

Submitter: Jeffrey King  
On Behalf Of: All Non-Wake River Users  
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire  
Measure: SB1590

Thank you for considering our comments regarding SB 1590,

My wife and I were raised and lived in the Willamette Valley in our early years. We still call it "home" and we visit relatives and friends in Oregon several times per year. We are avid river, lake and ocean users in non-motorized paddle craft. We bring our boats "home" and rent other paddles crafts to connect our family and friends, especially the youngsters, to the beauty and tranquility of the river.

We oppose wake boats on the river for the following reasons.

1- The damage done to the river banks and to the entire river ecology by heavy tow boats is well documented and irrefutable.

2- The social impact that 1% of the users have on the other 99% cannot be overstated. The activities of this small group is annoying due to their persistent need to blare something they call music as they plow along. No other river user group does this. Water is seen by most people as a tranquil place to enjoy nature. These monsters and their noise are contrary to the ethic of the vast majority of river users.

3- Finally, wake boats are a navigation hazard to almost any other - but particularly to human powered - watercraft. They seem to get a kick out of seeing how many canoes they can swamp, kayaks they can capsize and paddle boarders they can cause to upset. All of these "incidents" have happened to us at one time or another, with zero apologies from the behemoth boat herders. We are not alone as victims of their fun.

The stretch of river in question is already protected. We see no sane reason why that protection should be withdrawn due to the rabble of a small percent of users. They have other places to go. Keep this irreplaceable river segment protected and calm please!

Thanks

Jeff and Molly King