

Smith Holly

From: Lee Ann Ross <rossleeann@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 11:08 AM
To: HEE Exhibits
Subject: HB 2705, 2706, and 2707

I am writing in support of House Bills 2705, 2706 and 2707. Central Oregon Flyfishers is an angling club of almost 400 individuals based in Bend, Oregon (www.coflyfishers.org). We are an active club with monthly meetings, fishing outings, education classes, youth angling programs, classroom education in the Bend La Pine School District, etc. We consider ourselves stakeholders in the appropriation, use, and management of water in Oregon.

Water is precious in our part of the state. Rivers are over appropriated and often water flows are low enough to endanger fish and wildlife. As anglers we see the devastation caused by mismanagement of our water far too often. We believe that water belongs to all Oregonians, not just holders of senior water rights. We also understand the looming shortage that must be addressed as Oregon continues to grow.

We write to voice our support for House Bills 2705, 2706, and 2707. In order to ensure the best use of our scarce resource, water use should be measured, water extractors should pay their fair share of administration costs, and we should know how much groundwater we have. These are basic tools needed for planning, analysis, and good governance. We encourage you to pass HB 2705, 2706, and 2707.

Respectfully,

Lee Ann Ross
President, Central Oregon Flyfishers