



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

State Marine Board

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House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

Chair Representative Witt
Vice-Chair Representative Breese-Iverson
Vice-Chair Representative Hudson
Representative Cate
Representative Marsh
Representative McLain
Representative Post
Representative Reardon
Representative Brock Smith
Representative Williams

Dear Chair Witt, Vice-Chair Breese-Iverson, Vice-Chair Hudson, and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you yesterday regarding the Oregon State Marine Board's recent rulemaking activities for the Willamette River. We strive to provide you with the information that you need as you consider legislation pertaining to recreational boating.

A question was posed yesterday regarding the history of law enforcement data on the Newberg Pool. The table below summarizes the law enforcement activities for this stretch of the Willamette River over the past four years for the Clackamas, Yamhill, and Marion County Sheriff's Offices.

Law Enforcement Actions in the Newberg Pool of the Willamette River

Year	Total Contacts	Violations Addressed	Warnings Issued	Citations Issued	Actions involving wake/wakesport violations
2017	259	86	73	13	18
2018	369	159	150	9	29
2019	1065	400	387	13	70
2020	771	459	450	9	189

We also wanted to take this opportunity to mention a novel approach that the agency is exploring for on-water education and outreach in 2021 and beyond. The Oregon State Marine Board is conducting a pilot project this year to enhance basic boating and water safety skills in three parts of the state – one of which is the Portland Metro area. Three skilled and motivated individuals, called Boating Safety Advocates, will be contracted to help teach boaters to be safe, legal, and courteous. The contractors will conduct on-water, classroom, and community-focused training, teaching boating and water safety at events throughout their area. Contractors will work closely with agency staff to represent agency priorities and will also provide important feedback to the agency. The program will be evaluated in the fall and, if successful, will be doubled in size for 2022.

Please let me know if there is any more information that you would like from the Oregon State Marine Board.

Sincerely,

Larry Warren
Director, Oregon State Marine Board