

I live on the south side of the Willamette River midway between the I-5 bridge and the Butteville general store. Our stretch of the river is some of the narrowest river width between the Canby ferry crossing and Newberg. The damage done to the banks on both sides of the river along this stretch is quite visible. A large section of my property at the river's edge has washed away due to the huge wakes thrown off by these ever heavier wake board boats, purposely weighted at the back to create large waves for their personal enjoyment - caring not at all about the erosion damage nor the danger for families trying to enjoy their docks (If any friends or members of our family are sitting on our dock when these wake board boats pass by, everyone has to hold on to their chairs and any small children must be grabbed and held until the wave and backwash from the bank are diminished.)

Last year, the county and/or other marine authority installed yellow and white buoys designating our narrow sections of the river as illegal for wake board boats. Many such boaters ignored the buoy system - out of ignorance as to what the buoy designations meant; or unwillingness to comply with these buoy restrictions. Given our past experiences and those of our neighbors, I totally support banning all wakeboards weighing more than 4,000 pounds on the Canby to Newberg section of the river.

-Roger B Midura