

April 9, 2013

Senator Alan Olsen Party: R District 20
900 Court Street, NE, S-425
Salem, OR 97301

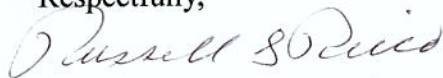
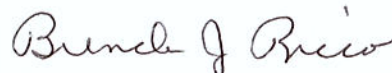
Dear Senator Olsen:

We strongly oppose including the North Fork of the Burnt River in the Oregon Wild and Scenic Waterways Program which is in the proposed version of Senate Bill 401. We don't believe the river fits very well into a scenic waterway. It runs heavy in the snow melt and it's barely livestock water later in the summer and remaining that way the rest of the year.

We are one of the few private landowners whose property lies straddling the river. Our property is approximately 3 miles long and more or less ½ mile wide consisting of 690 acres. The wild and scenic designation with its quarter mile on either side of the river restrictions would have major impacts on the majority of the property. It would affect the grazing, river banks, irrigating and water diversion for the entire ranch. It seems to go beyond protection and in our opinion would create a 'taking' of our private land.

We feel our property is being managed well now and a wild and scenic designation is **not** in our best interest. We appreciate you making this letter part of the record for SB401.

Respectfully,

Elmwood Ranch
Russell S. Ricco, President
Brenda J. Ricco, Secretary
25800 Green Haven Road
Prairie City, OR 97869
541-820-3515