over 10 HP, unless they have a concession agreement with the Town specifically stating a different number.
- (F) No single business owner or commercial operation may have more than ten (10) permits for non-motorized boats, unless they have a concession agreement with the Town specifically stating a different number. **Amended 4-28-05**
- (G) The only way that a business owner or commercial operation may obtain more permits than what is allowed in any one classification or in total is to enter into a concession agreement with the Town of Lake Lure. A concession agreement is also required if a business owner or commercial operator wishes to do business from any land owned by the Town. **Amended 4-10-12, 6-13-17**
- (H) Livery operations shall be located within a Zoning District that permits commercial use. **Adopted 10-8-19**
- (I) Commercial craft with more than 100 horsepower shall have boat-to-shore communications capability.
- (J) Commercial operators shall report to law enforcement any violation of State or local regulations as well as any observed accidents.
- (K) Commercial operators must render assistance to any disabled vessel(s). (Res. Passed 4-12-05) Penalty, see § 5.01

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- (L) Water sports are expressly prohibited behind boats with a resort, livery, service, tour boat and fishing commercial classification (including boats associated with rental homes). (Res. Passed 4-11-06) **Amended 6-13-17, 6-12-18**

- (M) Commercial craft shall not be operated when lightning is visible, or thunder is audible. Commercial craft operating on the lake when these conditions occur must return to moorings immediately. (Res. Passed 4-11-06) **Amended 6-13-17**

- (N) Because there are limits in the numbers of commercial boat permits issued, once a boat permit has been issued for a particular commercial classification, that boat shall retain that classification until the permit expires. A boat cannot change classification in the same calendar year that it was permitted. Commercial vessels may only be operated for the purpose approved in the commercial license. Dual permitting of boats is prohibited. (Res. Passed 10-12-10) **Amended 6-12-18**

- (O) Boats licensed in commercial classification 5 (tour boats) shall be subject to the following further conditions:
 - (1) Voice amplification systems shall not be allowed. **Amended 6-13-17**
 - (2) Operations will be carried out at low wake in all parts of the lake except the center
 - (3) Each boat shall show the name of the commercial operator and have large numerals to facilitate identification for comments. **Amended 4-10-12**
 - (4) Tour boats shall not navigate under a bridge or enter a cove other than the town marina cove except for picking up and dropping off passengers. **Adopted 6-13-17**
 - (5) Tour boats shall not navigate in “no wake zones” except when picking up and dropping off passengers. **Adopted 6-13-17 Amended 1-14-20**
 - (6) Boarding and departing passengers will be allowed access only from commercial landings with the exception of special events approved by the Town Manager or Parks, Recreation, and Lake Director. **Adopted 6-13-17 Amended 1-14-20**
 - (7) Tour Boats shall not travel in clusters and must be separated at a minimum distance of 100 yards. **Adopted 6-13-17**
 - (8) Tour boats require a concession agreement with the Town regardless of the number permitted. **Adopted 6-13-17**

- (P) Commercial licenses and boat permits issued for Class 8, are for use with Vacation Rental properties only, and only to the tenants of said property. Class 8 boat rentals to the general public at large, are prohibited. **Adopted 1-14-20**

- (Q) No vacation rental watercraft shall be permitted to tow any person(s) at any time. **Adopted 10-8-19**

- (R) Vacation rental management companies shall only provide motorized and non-motorized watercraft(s) that are registered and commercially permitted with their business. **Adopted 10-8-19**

§ 4.08 LAUNCHING WATER VESSELS & LAUNCH SITES

- (A) Launching of motorized water vessels into the lake shall be allowed only from general and private launch sites. **Amended 6-13-17**

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

- (B) No new private launch sites for motorized boats may be created on the lake.
- (C) The Marine Commission may close or restrict use of any or all general launch sites when it is deemed that conditions exist which threaten the safe, recreational usage of the lake. (Res. Passed 4-12-05) Penalty, see § 5.01. **Amended 6-13-17**

§ 4.09 LAKE COMMERCIAL LICENSING

- (A) A lake commercial license is required prior to purchasing commercial boat permits.
- (B) All new lake commercial license applications and all lake commercial license renewal applications must be received by the first day of November. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (C) The Marine Commission will complete its review of all license applications and may issue lake commercial licenses by the first day of January of the following year

Section Continued on next page.

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

(D) Lake Commercial License Schedule of Criterion – In determining both the number of lake commercial licenses that may be available for issuance to each of the eight commercial classifications defined in section 1.02 and whether to issue a license in response to an application either for a new lake commercial license or to renew an existing lake commercial license, the Marine Commission may consider the following criteria (and such other criteria as the Marine Commission may consider reasonable and appropriate.) **Amended 6-13-17**

Criterion	Commercial Classifications							
	Livery (Class 1)	Resorts (Class 2)	Camps (Class 3)	Ski Schools (Class 4)	Tour Boats (Class 5)	Fishing Guides (Class 6)	Services (Class 7)	Vacation Rentals (Class 8)
Lake Impact Limit (Summer)	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	<u>TBD per Calc*</u>
Lake Impact Limit (Spring/Fall)	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	<u>TBD per Calc*</u>
Lake Impact Limit (Winter)	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	TBD per Calc*	<u>TBD per Calc*</u>
Max Permits / Operation	4 per owner or business entity**	3 per owner or business entity**	3 per owner or business entity**	2 per owner or business entity**	2 per owner or business entity**	2 per owner or business entity**	2 per owner or business entity**	1 VRM per owner or business entity** and up to 5 VRN

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Criterion	Commercial Classifications							
	Livery (Class 1)	Resorts (Class 2)	Camps (Class 3)	Ski Schools (Class 4)	Tour Boats (Class 5)	Fishing Guides (Class 6)	Services (Class 7)	Vacation Rentals (Class 8)
Mooring Restrictions	<p><u>Commercial business operations must be conducted from lake structures adjacent to lots zoned CG, GU, R3 or R4 (except house rentals, service boats or real estate agents). Commercial boats may be moored in any zoning district under these conditions:</u></p> <p>a) <u>The boat is moored at property being used as a residence for the business owner or an employee.</u></p> <p>b) <u>Primary business operations are not being conducted at the residence.</u></p>							
Residence Requirements	<p>It is the intent of the Marine Commission to limit lake commercial licenses to those business entities, which are principally located in the corporate limits of the Town of Lake Lure. The Marine Commission reserves the right to cancel lake commercial licenses, if it is later discovered that the business entity is not principally located in the corporate limits of the Town of Lake Lure. Non-resident real estate agents, fishing guides, contractors and boat repair companies hired by residents of Lake Lure may apply to the Lake Lure Marine Commission for special permits. If approved, non-resident commercial licensees will be allocated boat permits at a fee adjusted to represent the Non-Resident annual fee plus the commercial surcharge as applied to Resident annual permit fee.</p>							
Marine Liability Insurance Requirements	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$300,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.	Minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per incident. Town of Lake Lure must be listed as co-insured.

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Criterion	Commercial Classifications							
	Livery <i>(Class 1)</i>	Resorts <i>(Class 2)</i>	Camps <i>(Class 3)</i>	Ski Schools <i>(Class 4)</i>	Tour Boats <i>(Class 5)</i>	Fishing Guides <i>(Class 6)</i>	Services <i>(Class 7)</i>	Vacation Rentals <i>(Class 8)</i>
Lodging Restrictions	No lodging amenities allowed for this commercial category	All clientele must be lodged at facilities within the corporate limits of the Town of Lake Lure	All campers must be lodged at facilities within the corporate limits of the Town of Lake Lure	No lodging amenities allowed for this commercial category	No lodging amenities allowed for this commercial category	No lodging amenities allowed for this commercial category	No lodging amenities allowed for this commercial category	House rentals must occur in corporate limits of the Town of Lake Lure
Operator Requirements	All operators must be informed of lake use regulations, and provided lake use regulation pamphlet	All commercial operators shall successfully complete a Marine Commission approved boating safety class annually. Applications for lake commercial license(s) require a list of operator(s). Any changes to operator(s) list must be delivered to Town within 14 days of the change. Boating safety course certificates required for all operator(s) listed on application. Certificates must be submitted to Town prior to operator(s) performing lake associated business service(s). Amended 6-13-2017						All operators must be informed of lake use regulations, and provided a vacation boat rental contract addendum

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Criterion	Commercial Classifications							
	Livery <i>(Class 1)</i>	Resorts <i>(Class 2)</i>	Camps <i>(Class 3)</i>	Ski Schools <i>(Class 4)</i>	Tour Boats <i>(Class 5)</i>	Fishing Guides <i>(Class 6)</i>	Services <i>(Class 7)</i>	Vacation Rentals <i>(Class 8)</i>
Order of Priority	<p>Among applicants that meet all of the criteria (above) for their classification, lake commercial licenses will be granted in priority order until the available commercial capacity is fully consumed for a given classification. The order of priority will be as follows:</p> <p>First: Commercial boats that were approved in the prior year, provided the business remains in good standing with respect to lake operations and adherence to regulations, in order of business establishment date. Resident businesses have priority over nonresident businesses.</p> <p>Second: Additional boats for businesses approved in the prior year, provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the business has not reached the individual maximums for # of boats (by class) (b) the business remains in good standing with respect to lake operations and adherence to regulations (c) there is capacity remaining for the desired class of commercial boating activity (additional boats ordered by date of business establishment) <p>Third: New applicant businesses, provided there is capacity remaining for the desired class of commercial boating activity. Boats for these new businesses will be approved in the following priority order:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) businesses based in the Lake Lure town limits, ordered by date established (b) out-of-area businesses, ordered by date established <p>Notes:</p> <p>(1) A business that does not renew a boat for a year loses their priority position if they decide to return to commercial operations in succeeding years. They will be considered a new business.</p> <p>(2) A business that transfers owners and does not miss a year of commercial licensing will retain their priority position</p>							

Amended 04-08-2014, 06-13-2017, 10-8-19, 1-14-20

**In determining lake impact limits, formulas and data utilized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Coast Guard were employed to determine the following impact per business classification.*

*** As provided in section 4.07, no business owner or commercial operation may have more than 7 motorized over 10 hp boat permits across all commercial classifications, unless they have obtained a concession agreement with the Town.*

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

- (E) The Marine Commission may suspend or revoke lake commercial licenses at any time for violation of applicable lake use regulations. (Res. Passed 4-12-05) Penalty, see § 5.01

SECTION 5: ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES

§ 5.01 ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES.

- (A) All law enforcement officers with territorial jurisdiction as to any part of the waters of Lake Lure or its shoreline area within the limitations of their subject matter jurisdiction, have the authority of peace officers in enforcing the laws over all of the waters of Lake Lure and its shoreline area. A certificate of training issued by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission or the North Carolina Sheriffs' Education and Training Standards Commission will suffice for certification for the purposes of the Lake Use Regulations. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (B) Any person, firm, or corporation violating any provision of the Lake Use Regulations for which no specific penalty is otherwise provided, shall upon conviction be guilty of a misdemeanor as provided in NCGS § 14-4; however, violations of § 4.04 shall be as provided in NCGS § 75A-18. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (C) Any person, firm, or corporation violating any provisions of the Lake Use Regulations, upon conviction thereof, may be suspended from further use of Lake Lure, at the discretion of the Marine Commission. **Amended 6-13-17**
- (D) Any person, firm, or corporation attempting to manipulate or defraud the permitting system, upon conviction thereof, may be suspended from further use of Lake Lure, at the discretion of the Marine Commission. **Adopted 10-8-149**
- (E) The Marine Commission may also provide for enforcement of the Lake Use Regulations by other remedies, as authorized in NCGS § 160A-175, including the imposition of those civil fines defined in the schedule of fines, the ordering of specific equitable relief, including injunctions, or a combination of remedies. In addition the Marine Commission may seek an appropriate equitable remedy issuing from a court of competent jurisdiction. (Res. Passed 3-9-04) **Amended 4-11-06, 6-13-17**
- (F) A schedule of fees for violations of Class A, Class B, Class C (Non-motorized), Class C (Motorized), and Class D shall be adopted by the Marine Commission annually. Said schedule may be amended by Resolution of the Commission as required. (Res. Passed 4-11-06) **Amended 6-13-17**
- (G) All Class D violations, and the conviction thereof, will be in perpetuity and may result in permit revocation at the discretion of the Marine Commission. **Adopted 1-14-20**

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Schedule of Civil Fines for Lake	Fine Number	Violation Category
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1 - General Lake Use

Disposal of any litter, raw sewage, bottles, cans, papers or other liquid or solid materials on the waters of Lake Lure	1.1	C
Disposal of any trash, brush, leaves or scrap building materials into the lake	1.2	C
Trespassing on boats, boat houses or docks	1.3	B

2 - Swimming

Swimming under the influence of an impairing substance	2.1	B
Unaccompanied swimming greater than 50 feet offshore	2.2	B
Diving, jumping or swimming from any bridge or road	2.3	C

3 - Fishing

Use of more than two fishing lines per person	3.3	A
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4 - Boating (Permits)

Operation of boat without a valid permit	4.1	C
Failure to display 911 address on boat house	4.2	A
Manipulation of permitting process	4.3	D

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Schedule of Civil Fines for Lake

**Fine
Number Violation
Category**

5- Boating (Operation)

Operation of boat at a speed greater than "no wake" speed within 75 feet of shoreline	5.2	C
Operation of boat at a speed greater than "no wake" speed during "no wake" hours	5.4	C
Boat tied to town public dock for longer than 2.5 hours	5.5	A
Boat tied to town buoy or marker	5.6	A
(a) resulting in damage to property	5.8a	B
(b) resulting in personal injury	5.8b	C
(c) resulting in death	5.8c	D
Motorized water vessel racing	5.10	C
Insufficient exhaust muffling for town sound requirements	5.11	A

6- Water Sports

Engaging in water sports in prohibited cove	6.2	B
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7- Commercial Operations Only

Use of boat for commercial purposes without a valid lake commercial license and boat permit	7.1	D
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LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Schedule of Civil Fines for Lake	Fine Number	Violation Category
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Operation of commercial craft greater than 100hp without boat-to-shore communications capability	7.2	B
Failure to report violation of state or local regulations or observed accidents	7.3	A
Failure to render assistance to disabled vessel	7.4	A
Uncertified operator	7.5	B
Engaging in water sports (towing) without Class 4 Ski School License (or permission of such)	7.6	C
Operation of boat during lightning threat	7.7	C
Permanent mooring of any commercial boats at a lake structure out of compliance with zoning requirements of upland lots	7.8	D
Conducting business on Town owned land without a required concession agreement	7.9	D
Operation of a livery from residential vacation rental	8.0	C
Operation of a livery in a Zoning District that does not permit commercial use	8.1	C
Vacation Rental Management Company providing watercraft(s) for rent that are not registered with their business	8.2	D

Violation Category

A = nuisance, little impact on others

B = minor impact on lake operations and safety

C = significant impact on lake operations and safety

LAKE USE REGULATIONS

Schedule of Civil Fines for Lake	Fine Number	Violation Category
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D = major impact on lake operations and safety

Adopted 6-13-17; Amended 3-13-18, 10-8-19, 1-14-20

- (F) Any person, firm, or corporation that fails to pay a lake regulations civil fine within thirty (30) days of such fine being imposed may be suspended from further use of Lake Lure, including the forfeiture of boat permits, at the discretion of the Marine Commission. (Res. Passed 4-11-06) **Amended 6-13-17**

- (G) Revenues from lake use regulation civil fines shall belong to the Town of Lake Lure and used solely for funding lake operations. (Res. Passed 4-11-06) **Amended 6-13-17**

- (H) Appeals from the provisions of the Lake Use Regulations shall be made to the Lake Lure Marine Commission. (Res. Passed 4-11-06) **Amended 6-13-17**

- (I) It shall be the responsibility of the owner of any permitted vessel, to see that any and all civil fines are paid, in the event an operator using said vessel receives a citation. Failure to pay a lake regulations civil fine within 30 days may result in suspension from further use of the lake, including the forfeiture of boat permits, at the discretion of the Marine Commission. (Res. Passed 10-12-10)

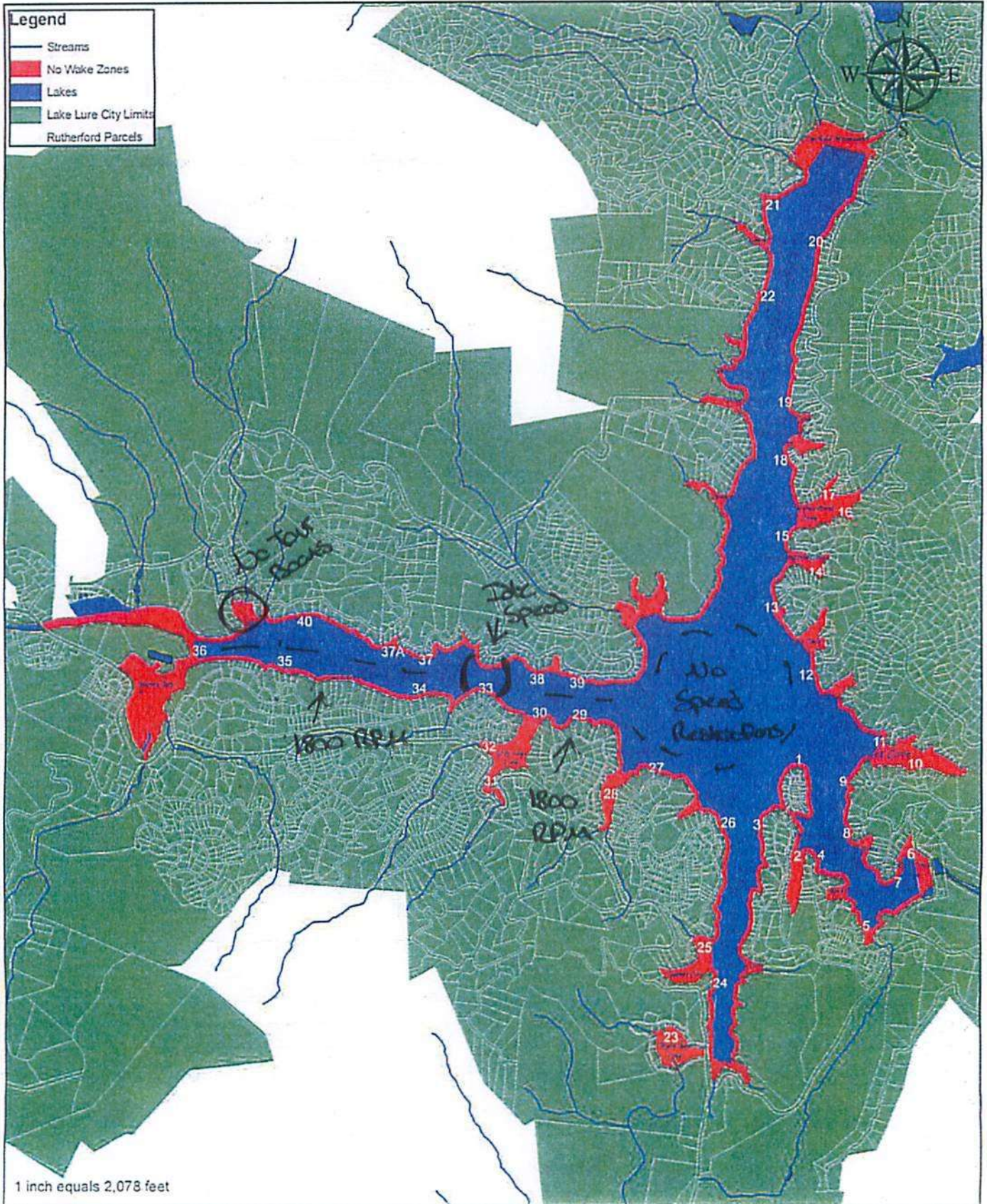
Lake Lure Manner of Operation

To help reduce the wake issues that are occurring within the main channel of Lake Lure, Lake Lure Tours proposes the following for operation:

- Stage tour boat departure times at least five minutes apart.
 - a. For example, Tour boat one departing at 10:55 am, tour boat two departing at 11 am, and tour boat three departing at 11:05 am on busy days.
- For the safety of residents swimming in Firefly Cove, Lake Lure Tours will no longer proceed into the cove.
- Lake Lure Tours proposes to operate tour boats at 1800 RPM (existing policy) through the main channel, except at the portion of the channel which is referred to as the “Bottle Neck” located within Lake View Road and Cutaway Road area. All tour boats will drop to idle speed thirty yards before and thirty yards after the “Bottle Neck.”
- All tour boats should stay to the center of the main channel unless one of the following occurs:
 - a. The skipper is pointing out features along the lake and then returns to the center of the main channel.
 - b. An unsafe event occurs (skiing, swimming, or yielding right-of-way to another boat).
- In the event that the tour boat is stopped, the driver will turn the boat ninety degrees before powering the boat back up to 1800 RPM to disperse wake away from the shorelines.

In addition to the above changes for LLT boat operations, all boat drivers will complete a new training program this spring. Management will be riding with each skipper at least twice a month to ensure that all new directions, operational protocols, and boat operations are being followed.

TOUR BOAT MANNER OF OPERATION MAP



Title:

Lake Lure Commercial Boaters Safety Class

Lesson Purpose:

To provide the commercial operator with the knowledge, skills and materials to complete the Lake Lure Marine Commission mandated commercial boaters' safety class.

Training Objective:

Attending this class, the participant will be able to achieve the following objectives in accordance with the information presented during the instructional period:

- 1. State/local Laws**
 - State Regulations
 - Lake Lure Regulations

- 2. Lake Use Regulations**
 - Commercial Operations

- 3. Professionalism**
 - Representing your company
 - Courtesy
 - Manner of operation

- 4. Safety**
 - Operation
 - Equipment
 - Reporting
 - Inclement Weather

- 5. Privacy**
 - Respecting residents privacy

- 6. Communications**
 - With your office
 - Lake Lure Police/Fire
 - Lake Operations