



CENTRAL OREGON LANDWATCH

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*Protecting Central Oregon's natural environment
and working for sustainable communities.*

April 4, 2013

HB 2254 , -1: Neutral with one suggested addition

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the House Land Use Committee,

My name is Jonathan Manton and I'm testifying today on behalf of Central Oregon LandWatch. Additional background on COLW's more than 25 years of land use advocacy in Central Oregon is found below. I very much appreciate this opportunity to share our concerns.

We are neutral on the -1 amended HB 2254, but would like to recommend one important addition. The city of Bend's proposed expansion on its West side would abut an area prone to forest fires. Please add forest fires to the list of risks enumerated in Section 7(2)(b)(B) on page 15. That section should read:

".....including a risk of land slides, a risk from forest fires, a risk of flooding....."

Also, we look forward to participating in the rule making process, especially that results from Section 7(2)(c)(A) on the criteria to be used for selecting what lands come in.

Central Oregon LandWatch ("LandWatch") is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization located in Bend, Oregon. Our mission is to help achieve a balanced and integrated approach to land use planning that will safeguard our natural resources and foster economically thriving communities. We encourage effective land use planning by: providing information and support for meaningful public participation; researching, drafting, and disseminating ideas on public policy; and pursuing litigation when necessary to enforce federal, state, and local land use and environmental laws and codes.

LandWatch was founded by Attorney Paul Dewey in 1986. Mr. Dewey served under two Oregon governors reviewing roadless areas and was on Governor Kitzhaber's Eastside Forest Advisory Council for 6 years. He has over 25 years of litigation experience representing clients throughout Central Oregon in land use cases before local governments, the Land Use Board of Appeals, State Circuit Court, the Oregon Court of Appeals and the Oregon Supreme Court. LandWatch maintains an active database with supporters from all across Oregon.

LandWatch will continue its legislative advocacy for:

- Sound solutions that lesson the tension within our land use system
- Protections of special places and natural resources for this and future generations
- Fair, open, and accessible decision making processes.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be with you today,

Jonathan Manton, Advocate
Central Oregon LandWatch

Central Oregon LandWatch

~
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