

I'm writing you to ask for your support of House Bill 2555 / 2725 and 2695. I am an avid fisherman / outdoors man and find it hard to believe that the state of Oregon allows recreational boats on the Willamette River that produce ocean sized waves and interfere with regular boating activities. Have you seen the resulting turbidity when one of these boats goes by? I am an enthusiast for family recreation but not at the expense of so many other Oregonians and our priceless salmon. The river is all of ours to enjoy and one group doesn't have the right to ruin it for the rest of us.

In addition, our fisheries have been suffering for many years and asking our native fish to try and navigate the rivers at increased temperatures, decreased oxygen levels, and now they have the added pressure of trying to make the long journey through muddy and murky waters.

The Oregon State Marine Board ultimately is responsible for this on going issue and anything that can be done to change the dynamics in this agency will be a welcome change. If house bill 2695 passes, getting a few more board members with a more balanced and better represented perspective could be what it takes to save the Willamette River from the destructive forces it faces all summer.

I urge you to support both House Bill 2555 / 2755 and HB 2695.