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To: [Exhibits HNR](#)
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Chair Witt and Committee Members!

Klamath-Lake County Farm Bureau would like to take this opportunity to urge the committee to support HB 3081. This bill is important to irrigators in the upper Klamath Basin as it addresses flawed flow gauges.

These gauges have been shown to miss up to 30% of the water flow. The gauges need to be moved to better locations and properly calibrated and maintained.

The flow data that these gauges register is used by the Klamath Tribes and OWRD to determine when to make a senior water calls. If the flow data is inaccurate, then irrigators are being regulated off when they could still be irrigating.

Examples of this was in 2017 when irrigators were regulated in the Sprague River Valley. Water users there were unable to install pumps because of extremely high river levels and many of their pastures still had water on them because of the wet winter. This was happening in May when the Tribe made their water call.

Another example occurred in Wood River Valley in 2017. Their water users were regulated off for a few days than allowed to irrigate for a few days. This on again, off again regulation went on for over a month. During this time river flows were very high and continued to be strong through July.

It is critical the OWRD have accurate data when determining to regulate water users. These calls have major economic impacts not only on water users, but on the community as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Lyndon Kerns

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