

Submitter: Linda Leyva

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

The nearshore “nurseries of the river” are where an amazing amount of biological productivity occurs, support a range of species from wild fish, freshwater mussels, to birds and mammals. These shallow water areas extending up to 50ft from the shoreline are where the artificial waves slam into the river bottom, and the riverside. These waves damage these delicate ecosystems.

The science on this subject is well known and clear, and does not need to be repeated yet again on the Willamette. A recent study from the University of Minnesota also clearly concluded that Towed Water Sports boats are NOT like other motor boats and concluded that wake boats need to be at least 500ft from shorelines to protect them.

Only a small number of registered power boats would be impacted by this new law. There are 165,000 registered power boats in Oregon, and only 500 have the Towed Water Sports certificate, and a smaller subset of that number uses the Newberg Pool.

Please support SB1589 and oppose Amendments -7, -10, -11, -12, -13, -14. It is so important to protect the Willamette, and avoid this unnecessary impact from oversize wakes from oversize boats.