

April 15, 2013

To: Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Subject: SB401

This bill intends to designate portions of the Alsea River, among others, a 'scenic' waterway. That designation will give the government the right to control the property adjacent to the river for a quarter of a mile. Landowners will be severely restricted in the use of their property, an *uncompensated taking* of their property rights. On other scenic waterways, property owners have been forced to plant trees and bushes to totally obscure their homes and out-buildings from the view of the river.

The people who live on the river, who spent their own money buying the property and building on it, are the ones who want to SEE the river. They are there every day because that is the life they wanted. I don't understand the assumption that a home is an unpleasant eye-sore for the odd person canoeing or kayaking down the river. Why are they of more concern than the property owners?

The residents of the Alsea Valley have already fought off the Federal Government's attempt to make the Alsea a scenic river. They do not want that designation. They want to be left alone to enjoy their property, as is their right. This legislation is utterly uncalled for, and the fact that an 'emergency' is being declared to force it into law immediately is another outrage. Why hasn't the committee scheduled a field day to go to Alsea and talk to the people affected by this bill?

The people of Alsea love their river. They take good care of it. They should be left alone to enjoy it.

Please vote no on this bill.

Kim Rowe
7252 NW Spring Creek Dr.
Corvallis, OR 97330