

Chapter 488

Small Watercraft Traffic Regulations

488.010	Definitions	488.050	Operating boat while drunk or drugged
488.020	Applicability of statutes	488.060	Motor boats prohibited on certain lakes
488.030	Speed and operation of motor boats; regulations for state parks	488.070	Speed restrictions for motor boats on certain lakes
488.040	Operation rules as between boats	488.990	Penalties

CROSS REFERENCES

Fishing from boats in certain areas prohibited, 498 250 to 498 300	Injuring buoy or beacon, 783 610
	Shooting fowl from certain boats prohibited, 498 075

488.010 Definitions. As used in ORS 488.010 to 488.050:

(1) "Boat" means any boat or watercraft, raft, canoe, skiff, dinghy, rowboat, sailing boat or motor boat not exceeding 26 feet in overall length.

(2) "Motor boat" means a boat not exceeding 26 feet in overall length propelled by any mechanical means other than implements operated by hand.

(3) "Publicly advertised and scheduled" means advertised or announced in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where a race or regatta is to be held, or on signs printed in letters not less than three inches high and posted on all docks along the course of such race or regatta, announcing such race or regatta and stating the time, place and course

(4) "Dock" means a platform, stationary or floating, for use in entering or leaving boats or for loading or unloading cargo.

488.020 Applicability of statutes. ORS 488 010 to 488.050 apply to all boats and other watercraft as defined in ORS 488 010, on the waters within the jurisdiction of this state, except as inconsistent with any laws and regulations of the United States or of this state applicable to ferries or boats used for the carriage of passengers or cargo for hire or other commercial or public purposes

488.030 Speed and operation of motor boats; regulations for state parks. (1) (a) No person shall operate a motor boat at a speed in excess of 25 miles per hour while within 200 feet of a dock or of the shores of any bathing or wading beach or other recreational place where persons are accustomed to assemble, or at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour while within 100 feet of a dock or such beach or shore.

(b) Every operator of a motor boat shall at all times navigate it in a careful and prudent manner and at such rate of speed as not to endanger the property of another or the life or limb of any person

(c) Every motor boat approaching or passing any canoe, rowboat, or sailing boat shall, within 100 feet thereof, be slowed to a speed that will not endanger the occupants of the latter vessel.

(2) This section does not apply to a motor boat while actually competing in a publicly advertised and scheduled regatta or boat race

(3) Boats and motor boats used on the waters within or contiguous to any state park are subject to such further rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the state agency in charge of such park

488.040 Operation rules as between boats. (1) When two boats are approaching each other "head and head" or nearly so, the operator of each boat shall cause it to bear to the right and pass the other boat on its left side.

(2) When boats approach each other obliquely or at right angles, the boat approaching on the right of the other has the right of way.

(3) Boats approaching a dock, pier or wharf have the right of way over all boats leaving the same

488.050 Operating boat while drunk or drugged. No person shall operate a motor boat or boat of any kind while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any narcotic drug.

488.060 Motor boats prohibited on certain lakes. (1) No person shall use motor boats for any purpose on Taylor Lake, Irish Lake, South Twin Lake, North Twin Lake, Three Creek Lake, Devils Lake and Lucky Lake in Deschutes County, or Gold Lake in Lane County

(2) No person shall use motor boats for any purpose on Clear Lake in Linn County; Todd Lake in Deschutes County; Olallie Lake and Horseshoe Lake in Jefferson County; Frog Lake in Wasco County, Breitenbush Lake in Marion County, Lost Lake in Hood River County, or Timpanagos and Opal Lakes in Douglas County.

488.070 Speed restrictions for motor boats on certain lakes. No person shall operate a boat with an outboard or inboard motor at a speed in excess of 10 miles per hour during those hours of the day and on those days of the year that it is lawful to fish, on East Lake, Paulina Lake and Elk Lake in Deschutes County, Crescent Lake in Klamath County; Davis Lake in Deschutes and Klamath Counties; Diamond Lake in Douglas County and Squaw Lakes in Jackson County [Amended by 1953 c 219 §2]

488.990 Penalties. (1) Violation of ORS 488 010 to 488.050 is punishable, upon conviction, by a fine of not more than \$250, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or both. Justice courts and district courts have concurrent jurisdiction with the circuit court of such violations

(2) Violation of subsection (1) of ORS 488.060 is punishable, upon conviction, by a fine of not less than \$5 nor more than \$25, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or both.

(3) Violation of subsection (2) of ORS 488 060 is punishable, upon conviction, by a

fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100, or by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 90 days.

(4) Violation of ORS 488 070 is punishable, upon conviction, by a fine of not less than \$10 nor more than \$50.

CHAPTERS 489 AND 490

[Reserved for expansion]