

## Smith Holly

---

**From:** J H F <mayfair44@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 1:53 PM  
**To:** HEE Exhibits  
**Cc:** J H F  
**Subject:** Testimony in Support of House Bill 2707

Dear Members of the House Committee on Energy and the Environment,

As a "native" Oregonian and avid angler, user of OUR Oregon's natural areas, and a water user, I support HB 2707. [I also support HB 2705 and HB 2706.] As you know, one of the key findings of a recent audit of the Oregon Water Resources Department was that Oregon needs more work and focus on protecting Oregon's groundwater resources. However, the Department currently only completes about two groundwater basin studies every five years. At that rate, it will take many lifetimes to determine Oregon's groundwater resources. With a million or so of our fellow Oregonians relying on groundwater for drinking water--and with groundwater demand continuing to increase--we need faster work in determining the groundwater resource level. Other than thousands of Oregon farms relying on well water to survive, Oregon's groundwater also supplies flow for rivers, lakes, streams, and wetlands all over the state. As a result, knowing Oregon's groundwater resources is an important consideration for maintaining the health of Oregon's fish runs and spectacular landscapes, too.

Thank you.

J H F  
mayfair44 (at sign) [comcast.net](mailto:mayfair44@comcast.net)