

Submitter: Chris Lambert

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

The current allowed or designated areas for towed water sports do a good job of isolating the heavy wake surfing to non residential sections of the river already and local residents like myself have been responsible in following those guidelines by getting the appropriate approval by taking extra classes, registering our boats, paying for additional usage stickers, and making sure others are aware of the new rules and regulations. Removing our ability to continue to use these waterways in the manner we have been is unfair, biased, and is allowing non-water sport individuals to determine our freedoms - who give them or you the right? A very restrictive solution was agreed to through the Towed Water Spots Newberg Pool allowing everyone involved to be heard and enjoy the river equally. If your allowing usage to some types of water sports whether it be kayaking, fishing, boating of different types but restricting a very select few based on size, type, speed, etc...then you are not treating everyone fair and equitable which is against the law. The rights of the majority should always outweigh the distorted opinion of the few that like to scream the loudest. It is very clear that the majority of users on this river stretch out number and out weigh the people in support of banning towed water sports. River banks erode naturally and grow bigger from more outside influence than we can control, trying to claim that a select type and size of boat during limited 4 month period is creating issues has not been proven and until it can be conclusively proven shutting down or adding further restrictions should not be allowed. The seasonal flooding, storms, ever changing water levels due to Mother Nature have a much greater effect than a limited amount of boat traffic.Thank you.