

Watts Remy

From: SouthCoastToursLLC <dave@southcoasttours.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 11:05 AM
To: SENR Exhibits
Cc: Dave Lacey
Subject: SB47 Opposition

Hello, my name is Dave Lacey and I own and operate South Coast Tours (SCT). We are a small outfitter providing high quality outdoor recreational experiences from Coos Bay down to Brookings and into the Redwoods of California. We employ 4-6 guides seasonally and receive clients from all over the country and the world.

I would like to voice my opposition to SB47 as written. I believe the intent is good, but the current form of this bill will have a negative affect on outdoor recreation in Oregon for these and possibly other unforeseen reasons:

- SB47 is not socially equitable. The fees proposed would negatively impact lower income recreationalists and newcomers to the paddle sports. I believe this bill will be a barrier to new and existing recreationalists.
- This bill will negatively impact small outfitters like SCT disproportionately in an already difficult business environment with the high costs of running an outfitter business.
- The tourism experience could be negatively impacted by the application of fines for non-compliance. Imagine a tourist with a canoe on their car who comes to Oregon to experience one of our amazing wild rivers and upon conclusion of their paddle get a ticket because they did not know about this unneeded rule. Their experience could be ruined, they may never come back to spend money in Oregon and they may tell their friends about their bad experience or post on social media further impacting our tourism industry.
- There are currently other funding mechanisms that can and are used for the intended purpose of SB47 like the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Let's fully fund that and let this bill go.
- SB47 may not be used for it's intended purpose and simply further the growth of yet another agency creating more bureacracy for guides, outfitters and other recreationalists in Oregon.
- Municipalities, counties and parks are barely able to maintain or improve current existing access points so I do not think we need to add more deffered maintenance issues for new access points at this time.

I have many concerns over this bill as written. I believe there are better routes to generate waterway access and improvements. If we truly need more access let's do it another way. Oregon should not provide more access by making it harder for economically challenged people, for smaller outfitters or from tourist (or Oregonian) ticket infraction costs.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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South Coast Tours LLC mission statement: To provide the best possible tour experience using an approach that measures organizational success on the values of economic, ecological, and social equity

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