

## Hamre Jaime

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**From:** Larry Hansen <chicohans@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 11, 2018 11:29 AM  
**To:** HAGNR Exhibits  
**Subject:** HB 4029

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

As a resident of Bend I urge the Oregon Legislature to oppose HB4029 - the anti-bridge bill. Please support Bend Parks and Rec in their efforts to increase access to the Deschutes River trails and east-west access to the Deschutes National Forest. The location of the proposed bridge, although in a designated "Wild and Scenic" area, is not a threat to terrestrial and/or aquatic wildlife. As a retired professional wildlife and fisheries biologist it is my opinion that the "environmental" arguments against the bridge are misguided at best and misleading at worst. The idea that a bridge that crosses the river at a location leading into a USFS "Good Dog" off-leash area will disturb elk and deer is ludicrous. The off-leash area is a much greater disturbance to wildlife, given all the urine and feces deposited, not to mention the likelihood of dogs chasing wildlife. The proposed location is hardly in a "pristine" area. There is considerable development on both sides of the river, and this has, and will have, much more environmental impact than the hikers and bikers that will use the bridge. The primary threat to the spotted frog and the aquatic environment is not the bridge or hikers - it is the dam-altered flow of the Deschutes River. Greater access to the public lands along the river will do more to protect the future of the river - familiarity with the river and surrounding environment will bolster the desire to preserve and enhance the public lands that surround Bend.

Sincerely,

Larry Hansen  
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