

My name is Walt McMonies. I co- own a farm near Newberg along the Willamette River, within the Newberg Pool. I am writing to urge your support of SB 857 -7 which limits the loading weight of a boat while undertaking towed watersports to 5,000 pounds. This is a very generous poundage and would allow the majority of towed water boats to continue their activities. For reference I have a 24 foot high performance boat which I keep in Portland which is about 3900 pounds. This proposed law would only affect the largest of the wake boats and hopefully help in keeping the most damaging wakes from hitting the banks.

I have seen the impact of the wakes in our area. The shoreline is eroded and the river turns brown with sediment with each large wake. See photo taken Saturday showing the effect of one boat passing.



I also have safety concerns. When we were boating last Friday we encountered a wake boat going the opposite direction. Despite cutting the engine I was still thrown up in the air and came down on my hip and back. I had to visit the emergency room and am still experiencing extreme pain. I don't see how any other person trying to recreate on the river at the same time could do so. These large wake boats do not belong in this part of the river.

Thank you for your consideration.

Walt McMonies.