

Submitter: James Barnes

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Environment and Natural Resources

Measure: SB1589

I have lived within walking distance to the Newberg Pool since 1988. I moved to Wilsonville for easy access to the river for fishing and water sports.

In listening to the testimony presented at the Feb 21 meeting, I have a few observations.

- 1) The testimony concerning salmon/salmonoids does not appear to apply to the Newberg pool. The Newberg pool is not a spawning ground for salmon, nor do they "live" there. Salmon swim through the pool to spawn upstream where there is gravel and cooler water. While you will see hundreds of people fishing below Willamette falls, or upstream of the Newberg pool, you almost never see salmon fishing in Newberg pool. The pool is primarily a warm water fishery (e.g., bass, carp, catfish).
- 2) Much was made about 12,000 lb boats. And that the regulations would only affect a few boats. If that is true, a few boats cannot have as much impact as poor land/vegetation management and the constant river current eating away at the banks.
- 3) The state needs to enforce the existing regulations. Not add more regulations.
- 4) Wake surfing is already regulated to, two small stretches of the pool. To ban wakesurfing from the entire pool will have minimal impact on the river banks and derive many people from a sport they love.

At a minimum, SB 1589 should be amended to: remove the ban on wakesurfing and study what weight limit is backed up by better scientific review of boat wake impacts.

Thank You, James Barnes