

To the Committee:

I strongly oppose HB 27SB 857.

As I mentioned in my emails to the individual Senators, SB 857 is an unnecessary and overreaching bill that would completely eliminate my family's favorite recreation activity and main source of family time from April through October.

We are willing to work with the strict regulations already in place to share the Willamette river and to be good stewards of the river. However, these further regulations would actually make that impossible for us. I find this proposal completely inequitable as it only serves a select group of users that have become very vocal and committed significant resources to control what is currently still a public waterway.

Erosion is often cited as the main reason to ban wake boats. However, every winter I observe that the upper Willamette rises by 15-20' during winter storms, flooding the Rogers Landing parking lot in Newberg. Along with the rising river level, large logs and debris are swept downstream, impacting banks and docks.

I'll assume your staff has provided you pictures of this to show how much this activity impacts streambank erosion. In case they haven't, I've included some pictures below that I've personally taken of this during a couple recent winters, showing the Rogers Landing boat ramp parking lot flooded and then showing the river dropping 15-20 lower shortly after the winter and spring storms passed.

Pictures and stream data are also archived by the USGS to help with your due diligence.

I strongly oppose HB 27SB 857.

Thank you,
Jon Bowdoin

Rogers Landing parking lot and boat ramp – January 14, 2021





Rogers Landing parking lot and boat ramp – April 26, 2019 (just 2 weeks after April 12th pictures below)



Rogers Landing parking lot and boat ramp – April 12, 2019 (entire parking lot is submerged, with some portions closer to the ramp under 2' of water)



Rogers Landing parking lot and boat ramp – April 12, 2019 (Note the pay station near the launch, in the center of the picture, is partially submerged)

