

Monday, March 24, 2025

These regulations and restrictions have been significant for our family. We have had three of our children's family move from the State due to legislative overreach like that found in the bill that restricted use of a public waterway found in the Willamette River. We live in Tualatin and have enjoyed taking our kids and now our grandkids to the river to enjoy the outdoors and do something other than 'play video games'. We have also used the area to provide boating entertainment for neighborhood kids as well as kids from school and other non-profit organizations that try to provide good wholesome entertainment. With all of that said, the arbitrary 'ruling' and subsequent legislation that removed the ability for use to enjoy a publicly controlled waterway was intrusive at the least. We do not need more regulation—we need enforcement of previous adequate laws and rules of the waterways. Most of us were content to concede designated areas to recreate—but that never seemed to be enough. I urge you to reconsider this ill-found restrictive mandate on waterways that should otherwise be free to use for anyone.

Dr. Joseph R. Hall, DC