

Water Ski Zone Variation Consultation
Report by Head of Safety Management

Summary: This report sets out a proposal to extend the trial of recreational wakeboarding including 'getting air' on the River Yare and to include the River Waveney. It also proposes the variation of times for River Yare water ski Zone 1.

Members views are sought on the variations set out in Appendix 1.

1 Background

- 1.1 At its meeting on 8 December 2011 the Navigation Committee considered a report which set out the findings and proposals of the Water Skiing Review Panel which was held on the 25 October 2011.
- 1.2 The Committee considered a number of proposals from the Water Ski Review including a proposal to vary the times available for water skiing on the River Yare and to extend the trial of wakeboarding including "getting air" to one zone on the River Waveney.

2 The Consultation

- 2.1 The Broads Authority Act 2009 includes provisions enabling the Authority to regulate waterskiing and wakeboarding. They include a power to designate, amend or revoke zones within the Authority's navigation area where these activities will be permitted.
- 2.2 At its meeting on 16 March 2012 the Authority will consider a proposal to pass a resolution that certain zones where days and times when these activities are currently permitted by virtue of the Authority's resolution on the 22 January 2010 and 17 September 2010 be amended to apply after 1 April 2012. These amended zones and times are set out in Appendix 1.
- 2.3 The effect of the proposed resolution will be to vary where and when waterskiing and wakeboarding may take place. The proposed variations are set out in Appendix 1. In addition from 1 April 2012 it is proposed that a trial be allowed for a period of one year for a form of wakeboarding including manoeuvres and momentarily leaving the surface of the water. The trial will be limited to six concurrent wake boarders in each of three zones, two zones on the River Yare numbered 3 and 5 and one zone on the River Waveney numbered 1 in Appendix 2.

- 2.4 Section 26(5)(a) of the 2009 Act requires the Authority, before it passes the proposed resolution, to consult:
- (a) such persons who own or occupy residential property, the amenity of which appears to the Authority likely to be affected by the proposed resolution;
 - (b) Natural England and such organisations as appear to the Authority to represent persons likely to be affected by it.
- 2.5 The Review Panel specifically requested that before any variations were agreed for the River Yare Zone 1, Postwick to Bramerton, that a consultation was completed which included the Rowing interests which were likely to be affected.
- 2.6 The consultation started on 25 January and closed on 22 February. Members' will be appraised of responses at the meeting.
- 2.7 The consultation was considered by the Boating Safety Management Group at its meeting on 2 February 2012 at which no comments were received.
- 2.8 The consultation was considered by the Broads Forum at its meeting on 9 February 2012 in which members were content with the proposals.

Background papers: Waterskiing Zones Mitigation and Wakeboarding Trial, Broads Authority 8/12/11

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Appendices: APPENDIX 1- Schedule of variations to Water Ski Zones
APPENDIX 2- Water Ski Zone Map
APPENDIX 3 – List of Consultees

Variation of times

**River Yare,
Stretch of Water**

Zone 1 From a point 800 metres (875 yards) downstream of the outfall of the Norwich sewage treatment works at Whitlingham to the upstream end of the frontage of the Woods End Public House at Bramerton.
No change to Zone

Times

a Between the 21st March and the 30th September in any year: between 1600 hours and sunset on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays and Public Holidays

Summary of change

Current times are limited to Wednesdays, Fridays, Sundays and Public Holidays between 1600 hours and sunset, the proposed change adds Mondays and Saturdays between 1600 hours and sunset.

b Between the 1st October and 20th March in any year: between 1300 hours and sunset on Sundays and Public Holidays

No change to Times

Zones to be used for Wake Boarding Trial

**River Yare,
Stretch of Water**

Zone 3 From a point 400 metres (437 yards) downstream of the old Ferry Dock at the Beauchamp Arms Hotel to a point 400 metres (437 yards) upstream of the Red House at Cantley.
No change to Zone

Times

a Between the 21st March and the 30th September in any year: between 1600 hours and sunset on any day.

No Change to Times

b Between the 1st October and 20th March in any year: between 1300 hours and sunset on Sundays and between 0900 hours and sunset on any other day.

No change to Times

Zone 5 From a point 400 metres (437 yards) downstream of the confluence of Haddiscoe New Cut and the River Yare to a point 400 metres (437 yards) upstream of Upper Seven Mile House.
No change to Zone

**River Waveney,
Stretch of Water**

Times

Zone 1 From a point 330 metres (361 yards) downstream of the confluence of Oulton Dyke and the River Waveney to a point 800 metres (875 yards) upstream of Somerleyton Ferry Pier
No change to Zone

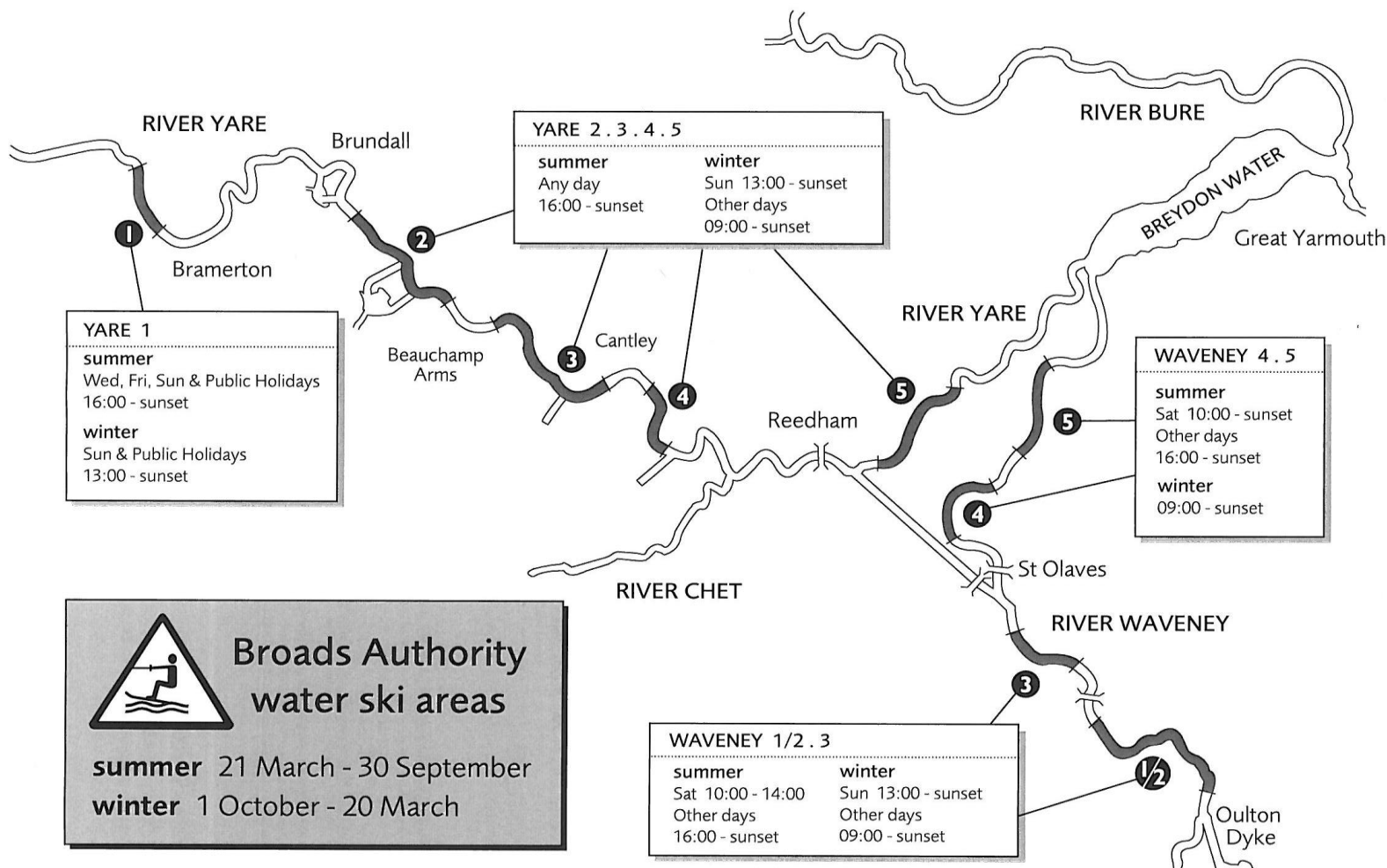
a Between the 21st March and the 30th September in any year: between 1000 hours and 1400 hours on Saturdays and between


1600 hours and sunset on any other day

No change to Times

b Between the 1st October and 20th March in any year: between 1300 hours and sunset on Sundays and between 0900 hours and sunset on any other day.

No change to Times



 **Broads Authority water ski areas**

summer 21 March - 30 September
winter 1 October - 20 March

List of consultees

Persons who own or occupy residential property adjacent to the Water Ski Zones.

Natural England

Somerleyton Hall

RSPB – Strumpshaw

Eastern Rivers Water Ski Club

Norfolk & Suffolk Boating Association

Country Landowners Association

Broads Hire Boat Federation

Broads Angling Strategy Group

Amateur Rowing Association

British Canoe Union

Broads Society

Inland Waterways Association

British Water Ski and Wakeboard

Norwich School Boat Club

Broadland Boat Club

Norfolk Skiff Club

Norwich Rowing Club

Norwich Canoe Club

Lowestoft Rowing Club

Beccles Rowing Club

Norwich High School Rowing Club

Yare Boat Club

UEA Boat Club