

## Hamre Jaime

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**From:** Helen <hfreilich@olypen.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 9:14 AM  
**To:** HAGNR Exhibits  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 4029

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:

Please support HB 4029, protecting the Upper Deschutes River in Deschutes County. This river is already designated as a State Scenic Waterway and a Federal Wild and Scenic River. I am concerned that building more bridges will increase use of the river corridor for recreation at the expense of the wildlife. Already much of the river is accessible by trails or roads. I think we should let this part of the river remain as wild as possible.

I live in River Canyon Estates, a subdivision along the river in SW Bend. I moved to this neighborhood because of the access to the river, via an irrigation ditch road. But now I realize that too many people along the river, especially with unleashed dogs, disturbs wildlife. A bridge across the river would increase recreation use. So I suggest limiting future use to established roads and trails. If we need more trails, make them far away from water and other sensitive habitats.

I am an avid walker and outdoors person. But I am also a retired environmental educator and understand the value of undisturbed habitats for plants and animals to thrive. The river belongs to all living things, and we need to share.

Thank you,

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