

Dear Committee:

I urge you to support HB 2555 and HB 2695 to protect the nurseries of the river. These nurseries, that create habitat and food for many river species, are the very nearshore areas that are harmed by artificial waves generated by some towed water sports boats.

By passing HB 2555 and HB 2695, we can limit the huge weight of towed water sports boats to 4,000 lbs (which should be river-wide), and can create a more representative OSMB to better incorporate protection of the nurseries of the river, protect private property, and protect other river users. Obviously the board that controls human activity in the river needs to take into account more than just the human activity. Human activity should be regulated so that it affects the river ecosystem in the most minimal way possible. We have to be stewards of the land and waters we recreate in rather.

Today these wake boats are far too big, and the OSMB is too limited in its representation.

Thank you for supporting these two bills.

Sincerely,
Elliott Gansner