

Submitter: Kristy Overton

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

Hello, I feel strongly that you should oppose this bill. It rolls back important protections against artificial waves on the Willamette River. Wake boats are not just a nuisance for everyone else on the river; the waves they generate upset the fragile ecology in the nearshore areas of the river. Eliminating the 5,500 lb weight restriction will unleash significant impacts to these nearshore areas. The current protections are not just good for the environment, they're good for basically everyone except wake boat manufacturers--there have been far more paddleboard, canoes, kayaks, swimmers, and water skiers on the Newberg Pool stretch of the Willamette since they were put in place. Removing wake boats has made the river much more attractive, and has enabled a far higher number of people to safely recreate. Please don't advance this anti-Willamette River legislation. Thank you for your time.