

Submitter: Maria Olsen

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire

Measure: SB1590

I am in support of SB 1590. This bill ensures greater freedom and flexibility in Oregon's water recreation regulations. The current statutes impose unnecessary restrictions and bureaucratic hurdles that hinder recreational activities on our waterways. By repealing them, we can foster a more accessible and enjoyable environment for all water enthusiasts while maintaining necessary safety measures. There is no empirical evidence or peer-reviewed study that links the current restrictions to having any positive effect on fish populations. Wake sports largely take place in the summer, outside of key migratory or spawning months. Studies show that wake boats' waves, when operated at least 200 feet from shore, do not carry enough energy to have a significant impact on most shorelines. We need to pass this bill so Oregonians can fully embrace the natural beauty of our state's waterways.