

Watts Remy

From: Jas Adams <jadams@teleport.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2019 8:30 AM
To: Sen Dembrow; Sen Olsen; Sen Bentz; Sen Prozanski; Sen Roblan; SENR Exhibits; Patrino Beth
Cc: Larry Warren; Val Early (earlyfishing@gmail.com)
Subject: Support for SB 47

Comment by Jas. Adams on SB 47 To Oregon Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources For Public Hearing on February 21, 2019

My name is Jas. Adams, residing in Portland, Oregon. I am both a non-motorized boater (two canoes & dinghy) as well as a motorized boater (Mariner sailboat).

I was the previous Attorney-in-Charge or Assistant AIC of Natural Resources at the Oregon Department of Justice from 2005 until June 2014; I also taught Wildlife Law and Oregon Administrative Law at Willamette University College of Law (2001-16), and I served as a board member of the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) in 2016-18. The following are my comments in support of SB 47.

- Natural Resource Agencies in Oregon that manage recreation long have been forced to support themselves with fees from users instead of with general fund monies. Although some might deplore this method of supporting governmental functions, that is the *status quo* and not likely to change in the foreseeable future.
- Because waterways are the last vestiges of the “public commons,” it should surprise no one that many non-motorized boaters continue to resist regulation and fees.
- At the same time, non-motorized boaters complain about the lack of boating facilities designed for paddling craft and other non-motorized boats. In particular, non-motorized boaters lack ways to gain public access to waterways that are ideal for non-motorized boaters, yet seemingly out of reach.
- Non-motorized boaters also feel that in addition to lacking access and facilities, they do not have a voice or any impact on regulation or the priorities of the OSMB. And yet, non-motorized boaters are the largest growth sector of recreational boaters.
- Whatever may have been the collective reluctance by non-motorized boaters and legislators during previous attempts to bring non-motorized boaters into the fold, this is clearly the time to do so. The Marine Board needs non-motorized boaters, and non-motorized boaters need the Marine Board.
- Only by being part of the community of boaters that contribute to recreational boating will non-motorized boaters get their needs met for access to waterways, for boat docks best suited for non-motorized craft, for regulation that recognizes the

rights of non-motorized boaters to have areas where they are not endangered by motorized craft, and for quiet enjoyment of Oregon's incredible array of waterways.

- I urge all legislators, and all non-motorized boaters, to lend their support to ensure SB 47 is enacted. SB 47 is the key to the future of recreational boating in Oregon.

Respectfully submitted -- Jas. Adams

Note -- SB 47 replaces the requirement that nonmotorized boats obtain an aquatic invasive species (AIS) permit because a portion of waterway access permit fee is dedicated to AIS prevention and control. In this regard, the summary of the bill is incomplete. Instead of reciting: "Eliminates requirement that person operating non-motorized boat have aquatic invasive species permit," the bill summary more accurately should state: "Replaces requirement that person operating non-motorized boat have aquatic invasive species permit by dedicating portion of waterway access permit to AIS prevention and control."