

This specific legislation targets wake surfing which is a recreational boating activity enjoyed by many boaters on the Willamette. It is a safe and low speed activity that operates around 10mph unlike many other boating activities which operate at much higher speeds. Wake surfing boats do throw off a large wake which some dock owners and other not motorized river users do not like but there is no danger associated with it. Safety should be the number one concern for any allowed water sport and this activity is safe. While there are arguments about shoreline erosion, these are opinions and misleading for two reasons. 1) The water levels during the time of year when these activities occur is very low relative to the actual shore line levels during the majority of the year and 2) the shoreline (especially when the water levels are low) are primarily large rocks. The wake argument also falls short as there are many types of boats that utilize the river, some are very large and therefor create very large wakes. There are no targeted attacks against the operation of these boats. The river should be shared by all as long as the activities are safe. What may be considered a nuisance by some users is a real joy for others, we should legislate with tolerance and safety in mind. Enforcement of existing rules and ensuring safe operations along the river should be the priority vs adding more and more restrictions to satisfy one group of users at the expense of others.