

I am really disappointed that this is a consideration to ban boats weighing more than 4,000 lbs on the river. This is already a very restricted portion of the river anyway. This has always been a fun family environment for people to be able to use the river, and enjoy it. Considering banning boats on this portion of the river would ruin the atmosphere and affect a lot of people. Many people buy houses along the river so they can use their boat. Not only would this affect them boating but would also decrease the value of their land since it is so limited.

The big argument here is they are saying the waves cause erosion and can cause damage to property. Although there is no actual evidence to support this. I have been up and down this river for many many years. I have seen parts of the river erode but all of this damage has happened in the winter due to the rising and falling levels of the river and the debris in the river. Large erosion is not taking place in the summer due to boating. This is purely a false theory to benefit people who would not want the river to be used for motor boating.

My friend has a business that would be directly impacted by this ban. He depends on the river and motor boating for his income. This state has done enough this year with all the restrictions and limitations to small business. Many businesses have gone out of business due to the restrictions. I would hate to live in an area that doesn't protect the rights of the people that live and play in this area to use the river and enjoy it doing family oriented activities. The river is not owned by a small group and you should not restrict the river because of this small group. It belongs to everyone and there are other ways to make everyone happy besides just banning everyone with a family boat.

Don't boaters pay the Marine board in fees and taxes to fight for their rights to use the river and the freedoms that come with that. I would strongly recommend that we vote to not ban boats there are more than 4000 lbs on the river.

Sincerely

Mike Meyer