

Dear Committee Members,

Our daughter is nearly 12. Throughout her lifetime, we have shared with her our love of Oregon's wildest places, including Steens Mountain, the Oregon Coast, Rock Lakes, among many others. She has come to love these places as we do, recognizing the solace that she feels when she's outside, surrounded by trees, lakes, rivers and the lack of civilization and technology. She recognizes not only the beauty of the Santiam River corridor, where, until last summer, we enjoyed a family cabin near Breitenbush, but what those wild places offer to us as humans. As Edward Abbey so eloquently stated, "Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity of the human spirit."

What will happen to our spirits when the wildfires have burned our last remaining refuges, the deepest corridors of the amazing Rogue River corridor, where we've vacationed as a family nearly annually until smoke kept us out?

Passing bipartisan carbon pricing legislation at the national level, like the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, can help us decrease the destruction of these beautiful places. Naturally, there are so many other benefits as well, even for those who aren't as driven by nature: spurring the local and the green economy through the creation of jobs; protecting low and middle income families from rising energy costs; avoiding hundreds of thousands of premature deaths; putting money in the hands of the people to spend as they see fit, while all the while shifting our focus as a society to practices that secure a livable world for us all.

Thank you for all the efforts made thus far to put forth this Resolution.  
Please pass SJM 5.

Warmly,  
Tamara Staton