

1. **BACKGROUND:** Please provide your background and qualifications. Explain any experience you have had with enforcement on waterways and describe your familiarity with the policing issues the Sheriff's Department is facing on our lakes and river.

My background includes 30 years as a Deputy Sheriff working in the two main functions of the Sheriff's Office, patrol and jail operations. My experience includes working, supervising and managing assets within both of those major divisions.

Other experience includes Detective Bureau, narcotics and I was selected to lead the newly-created Terrorism and Emergency Response Team that covered an area of seven counties containing approximately 20MM people.

As an avid boater for the past twenty-plus years, I've been around water and understand many of the issues that residents and law enforcement face. Along with my personal use of a boat, I've been involved with law enforcement planning for events at lakes as big as Hayden Lake.

Current policing issues in Kootenai County include excessive wakes being created that cause erosion and property damage. The increased number of boaters are contributing to the wake issues and there seems to be a general disregard for the property owners and their shoreline by many out of town boaters. This is an issue that will take precedence as your Sheriff.

2. **PERSONNEL:** The incumbent sheriff believes that the lack of qualified deputies, not budget, is the primary obstacle for adequately policing our lakes. Do you agree with his assessment? What is your plan to find and hire qualified candidates? What is your position on School Resource officers and/or trained volunteers similar to the Citizen Marine Patrol to supplement deputies' activities on the waterways?

I think it might be a combination of both. My plan is to evaluate the organization to improve efficiency and find waste. I think exploring a contingency of volunteers and private entity contracts to provide service is another way to improve service.

3. **USER CONFLICTS:** What do you see as the Sheriff Department's role in managing conflicts between waterway user groups? Excessive boat wakes and reckless boaters can pose a danger and prevent the enjoyable use of small boats, paddle boarders, kayakers, swimmers, and fishermen. How would you promote understanding between these groups?

Like auto drivers and bicyclists, the various people using the waterways must respect the others who are operating on the water. While I would have waterway deputies be on the lookout for any forms of abuse toward others, I believe that boaters have a responsibility to know the laws and rules of the waterway. A volunteer could be used to provide a waterway rules and laws brochure at peak times on a launch area.

4. EDUCATION: Would you be in favor of mandatory boater education for all new boat owners in Kootenai County and for current drivers 18 years old and younger?

This was proposed as a new ordinance several months ago, the BOCC refused to take any action on it this year. It is something that I will stay on top of and continue to discuss with the BOCC as your Sheriff.

5. INCREASE IN BOATERS FEES: Would you support an increase in county boater fees to fund enforcement and education? Would you support a fee for out of state boaters? How would that fee be collected and enforced? How would those fees be used?

I'm not supportive of increasing fees for the sake of increasing them. However, any results-based program with a demonstrated history of being effective I am in favor of getting the necessary funding so it can be effective for the community.

6. RE-ENTRY FACILITY: Although details have not been finalized, given what you know about re-entry centers, what is your position about having one located in Kootenai County? What impacts do you foresee for the Sheriff's Department and the general population?

I am 100% against this facility. It is a failed program for inmates who complete it and the recidivism rate is not meaningfully impacted. There are several hidden costs that most supporters of this facility are not discussing. To begin with, the Idaho Dept. of Corrections (IDOC) does a terrible job of rehabilitation, which I am 100% for rehabilitation. IDOC does not begin transition rehabilitation with inmates until approximately six months prior to release. I believe it should begin day one for those first-time offenders and who have a significant chance at becoming productive citizens once released. By opening a facility like that here, we will be increasing our felony population by upwards of one-third overnight. It also means that family members will be moving here to be closer to inmates, which adds to the draw on government resources and potential quality of life issues. There is no guarantee that the facility will not be expanded sometime into the future. In every community where these types of facilities are constructed, law enforcement statistics rise while quality of life diminishes. The same holds true for many of the low income, high density housing that is exploding in the county. The community will pay both in higher taxes for law enforcement services and a general lower quality of life. That is why I am against this facility.

7. TRAFFIC ISSUES: How would you address the issues of speeding and dangerous parking on the narrow and congested roadways around the lakes and river? Many of the roads were not designed to accommodate boater volumes, excessive speeds or on-street parking.

As your Sheriff, one of my first orders of business is to hold town hall meetings around the county to hear the top issues facing all citizens. If speeding and/or parking violations are issues then I will assign teams to focus on those troubled areas for enforcement. If the issue is outside of the law, then I would encourage citizens to voice their concerns with the BOCC or their City Council.

8. EXCESSIVE WAKES: Kootenai County Regulations specify a "NO WAKE ZONE" for lakes within 200 feet of shoreline, dock, pier, breakwater, or person in the water. Do you believe excessive or illegal wakes can be determined by sight? Would you support your marine deputies to estimate an excessive wake by sight? How would your deputies enforce existing regulations?

I believe that excessive wakes can be determined by sight, but whether that can be defended in a court of law is another factor. I think it would be premature to speculate on what the code or law will state.

The validity of any "estimate" in wake size would be easily challenged in court. Currently, the BOCC with KCSO input is looking at "excessive wake" defined by a wake that is "artificially enhanced" by vessel design or by added equipment, or the act of "plowing" through the water. This is still being worked out by BOCC legal department.