

We live on Butteville Road on the riverside. Our lot is about 100 feet deep before it drops steeply off to the river. We have had erosion and some collapse of the lower bank because of the wakes on the river, and have installed minor riprap to repair it. A larger installation is prohibited.

Our biggest objection to the big wakes is that our dock, which has had concrete added to it to add weight and slow the bouncing, is hazardous and uncomfortable to use when the big wakes come. Our Grandkids and their friends like to swim off the dock, but the wakes are so big they cannot get near the dock in the water without the risk of getting slammed against the dock. The dock rocks so much it is sometimes hard to stand, and at the very least annoying. Our boat in the boat lift bounces so much we cannot board it safely, even when it is lifted out of the water. When we lower it we have to make sure no boats are coming, or it will bang against the sides of the slip. These big wakes have made quiet enjoyment of our own property, which we have had for years, almost impossible on busy days on the river. Certainly, it makes kayaking dangerous, not just because of the waves possibly swamping the kayak, but they can make boarding them from the dock dangerous. These big wake boats are not designed for a body of water this narrow and with muddy banks. There are lots of types of recreation possible without big wakes, and if they need big wakes, the Columbia River is perfectly appropriate. Please pass this bill and limit the boat weight.