

## Hamre Jaime

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**From:** Oregon Pack Works <karl@oregonpackworks.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 6, 2018 3:25 PM  
**To:** HAGNR Exhibits  
**Subject:** Upper Deschutes river

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

### **Subject: HB 4029 support**

Dear members of the **House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:**

I live very near the Deschutes River, in Tumalo, near Bend, Oregon. The pressure on this beautiful stretch of River will only increase, so proper understanding of the needs of the River and the Fish and Wildlife that use it, that have NO voice, should be considered.

I urge your support for House Bill 4029, which would better protect the Deschutes River. The Deschutes is currently designated as both a State Scenic Waterway and a Federal Wild and Scenic River. Proposed developments including a potential bridge would require weakening of those river and public land protections. I am very concerned about any weakening of public land protections and the precedent it would set.

A bridge on this stretch of the upper Deschutes River would be detrimental to habitat in the river corridor that is home to spotted frogs, bald eagles, golden eagles, elk, cougar, mule deer, owls, beaver, otters and more. Increased disturbance in the river corridor would be harmful to these animals and their habitat.

The existing administrative rule - OAR 736-040-0073 - was put in place more than 20 years ago, and the legislature should uphold the intent by adopting HB 4029 and ensuring this stretch of river can be protected for many more years.

Oregon State Parks has already undergone two public processes that included stakeholder groups in the past three years, open houses, and public meetings to discuss this issue. It has been thoroughly vetted locally. Each time the conclusion was to maintain current river protections.

**Please vote in favor of HB 4029.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Karl J. Findling

Bend, Oregon



**Karl Findling** | Owyhee Sportsmen Coordinator

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