

I strongly oppose SB 857 as it goes too far in restricting river users. Let's look at real facts before taking such measures on a public waterway.

It's disappointing to see the amount of un-substantiated opinions expressed only trying to raise hysteria.

Some proponent testimony implied that the river was hugely congested from March through October. That is absolutely false. As a year-round user of the river, I can confirm that there are only a limited number of days where river traffic is congested. Senator Kennemer's slide presentation had many miss-statements and un-substantiated opinions which I believe puts his complete presentation in question.

On quick review, here are just few of those concerns:

Slide4: shows clear water and then 'wake-boat' induced silt pictures, but not in a controlled fashion. (pics taken from different river locations)

Slide5: Quotes 'experts' stating that boat wakes are a 'contributing factor' to erosion, but for the rest of the presentation, he implies that wake boats are the 'only factor'.

Slide15: Suggests Salmon are impacted by wake boats where other fish experts state that Salmon migrate through this stretch for only a very brief period and not during the limited higher-use boating season.

Slide19: Suggests that the Willamette is narrow where the boat wake is being generated. There is absolutely no way to confirm that with this picture. The river-bank in the photo is blurry, implying just the opposite, that is the bank is very far away from the boat.

Slide 23: Suggests that only a small amount of boats using the Newberg Pool are over 4000lbs, but OSMB stated that 2/3 of the Towed WaterSports certificate boats were over 4000lbs (with average over 5000lbs).

Slide 24: Seems unethical to take only a short snip from Matt Radich's interview. There is no way to know the context of that conversation from the short video used.

Slide 25: States that only 1.3% of boats within 45 miles are over 4000lb target limit. If the goal is to determine the total number of boats potentially impacted, I suggest getting real data on who is actually using that section of river.