



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Governor Kate Brown
900 Court Street NE, 160
Salem, OR 97301

May 23, 2016

Dear Governor Brown,

Today, in my Oregon legislative committee, I heard from proponents and opponents of the proposed Owyhee Monument. As Vice-Chair of the Rural Communities, Land Use and Water Committee, I was very interested to hear both sides of this issue.

While I understand that the Oregon Legislature has little jurisdiction here, I would like to urge you to exert your influence to keep President Obama from creating this unnecessary monument.

The Owyhee Canyonlands are currently regulated and protected by numerous layers of federal acts, including:

- Endangered Species Act
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act
- Clean Water Act
- Clean Air Act
- Archeological Resources Protection Act
- Organic Act
- Wilderness Act
- Antiquities Act
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

These lands are foundational for the ranching community in this part of our state. But I would also suggest that the ranchers who graze their animals on these lands are also foundational to the protection of these lands. Over the years the number and intensity of fires have been growing exponentially across our state. **The current responsible management of the grazing on these Owyhee Canyon lands have contributed to fire protection in this beautiful area.**

Rural Oregon is especially sensitive to government intrusion after the Malheur County Occupation. If additional protection is needed for these canyon lands, then I would suggest

unilateral action by the President will not be the best way to accomplish this. Action by congress would be a much more palatable, consensus building approach.

Sincerely,



Bill Post
State Representative
House District 25

Today in my Oregon legislative committee, I heard from proponents and opponents of the

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The bill would require the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to

and currently regulated and protected by numerous federal laws including

- National Environmental Policy Act
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act
- Clean Water Act
- Clean Air Act
- Archeological Resources Protection Act
- Organic Act
- Wilderness Act
- Antiquities Act
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

These lands are foundational for the ranching community in this part of our state. But I would also suggest that the ranchers who graze their animals on these lands are also foundational to the protection of these lands. Over the years the number and intensity of fires have been growing exponentially across our state. The current responsible management of the grazing on these Owyhee Canyon lands have contributed to fire protection in this beautiful area.

But Oregon is especially sensitive to government intrusion after the Malheur County Occupation. If additional protection is needed for these canyon lands, then I would suggest