



PO Box 14145 Salem, OR 97309-5065  
Media Contacts: Ashley Massey

Phone: (503) 378-2623  
Fax: (503) 378-4597

**For Immediate Release**

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## Marine Board Hosting Two Listening Sessions, Invites Portland Water Recreators

The Oregon State Marine Board will be hosting two public listening sessions in June to gain different perspectives from people who live and recreate on Portland waterways. The listening sessions are scheduled for June 3, from 1 pm to 5 pm, and June 5, from 4 pm to 8 pm at the Multnomah Building Commissioners Board Room 100, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., in Portland.

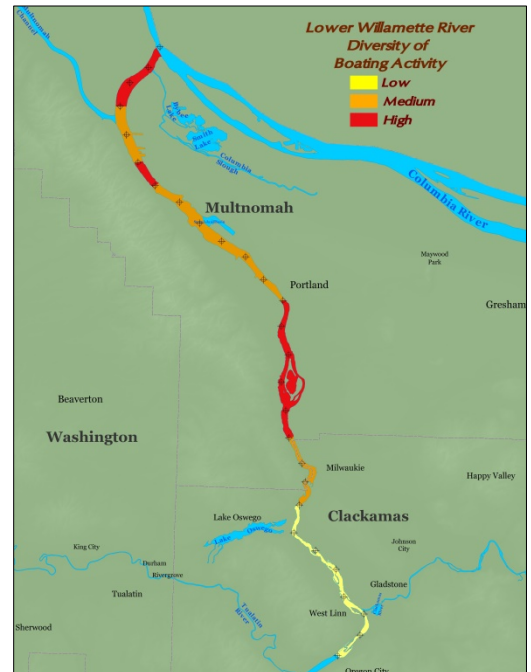
The Marine Board is encouraging anyone with an interest in water recreation (e.g. swimming, boating) to attend one of the meetings and share their perspectives about the activities they do, when and where they do them, and why.

Portland's waterways are experiencing increased and diverse recreational use and the Marine Board wants to collect information from water recreationists to better understand use patterns and identify congestion zones. The Marine Board would like to explore measures to reduce conflicts while still optimizing the recreational potential of the Rose City's waterways.

These listening sessions are in response to feedback the agency received from recreational boaters when crafting the 2017-2022 strategic plan in an effort to be more proactive in reducing causal factors and conflict in areas with mixed-use or competing interests. The agency's mission includes providing the public with a safe and enjoyable experience on the water.

The Multnomah Building is wheelchair accessible with parking available downtown.

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*Pictured: Preliminary surveys conducted by the Marine Board indicate some specific zones within the Portland waterway system have more potential for user conflict than others.*