

Submitter: Malcolm Costello
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire
Measure, Appointment or SB1590
Topic:

I have lived in Oregon for over 35 years and truly appreciate the incredible beauty and access to nature provided by our local National Forests, BLM lands, and Wilderness Areas. We raised our children hiking, biking, and skiing on the myriad trails of Mt Hood, Willamette, Deschutes, and Ochoco forests, Paulina Peak, and the High Cascades. Today in our retirement we explore these same trails, along with the BLM land of Central and Eastern Oregon from the Badlands to the Owyhee Canyon, several days a week all year round. They provide us with countless memories, superb recreation, and hope for the future. We share them with all who visit us from across the country and from other countries and encourage visitors to spend money in local rural communities as they explore Oregon. Living in Bend, we relish the lack of development surrounding Mt Bachelor, Mt Hood, Hoodoo, and Willamette Pass ski resorts compared to ski resorts in other states. We appreciate the easy open access to Nordic skiing and mountain biking in areas unspoiled by commercial logging operations.

These lands are a national treasure. They belong to the people. I strongly support all work by the Oregon State Legislature, including SB 1590, to help ensure public lands remain public, and decisions about their future reflect Oregon values.