
From: Bill Marlett <bmarlett@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 2:28 PM
To: HAGNR Exhibits
Subject: HB 4029 Support

Dear members of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee,

I urge your support for House Bill 4029 to continue the existing ban on bridges over the Deschutes River State Scenic Waterway.

I was the county planner that coordinated the Deschutes County/City of Bend Deschutes "River Study" (1986), a Goal 5 analysis that set the stage for both the State Scenic Waterway and Federal Wild and Scenic River designations on the Deschutes River. I was also involved in Senator Hatfield's Omnibus Oregon Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1988, and coordinated the 1988 "Oregon Rivers Initiative" (Ballot Measure 7) designating additional reaches of the Deschutes River, including the river reach at issue.

While the River Study acknowledged the need for more public access along the Deschutes River, it likewise acknowledged the need to protect (and restore) fish and wildlife habitat. Since adoption of the administrative rule governing protection of the Deschutes River over 20 years ago, much development has taken place along the Deschutes River, diminishing the quality of existing wildlife habitat. Where there is an option, further degradation of wildlife habitat should be avoided.

To that end, I urge you to vote in favor of HB 4029.

Thank you,

Bill Marlett
1977 NW 1st Street
Bend, OR 97703