

## **'Slow, no wake' plan would erode tourism**

On Dec. 15, the Rock County Board will conduct a public hearing to consider a "slow, no wake" order on the Rock River whenever the water north of the Indianford Dam exceeds a level of 777.5 (7½ feet).

We all are aware that the river typically rises in the spring due to water runoff from winter snow and spring rains or in summer from heavy rains.

If the board imposes a "slow, no wake" order at 777.5 (2½ feet below flood stage), it would seem to smack Rock County tourism on the side of its head. Rock County and the cities in it are home to countless family recreational opportunities, special events and historic places to visit.

Commonly referred to as Wisconsin's "Front Porch" and anchored by the Rock River, the county would be limiting tourism activities on the river and, more important, tourism dollars by arbitrarily instituting a seemingly low "slow, no wake" trigger.

Please, Rock County, consider the data that have been presented and find a more reasonable level to impose a "slow, no wake." We need to promote tourism, not detract from tourism.

DEBRA HART  
Fort Atkinson