

I am an avid boater and small business owner.

I fish and wakeboard. As a fisherman, I can tell you that the upper Willamette is not wide enough for the wake boats. The waves don't diminish enough. If I'm fishing when the wake boats are out, it is very uncomfortable rocking back and forth and sometimes taking on water into my boat. It's not the wake boats fault that the river is too narrow.

When I go wakeboarding, I feel much better when I'm doing it on a larger body of water so as I don't disrupt other peoples activities. It makes sense to me to direct the larger wake boats to larger bodies of water.

As a small business owner, I can tell you that boat sales won't suffer. People will boat where they can, even if it means driving and extra 20 minutes. In other words, people adapt.

Boat manufactures can adapt and build whatever size boat they want. I know Lake Oswego has a specific boat by Mastercraft that sell like hotcakes.

I think you have to look at the overall picture that makes sense. If a few boaters have to boat elsewhere for the good of the majority and the environment, that makes sense.

Thanks for considering SB857