

My name is Craig Nichols, My family has recreationally boated in the Willamette River from the Willamette Park area in Portland south to below George Rogers Park in Lake Oswego for nearly 40 years. We water ski, wake board and surf, pull inner tubes and cruise on this beautiful stretch of river. We have had several boats in that time frame, and our current boat is a Malibu 23 LSV that weighs more than 4000 lbs. In our experience boaters are generally safe and courteous, and mindful of shorelines and large wakes. The recreational boating season on the Willamette River is short, generally from Mid June until school starts in September. Surely all the ills complained of regarding recreational boating in the Willamette are not attributable to this short boating season each year and the boats such as the one we enjoy. It is interesting to note that this bill does not address corporate boating such as the Spirit of Portland and the commercial Jet boats, both of which throw significant wakes.