

The proposed bridge would impact the river and riparian communities in that area, and would increase foot and bike traffic on the GoodDog!/Meadow Camp section of the Deschutes River Trail, **the only section that is currently legal for off-leash dogs during the summer** ([May 15-September 15](#)). Increased use might result in the prohibition of off-leash dogs by the Forest Service, on that section and possibly on more or all of the DRT; and

2) the proposed bridge is unnecessary, because there is already a walking/biking route on the west side of the river that connects the DRT in town to the DRT in the national forest. Both the existing west-side route and the proposed east-side route require some travel along roads.

I am against the proposed bridge as there is plenty of access to trails on either side of the Deschutes River. Please help protect this wildlife area with no further bridges. I am also concerned that the further development of bridges such as the proposed one on the Deschutes River might start a precedent that could impact wildlife areas along other Oregon rivers.

Sharlene Tobin
Bend, Oregon