

I am writing in support of senate bill 857, which would prohibit large wake boats on sections of the Willamette river. As a regular kayaker on the Willamette, I see the importance of shoreline habitat for a wide variety of birds and animals. In particular, beavers often build lodges within river banks, and these would be susceptible to wave damage caused by the boats. The river corridor also provides habitat for many types of mammals, birds, and reptiles. Fish habitat will be harmed by the siltation resulting from unnatural wave action.

Our Willamette is still a relatively pristine escape from the urban environment through which it flows; I urge you to pass this bill in order to help preserve it for the sake of our wildlife and the quieter forms of human recreation . Thank you very much.