

Submitter: Michael Rogers

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

I support SB 1590 as it will increase public access to towed water sports for hundreds of families along the Newberg pool. The planned zones proposed by the OSMB was shaped with input from diverse river stakeholders. These zones ensure safety for river users and the environment by limiting towed water sports to suitable areas. Peer-reviewed scientific studies show that waves created by boats from a safe distance (i.e. 200 feet+ from shore) do not significantly impact shorelines. Residential development is the leading source of human-caused erosion in the Newberg Pool according to ecological restoration engineer David Gorman. Moreover, natural occurrences such as winter storms have a much greater impact on erosion than boating. Wake sports largely take place in the summer, outside of key migratory or spawning months. Studies show that wake boat waves, when operated at least 200 feet from shore, do not carry enough energy to have a significant impact on most shorelines.

Thank you for your support of this important legislation.