To: Members of the Joint Subcommittee on Capital Construction

Re: McKenzie River Discovery Center (MRDC)

Dear Co-Chairs and Committee Members -

I am writing to advocate for the McKenzie River Discovery Center. I love the place and its potential, and I can't say enough about the uniqueness of the McKenzie River.

Unfortunately, the Holiday Farm Fire has badly hurt the corridor both environmentally and economically. While the Center will address all ages and passions, it will also provide an engaging invitation for visitors to discover the river for themselves. The area deserves more than just a drive by.

The Discovery Center's educational value is important. Its educational potential can cover life smaller than a macroinvertebrate to concerns as big as climate change. Area schools will have access to a wonderful resource. Longer term, the area will benefit from an attraction available year-round and not limited to the seasons.

Grateful for your consideration,

Amy Pendell 82307 Bear Creek Road Creswell Or. 97426, Phone 541-228-5006