

Testimony in Support of Allowing Towed Water Sports in the Newberg Pool

I strongly support allowing all towed water sports in the Newberg Pool.

Growing up around the water shaped my love for Oregon and my decision to stay here. My family spent countless summers enjoying water sports together—building confidence, responsibility, and lifelong memories.

Water sports, including wake surfing, offer a **safe, accessible, and community-building** outdoor activity. Wake surfing, in particular, is a **low-speed** sport that is easier to learn, allowing more people—especially beginners and families—to participate safely. This inclusivity fosters a stronger connection to the water and keeps future generations engaged in outdoor recreation.

Beyond personal enjoyment, allowing towed water sports benefits **Oregon's economy and local communities**. Families who invest in waterfront homes, marinas, and recreation areas contribute significantly through **dock fees, boat sales, tourism, and local businesses**. Restricting access would drive enthusiasts elsewhere, reducing economic activity and diminishing our connection to the rivers that define our state.

I urge you to support families, local businesses, and the preservation of our outdoor traditions by allowing towed water sports to continue in the Newberg Pool.