

## Hamre Jaime

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**From:** Craig Lacy <lacycraig@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2018 6:51 AM  
**To:** HAGNR Exhibits  
**Subject:** Testimony on HB 4029

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To: The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources

From: Craig Lacy

I have lived in Bend for 33 years and have been active in protecting our river during that time. When I first moved here there were 17 hydro projects proposed on the Deschutes within 15 miles of town. We (The Coalition for the Deschutes and others) were fighting these projects one by one and it was very time consuming and expensive. If you want to try something interesting try organizing a fundraiser to pay off old attorney bills ;-). We finally got the Upper Deschutes into the State Scenic Waterways program using the legislative process. At that point folks from all over the state were contacting us, asking how we did it and how they could get other river segments into the program. A state initiative was circulated, signatures gathered and the people of the state of Oregon voted to add and additional 20+ river segments into the program. Packwood and Hatfield sponsored legislation to add these to the federal Wild and Scenic program. Our state and the locals here in Bend showed overwhelming support for protecting rivers.

The community at that time made their feelings public that they not only didn't want all those hydro projects but they wanted to protect the river and all of it's outstandingly remarkable values. Some of those values are once again being threatened. This time, it is by a local Park and Recreation District that appears to have no concern about protecting

wildlife values close to town. This is a relatively undisturbed area with high wildlife values and is at times a migration corridor. To build a bridge here would be a big mistake. I could see some type of compromise being made where a bridge was built in another location that didn't disturb such a critical habitat but this location should be off the table and not considered. I urge you to support HB 4029

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