

Smith Holly

From: Mike Samples <msamples57@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 7:32 AM
To: HEE Exhibits
Subject: Testimony in Support of House Bills 2705, 2706, and 2707

I am writing to you today in support of House Bills 2705, 2706 and 2707. Oregon's water is a resource that all Oregonians take pride in. Our water is one of the main reasons we have one of the most beautiful states in America. The fact that we don't know the extent of our ground water, how much we use or how much we have, gives rise to concerns about the entire resource.

I am a resident of Crook County in Central Oregon, part of the Oregon High Desert. In Prineville we have already seen city wells go dry, and a reservoir that two years ago experienced the lowest water level in recent history. I live in the county outside of the city, and depend on my well for all of my water needs. I am very concerned about the ground water levels and how much impact we have on this valuable resource.

As an avid outdoorsman and fisherman throughout our beautiful state, I depend on the water to provide the necessary habitat for the diverse fish species we have in this state. We are fortunate to be one of the few states in this country to have a healthy population of Anadromous fish species that are completely dependent on the continuous flowing streams, so vital to their reproduction and very existence.

Once again I would ask that you support House Bills 2705, 2706 and 2707 for the future of Oregon.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Michael S Samples