



CENTRAL OREGON LANDWATCH

25 NW MINNESOTA AVE. #12

BEND, OR 97701

PHONE: (541) 647-1567

FAX: (541) 647-1568

WWW.CENTRALOREGONLANDWATCH.ORG

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

In Opposition to SB 250

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 of well over 2500 supporters from all across Oregon. LandWatch will continue its legislative advocacy for:

- Sound solutions that lessen 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.

We oppose SB 250 out of concerns that it could fundamentally alter the management of urban growth boundaries, not just industrial lands. Section 5 provides that after a period of 10 years, the industrial lands to be identified may be rezoned to other uses. A city could easily end run the system by bringing into the UGB lands under this industrial provision and then 10 years later changing them to residential. There would be no need for any city to go through an

urban growth boundary process. We are certainly open to conversations about how to improve the UGB expansion process for all participants. This approach, however, could effectively dismantle it.

Also, SB 250 would undercut an extensive regional process that's been underway for years. As you are likely to hear from others, this process involves numerous Central Oregon cities, counties, land use planning advocates, and DLCD. There has been an appeal to LUBA, a settlement, and ultimately an agreement on a process for identifying industrial land sites. We should let this agreement work rather than heighten tensions within our system with this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our concerns and opposition to SB 250.

-Jonathan Manton, Advocate
Central Oregon LandWatch