

Regarding HB 2555 and HB 2725

I want to let you know that I am very much opposed to the proposed HB 2555 and 2725. I live on the Willamette River in the Newberg Pool where this bill is proposing to change the way our river is used. I am so tired of the environmentalist trying to turn the Newberg pool into a paddle only river with no motor boats and don't let anyone tell you different. I use the river to fish, swim, kayak and motor boat. I love the river as it is but some very powerful people, most of who do not live on the river want that changed. They are trying to push their agenda on everyone who uses the river.

These people and groups are starting by trying to get wake surfers off of the river. This bill would not allow any boat weighing more than 4000 pounds to be in the Newberg Pool, which is every wake surfing boat. They pushed the OSMB as far as they could convincing them to only allow wake surfing in two very small areas, in the many miles of the Newberg Pool. This only took two years to happen. Moving quickly to the next step, they are going to the legislature to get the boats completely removed from the river. They will tell you that these wake surfing boats are destroying the river and everyone's dock. I am on my dock almost everyday because I fish and this is just not true. The only thing that has an impact on our shoreline is the Army Corp adjusting the water levels. These wake surfing boats do no damage to my dock.

I don't wake surf but I would never try to stop someone else from enjoying the river the way they want. The next step is to make the whole Newberg Pool a no wake zone and eventually not allow any motor boats on the river. Please do not allow this to happen with this HB 2555 and 2725. This is a free country and a free state I do not want to control others lives and I don't want them controlling mine.

Thank you for your consideration. I would make myself available to discuss this issue further with you.

Michael Denton