The County Board of Becker County Ordains:

Section 1: PURPOSE, INTENT AND APPLICATION: As authorized by M.S. § 378.32 (459.20), Subdivision 1 as now in effect and as hereafter amended, this Ordinance is enacted for the purpose and with the intent to control and regulate the use of the waters of Straight Lake in Becker County, Minnesota, said bodies of water being located entirely within the boundaries of Becker County, to promote its fullest use and enjoyment by the public in general and the citizens of Becker County in particular; to insure safety for persons and property in connection with the use of said waters; to harmonize and integrate the varying uses of said waters; and to promote the general health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Becker County, Minnesota.

Section 2: ADOPTION AND INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE OF MINNESOTA WATERS AND WATERCRAFT SAFETY LAWS, AND BOAT AND WATER SAFETY RULES PROMULGATED BY THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES: The Minnesota Waters and Watercraft Safety Laws, M.S. § 361.01-361.29, as they now exist and are hereafter by the State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, MN Rules parts 6110.0100-.2300, as the same now exist and are hereafter amended, are hereby adopted, incorporated herein by reference, and made a part hereof as if set forth in their entirety. At least three copies of said Waters and Watercraft Safety Laws, and Boat and Water Safety Rules and Regulations, so adopted, shall be marked as official copies and filed in the office of the County Auditor along with this Ordinance.


Section 4: DEFINITION:
(A) “Narrows” means the area of limited width connecting two large bodies of water in the NE¼ of Section 20 and N¼ of the SE¼ of Section 17 in Township 140 N Range 36W.

(B) “Slow-No-Wake” means operation of a water craft at the lowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage and in no case greater than five (5) miles per hour.

Section 5: SURFACE ZONING OF STARIGHT LAKE BY RESTRICTING SPEEDS IN THE “NARROWS.”: At ALL times there will be a Slow-No-Wake established for the entire water body of the “Narrows” where watercraft speed or wake constitutes a hazard to persons, property or natural resources; or where it has been determined that such control would enhance the recreational use and enjoyment of the majority of users.

(A) The entrance to the “Narrows” are:

(1) North End – From a point being a set concrete satellite base located on the peninsula on the SW Corner of Government Lot 5, thence in a Southwesterly direction to the NE Corner of Property described as Part of Lots 5 and 6 of Section 17.

(2) South End – Beginning on the NE Corner of Lot 2 of Pine Crest Beach (West Shore) East to a point on the East Shore of Straight Lake.

Section 6: ENFORCEMENT: The enforcement of this Ordinance shall be the primary responsibility of the Becker County Sheriff’s Department. Other licensed peace officers including Conservation Officers of the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Minnesota are also authorized.

Section 7: EXEMPTIONS: All Authorized Resource Management, Emergency Personnel, while acting in the performance of their assigned duties are exempt from the foregoing restrictions.

Section 8: PENALTIES: Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not more than Seven Hundred Dollars ($700) or by imprisonment of not more than ninety (90) days, or both.
Section 9: It shall be the responsibility of the Becker County Sheriff’s office to post signs and to make the public aware of this Ordinance.

Section 10: EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall be in effect from and after the date of its passage and publication.

Passed by the Becker County Board of Commissioners this 25th day of June, 1991.

Chairman, County Board of Commissioners

Becker County Auditor

Approved as to form and execution:

John E. Pearson, County Attorney