Lake Kepwari
Lake Kepwari is a man-made reservoir located in the south-west region of Western Australia, about 15 kilometres south-east of Collie. We acknowledge the Ngalang Boodja traditional owners of this land and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

The name Lake Kepwari comes from the local Willman language ‘Kepwari’ meaning ‘playing in water’.

Water skiing
Water skiing involves being towed over water, at a speed of 8 knots or more, by a vessel, supported by a ski, or skis, an aquaplane, other apparatus or feet. This includes being towed on a wakeboard, kneeboard or inflatable device.

Water skiing is a high risk activity and as the skipper of a vessel towing a water skier, it’s your responsibility to ensure the safety of your crew and the skier at all times. To reduce the risks associated with water skiing it is important that skippers familiarise themselves with:

- the rules and regulations;
- the layout and boundaries of the ski area;
- the direction of ski;
- the hours of operation;
- the location of the take-off and landing areas; and
- any shallow water areas or other hazards.

Before commencing skiing, it is recommended that skippers brief each participant on their roles and responsibilities, hand signals and the various procedures associated with water skiing, such as recovering and reboarding of a downed skier.

Care should also be taken to brief participants on the location and use of safety equipment on-board the vessel and measures to avoid propeller strike.

When underway:

- follow the required direction of travel and remain inside the ski area;
- be alert and maintain a good lookout for other vessels, objects and downed skiers; and
- be courteous of other users and keep clear of slower moving vessels, paddle craft and sail craft.

The ski boat crew
To go skiing there must be a minimum of two in the ski boat, the skipper and at least one observer. The observer faces towards the skier at all times and communicates to the skipper while the skipper faces forward to maintain a proper lookout and concentrates on the vessel’s course within the ski area.

The skipper
To be the driver of a vessel, with a motor over 6 hp (4.5 kW), engaged in water skiing you:
- must hold an RST, or be supervised by an RST holder who is at least 18 years of age; and
- must be at least 17 years of age.

The skipper is responsible for abiding by the rules and regulations and for the safety of the:
- vessel;
- crew; and
- skiers.

The observer
To be the observer you:
- must be at least 14 years of age;
- must be familiar with the standard hand signals.

The skier
Skiers can be any age; however, it is recommended they wear an approved Level 50 or 50s lifejacket while skiing.

Personal water craft
Personal water craft (PWC) freestyle driving, wave jumping and surfing are prohibited on Lake Kepwari at all times.

Freestyle is operating a PWC in a way that the skipper of another vessel would be unable to predict its course or speed in order to avoid a collision, this includes doughnuts, 180 degree turns, hops and jumps. Wave and wake jumping is driving a PWC over a wave or swell with the aim of becoming airborne. The wave or the swell may be formed naturally or by the passage of a vessel.

Personal water craft
LAKE KEPWARI

Legend

- Water ski area
- 5 knot speed restriction area
- Closed waters to motorised vessels
- Boat ramp
- Car parking area, boat trailer parking
- Public toilets, BBQ shelter/picnic area

Recreational Skipper’s Ticket
The person in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor of 6 horsepower or less is not required to hold a Recreational Skipper’s Ticket (RST).

A skipper in charge of a recreational vessel with a motor greater than 6 horsepower is required to hold a RST and carry it when boating.

Age restrictions
A person under 10 years may not drive a motor boat.

RST holders over 14 but under 16 years of age are restricted to operating during daylight hours at a speed less than 8 knots.

Interstate skipper’s tickets
If you hold a valid/current interstate ticket, recognised by DoT and you enter, as a visitor or with the intention of permanently residing in the State, you have three months to have the qualification recognised.

Water skiing
Water skiing may be conducted in the indicate area. The direction of all water skiing activities shall be in an anti-clockwise direction and water skiing is only permitted within the daylight hours of sunrise to sunset.

Personal water craft (PWC)
PWC freestyle driving, wave jumping and surfing are prohibited at all times.

Closed waters to motorised vessels
The area as indicated north of the boat ramp is closed to motorised vessels at all times. Swimming, sail and paddle craft are permitted.

5 knot speed restriction
All waters are restricted to 5 knots, except within the designated water ski area during the daylight hours of sunrise to sunset, after which it reverts back to 5 knots.

Paddle craft
Recreational canoes, kayaks, surf skis, wave skis, inflatables or similar craft that are propelled by a person using a paddle must comply with WA marine laws. To get a brochure and sticker about the rules call 13 11 56 or visit www.transport.wa.gov.au/marine/paddlesafe

CCTV used on WA waterways

Take care
Be property

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