

Submitter: Michelle Ratter

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

Hello,

As a riverfront homeowner for the past 21 years, I can tell you that myself and my family do indeed live here in Oregon.

This bill is being pushed by many people who do not even recreate this part of the river and/or are providing false information. The studies published by OSU show only photos of the winter months. There is no study or photos of the only TWO wake surfing zones which if this bill passes, will be banned all together. There is also a bullet point missing from OSU's study that clearly states " The intensity of the erosion produced by boat wakes can be considered as very small". This is copied and pasted from their 2018 study. How do we go from this to outright banning a sport or limiting boats without any real evidence? We see huge erosion events when the river is high and fast, or when they are regulating the river levels with the dams (3 or more feet in a day).

You are also proposing all towed water sports for boats over 5000lbs. And the bill states that this has zero monetary impact. How is that true? How many thousands of dollars will Clackamas County lose without people mooring their boats at Boones Ferry Marina. Has that been factored in?. What about actually ENFORCING current rules of the river. Like educating ALL boaters that the surf zones are just for that. Surfing only. Not tubing or wakeboarding. How about enforcing the no wake zone at Boones Ferry Marina?

Our children have grown up in the river. They enjoy the (maybe) four months out of the year that they can go out and enjoy time with family and friends. They have river etiquette, and have come to know our river patrol.

Yes, there are bad eggs who use the river....no matter what sport he/she is engaging, they are out there. Those who kayak and paddle board (which we do as well) also need to understand how to navigate the river as well.

Please invest the time to actually do a study on this proposal.

Regards,
Michelle Ratter