

## VOTE YES ON HB 2351

**A diverse coalition of Oregonians supports the Willamette Greenway Bill, closing a policy gap and empowering the Oregon State Marine Board to:**



- ◆ **Protect native salmon recovery**
- ◆ **Protect personal & public property**
- ◆ **Increase river safety & reduce conflicts**
- ◆ **Decrease erosion and protect habitat**

### **The Problem:**

Large, heavy boats engineered to “Bring The Ocean To You”, weighing upwards of 12,000 pounds create unnatural ocean-size waves. Wakes stacked, nearly 4 feet high, for the purpose of surfing are not compatible with soft silt embankments lining much of the Willamette River Greenway. The river is narrow, providing little natural capacity for the impact of the wakes to dissipate before hitting the shoreline.

- **Agencies charged with protecting the greenway are not authorized to regulate boating activity.**
- **The Oregon State Marine Board does not have authority to support the Willamette River Greenway and Land Use Goal 15 or provide habitat protection, resulting in a policy gap.**
- Waves damage habitat that supports Chinook Salmon and Winter Steelhead.
- Unnatural waves damage public and personal property – financial impacts from \$2,000 up to \$200,000 to repair docks, homes, and embankments.
- Waves jeopardize the safety and enjoyment of other river users, including paddlers, fishermen, kayakers, swimmers, Dragon Boat paddlers, canoers, children on floats, etc.

**The Solution: HB 2351 would empower the OSMB to consider *Willamette Greenway* goals as part of its responsibility and mission to regulate the activities of recreational boaters, fishermen, property owners and other river users.**

In addition to all of the organizations endorsing HB 2351, it is also supported by Calm Water Coalition, which includes: *Portland Rowing Club - Oregon Yacht Club - Willamette Riverkeeper - Macadam Bay Moorage - Human Access Project - Waterfront Organizations of Oregon (WOOO) - Lewis & Clark College Rowing - Portland Boat House - Landing Boat Club - Oaks Park Community Boat House - Wasabi Paddling Club - Dragon Boats & Outrigger Canoes - Willamette Sailing Club - RiversWest Small Craft Center - Station L Rowing Club - Rose City Rowing Club - Lake Oswego Rowing Club - Willamette Rowing Club*

**From the desk of Rep. Chris Gorsek**

4/8/19



Oregon River Safety & Preservation Alliance



Willamette RIVERKEEPER™

WILLAMETTE GREENWAY ALLIANCE

**WGA**



CALM WATER COALITION