
From: Bob Brell <bobdellie@bendbroadband.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 11:39 AM
To: HAGNR Exhibits
Subject: Testimony on HB 4029

Dear Chairman Clem, Vice-Chairs McLain and Sprenger and members of the Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The people of Oregon established the Oregon Scenic Waterways Program in 1970, recognizing that wise individual and public use of these special rivers and adjacent lands is necessary. It strives to achieve a balance between protecting the rivers' natural resources and the equally valuable lives and plans of the people who live along them.

We live in Bend and have followed the efforts of Bend Metro Parks and Recreation District, a public agency, to ride rough-shod over the intent of the Oregon Scenic Waterways Program to achieve BMPRD's business objective (a continuous trail connecting Sunriver with Sisters). There are alternatives for BMPRD to achieve its short term objective without constructing a foot bridge over the sensitive and wild scenic stretch of the Deschutes River south of Bend. The Haul Trail Road is a more than viable alternative for BMPRD to achieve its objective without spending public money for a bridge and without impacting sensitive wildlife.

Oregon State Parks has undergone 2 public processes that included stakeholder groups in the past 3 years, open houses and public meetings to discuss the issue. It has been thoroughly vetted locally. Each time the conclusion was to maintain and strengthen river protections.

Please support House Bill 4029 which aims to protect for future generations wild and scenic stretches of the Deschutes River.

Bob and Dellie Brell
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