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**From:** Thaddeus and Leslie Dancer <mrandmrstdancer@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 25, 2017 12:06 PM  
**To:** SENR Exhibits  
**Subject:** Support of House Bill 2027

Dear Senate Committee Members,

We reside at 60773 River Bend Drive, in Deschutes County, Oregon. We are in the River Bend Estates a "River Community" and WE SUPPORT HB2027 aka the No Bridge Legislation.

We are dog owners, trail walkers, trail bikers, taxpaying voters, and respect our natural surroundings and wildlife.

We support the free-flowing character of the Deschutes River.

We support the protection of scenic and natural values for the struggling and fragile fishery, riparian habitat and wildlife.

We support private property rights.

We live on the east side of the Deschutes River, our backyard consists of 105 feet of Deschutes River which is state and federally designated as a Scenic and Wild Waterway. We are required to maintain a natural shoreline. No buildings, no decks, no zip lines, no rope swings, no improvements of any sort. It is to remain a natural shore for the Deschutes river.

We understand the need to protect the natural inhabitants of this special area, whereas, we think that is not true for The Bend Parks and Recreation District.

Building a bridge just three lots north of our home will disturb the natural shoreline and harm the abundant wildlife living and migrating through this area. This is a habitat of threatened and endangered species, birds, fishes, frogs and those sorts of things. We know all kinds of wildlife live among us as evidenced by their dropping and footprints. There are quail, beaver, deer, elk, coyote, and what is that paw print we found in our driveway last winter! The birds are amazing as they hunt the river and summer fields. We currently do not know what kind of birds migrate through this area, but the huge ponderosa trees are loaded at different times with different species.

We are directly across the river from the off lease area of the National Forest, what is commonly called "Happy Dog Park". This area is the intended west side for the bridge location in the DNF. It is busy, year round, with bikers, hikers and off leash (lots of barking!) dogs from dawn to well after sunset. We see dogs disturb nesting fowl, trample down natural vegetation, and even dogs barking up the old snag where the osprey nest. This area is already so well loved by the people, that the natural vegetation has been crushed down and does not replenish itself... it is becoming a barren, and dusty shoreline.

We know if the pedestrian bridge goes on this section of the Deschutes River, the wildlife will leave the area. Plain and simple. This bridge is likened to a 8 lane freeway for the mass amount of people living on the east side and daily crossings to and fro will damage the struggling and fragile habitat. No habitat, no wildlife.

Let us not confuse convenience for access. The people have plenty of access to the river for recreation, but where will the wildlife go? Pushed out to where?

WE SUPPORT HB2027. We invite you to come to our home, so that you may see for yourself this natural and wild scenic waterway that is abundant - with wildlife and abundant already with the people who have chosen to get to the river the long way.

Thank you,

Leslie and Thaddeus Dancer  
60773 River Bend Dr  
Bend, Oregon 97702



This is a dime next to the paw print of wildlife in our driveway. Scary!  
We are in their world, let's not push them out of there home for our convenience.