

Submitter: Scott Putnam

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB1589

My family and I have lived on the river in Butteville for the past 11 years. My kids have grown up on the river both wakeboarding and surfing with family and friends. We spend the majority of our summer on our dock and respect the river as its part of our life style. I'm growing very tired of the constant battle to ban wakeboarding and wake surfing during the 3 month summer we get to enjoy while the weather is pleasant. We live on a bend in the river and where our dock is constantly battling debris when the river rises 20-30 feet in the winter months. We don't experience any erosion from the boat made waves as the largest and in my opinion most damaging to docks and banks is the drastic rise in river level in the winter and the large debris that comes along with it. I'm constantly pushing off full size trees and debris from our dock while the water is up. The docks and the erosion of the shore line is from the folks that don't keep up with there property or lack of knowledge on plants or shrubs that hold the shore if any experience of erosion. We also have experienced more vegetation along the shore lines in the water as we didn't previously experience until about 3-4 years ago. With this we have seen the fish population flourish and not diminish as the anti-boater suggest. We also have a cabin in central Oregon on the deschutes and experience erosion but it is simply the same the water level difference between summer and winter months. This has nothing to do with boats that are on the river for 3 months to enjoy summer. It is purely an education standpoint. The folks that don't adhere to the rules and wake surf out of zone are folks that don't know about it because of lack of signage or knowledge