

February 8, 2024

Testimony in Opposition to SB 1590

Carol Colleen

To repeal all statutes regulating towed water sports on the 30-mile Newberg Pool segment of the Willamette River would be a travesty.

A river like the Willamette is not designed to withstand the ravages of the huge wakes generated by heavy wake boats used for wake surfing and other towed water sports.

These huge wakes cause irreparable erosion and damage to the shorelines and habitat areas near the shore of the river. The huge wakes and noise from these boats interfere with the enjoyment of the river by other users.

There was a reason the Legislature enacted SB 1589 which banned wake surfing and imposed weight limits on boats used for water sports because those legislators recognized the importance of protecting the Willamette River.

I am abhorred that you are even considering repealing these regulations.

I beg of you to do the right thing and protect and preserve our beautiful Willamette River. Do not pass this legislation.

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