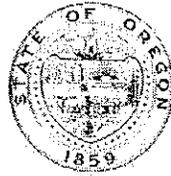


ARNIE ROBLAN
STATE SENATOR
DISTRICT 5



OREGON STATE SENATE
900 COURT ST. NE, S-417
SALEM, OR 97301

November 20, 2013

Dear Chair Graves,

I am aware the State Parks Commission is considering action on the land exchange proposal involving Bandon State Natural Area lands, other private coastal lands, and acreage in Grant County. I encourage the Commission to move forward with this exchange.

At the Association of Oregon Counties annual conference yesterday, Governor John Kitzhaber highlighted the need to focus on "economic reinvention" – a path to changing the status quo. He further noted that while some Oregonians celebrate economic recovery, the changing characteristics and conditions in our rural regions require us to fundamentally rethink the tools and opportunity by which we create systemic change that will ensure each of us has the same economic opportunity. I applaud the Governor's insightful economic agenda.

The proposed land exchange proposal is such an "economic reinvention." I see positive economic, conservation and recreation outcomes in the exchange. This includes consolidation of Bullards Beach State Park as well extending the southern boundary of the Bandon State Natural Area. The protection of Whale Cove is also a valuable action in the public's interest, as are the funding for gorse removal and acquisition of acreage in Grant County. I believe the work done to combine pieces into an exchange of this nature is the type of effort that serves the state well and should be advanced through Commission action.

State Parks can play a valuable role in advancing rural economies, quality of life, conservation and recreation values in Oregon. I believe the proposed exchange is a positive effort at the right time for Oregon's south coast.

Sincerely,

Arnie Roblan, Oregon State Senator
Senate District 5



Good Morning Commissioners,

My name is Commissioner Chris Labhart. I represent Grant County. I come before this commission to express my support on the subject of a land exchange involving the Bandon State Natural Area, with impacts to the acquisition of property in Grant County.

I have attended several public meetings concerning this issue. I have listened to both the proponents and opponents of the acquisition of property in Grant County. I have toured the affected property owned by George and Pricilla Meredith. I have met with State Park's Director Tim Woods and his assistant John Potter about concerns brought up during the public meetings held in Grant County. On Wednesday, November 13, the Grant County Court participated in a telephone conference with Governor Kitzhaber's Natural Resource Policy Advisor Brett Brownscombe, to discuss the public concerns.

I came away from these discussions with what I felt were honest heartfelt commitments to the people of Grant County. They included:

- Tax revenue and payments would be offset by a commitment to continue payments from Parks to the County and an increase in economic benefits resulting from operation of the park.
- State Parks would pay into and receive fire protection from Oregon Department of Forestry program.
- State Parks would protect and enhance agricultural values for haying, livestock grazing, grass banking, and weed management.
- Water rights tied to the land in question would be managed so as not to negatively impact downstream users.
- Traditional outdoor recreational uses, such as hunting to manage wildlife populations and impacts to the land in question as well as adjacent lands will be undertaken.
- The Department of State Lands currently holds 4,200 acres in Grant County. All but 155 of these acres are currently leased to livestock operators. The State will work with Grant County to develop a plan to return some of this public acreage back to private ownership.
- The main structures would be used as a laboratory for education and youth services.

As a county commissioner, I understand the people of Grant County expressing their pessimistic attitude toward the State Parks and government in general. Promises have been made and not kept. I believe the Oregon State Parks Commission and the State of Oregon has a golden opportunity to bring to the table something that is missing and sorely needed in Grant County. That one word is TRUST. Can we, as



citizens of Grant County, TRUST you to keep your commitments? By following through with your commitments, you will not only bring back the TRUST in government in general, but contribute to the greater good for all people of Oregon. Grant County awaits your decision.

Last but not the least; I truly believe in private property rights. I believe George and Pricilla Meredith have the right to sell their property to anyone they choose, whether it be a public agency, private individual, corporation, tribe, or non-profit. I believe we still live in America.

Thank you this opportunity to testify before this Commission on behalf of the people of Grant County.



Holliday Land & Livestock, Inc.

62394 Hwy 26
John Day, Oregon 97845
541 575-1716
FAX 541 575-2307

November 18, 2013

Tim Wood, Director
OR Parks & Recreation Dept.
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Mr. Wood and the Members of OPRD Commission:

Please accept this letter as our written opposition to the proposed acquisition of the "Grouse Mountain Ranch parcels" located in Grant County, Oregon by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

We have simplified our comments to the following bullet points:

- The proposed Acquisition does not comply with State or OPRD policy.
- The proposed Acquisition will create a hardship on various taxing entities of Grant County.
- Grant County currently has a more than enough public land (64%)
- The use of public dollars to acquire vast tracts of agricultural lands represents an unfair competition with private industry.

It is our opinion that the acquisition of the "Grouse Mountain Ranch parcel" by Oregon Parks and Recreation will not benefit the taxpayers of Grant County.

Sincerely,


Ken and Pat Holliday
Holliday Land & Livestock

Judge Myers & Commissioners:

I have now had the opportunity to review the draft letter from the Governor to the Parks Commission that was distributed in your regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday this week. As you have no doubt concluded from your own readings, the letter only commits to a process of discussion and not a resolution of any issues identified with the proposed acquisition. The so-called "commitments" listed in the letter are simply placeholders for future discussions that might happen, but for which there are no guarantees and the outcomes are highly uncertain. Furthermore, some of the pledges likely are not even within the authority of the State or Governor to secure, such as the commitments for transferring publically owned lands to private ownership. Lastly, some of the promises fail to address the substantive issues raised by the County, such as the proposed offset of lost tax revenues with economic development rather than continued payments.

For a multitude of reasons, including a long-standing pattern of unfulfilled promises from this State, the lack of firm commitment should compel the Grant County Court to reject the Governor's proposal outright and I request that the Court do so immediately in writing. Should the Governor continue to press for some type of negotiated compromise, the County should accept nothing less than an enforceable contractual arrangement that addresses each of the concerns raised by the opponents to this acquisition.

I would also like to take the opportunity to correct a significant misrepresentation and common misconception made on the record at the same meeting. Commissioner Labhart objected to a suggested delay in the Parks Commission decision on the basis that it would "interfere with the private property rights of the landowner". To be clear, while the landowner may have a protected right to own and sell the subject property, he possesses no property right that guarantees that it will be purchased by the State or anyone else. The opposition is not directed at the sale of property by a private citizen but rather towards the flawed purchase by a public entity using public resources. To characterize anyone's exercise of their constitutionally protected rights to participate in State government as interfering with the private property rights of the landowner is outrageous.

Again, I urge you to reject the Governor's proposed commitments unless an enforceable arrangement can be negotiated that addresses each of the substantive concerns associated with the proposed acquisition.

Sincerely,

Shaun W Robertson

John Day

Date: Nov 20,2013

Letter to OPRD Commission

Re: Bandon / Grouse Mt Exchange

Dear Commissioners;

Just three points:

- 1) Please vote against this proposal. Grant County can not lose more ag ground.
- 2) If the proposal is approved, many organizations and individuals will fight it with appeals and litigation.
- 3) The County would like to work with OPRD to select an appropriate park site like Canyon Meadows or Holiday Park expansion, as well as finish promised improvements at Bates Park and Kam Wa Kung.

Sincerely ,

Dan Driscoll

Prairie Springs Fish

Farm

46673 Hwy 26

Dayville, OR 97825

Good morning. My name is George Meredith; my wife Priscilla and I own Grouse Mountain Ranch near Mt Vernon in Grant County.

Our story began 27 yrs. ago when we moved to the United States from the United Kingdom.

On our vacations we always traveled west; visiting most of the National Parks and many National Forests and State Parks. In the early 90s we decided to acquire a property out west with a view to managing it for restoration, with wildlife habitat and native ecosystems as our priority.

We searched for 10 years across 7 states and visited at least 60 properties. On a wintery day in Jan 2000 we toured Grouse Mountain Ranch for a day. We went up deep draws, over snow-covered high meadows and through dense forest. The property was leased out for grazing by an absentee landlord, who had recently passed away. The land was not yet on the market.

We immediately recognized its outstanding features and exceptional natural resource restoration potential. It is truly representative of the diversity of the foothills of the southern Blue Mountains. After 10 years of searching, we knew we had found what we were looking for. We made an offer on it that day and owned it three weeks later.

Our focus has been restoration by active and passive management. Projects have addressed forest health, grassland recovery, riparian and fish passage upgrade, wildlife habitat improvements, weed control and increased meadowland productivity as well as constructing and improving infrastructure.

Priscilla and I are just into our 8th decade. We have to plan for the future of Grouse Mountain Ranch. We are committed to our property being managed for the long term as a prime natural resource amenity for wildlife and people who love nature.

We have thoroughly researched our options.

Oregon State Parks have a track record of effective property management and are proven good stewards of the land they control. We believe that they are the best option for long term, sustainable, effective management combining nature based education and recreation with sensitive natural resource restoration and recovery.

Grouse Mountain Ranch has excellent potential for outdoor recreation, including hiking, biking, horse back riding, wildlife viewing and camping with many outstanding landscape views of the valleys and mountains of the southern Blue Mountains.

A large State Park will attract visitors to the area that when added to investment in park development and operation will bring significant economic contribution to Grant County.

This is a triple win opportunity.

Priscilla and I have an opportunity to realize our long term vision of a wonderful natural resource area that will be managed for the benefit of wildlife, native ecosystems and people who love and respect nature; the park service will establish a fine example of a natural area and recreation amenity they can manage for the interests of people and wildlife; and Grant County will gain an asset that will attract visitors and their economic activity and a valuable recreation resource for residents for the long term.

Thank You for your attention.



Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Attn: Bandon Proposal
725 Summer Street Suite C
Salem OR 97301

November 20, 2013

My name is Jim Seeley, Executive Director of the Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, the philanthropic arm of Bandon Dunes Golf Resort. I'd like to speak to two matters of the exchange.

First is the significance of the commitment to gorse control.

Quoting from the Exchange Agreement Recitals, paragraph G.

“Biota has a goal of eradication of gorse as an invasive plant species on the southern Oregon coast and is willing to contribute funds to OPRD for gorse control...”

WRCA shares that goal of gorse eradication and previously funded the development of an invasive species map called the Weed Matrix. A clear learning from that effort was that gorse, the number one invasive species on the South Coast, lacks adequate information necessary to identify, prioritize and develop a coherent action plan to accomplish this task. A coalition being referred to as GAG for Gorse Action Group with representatives from organizations on the South Coast has recently formed. This group met at Bandon Dunes last week in conjunction with the Curry Wildfire Preparation Team and included representatives from 15 local, county, state and federal agencies, academia and others including CWPT, Curry County Emergency Services, Oregon Department of Forestry, Bureau of Land Management, Curry Watersheds, OSU Extension, Curry County GIS, City of Brookings, Coos Curry Electric, Coquille Watershed Association, Coos County Emergency Services, US Forest Service, Curry Soil and Water Conservation District, Bandon Dunes Golf Resort and Wild Rivers Coast Alliance. The GAG has adopted a program to conduct detailed aerial mapping of gorse as it currently exists in Coos and Curry Counties and in a neighboring portion of Douglas County. The mapping will take place in the spring of 2014 and WRCA has agreed to provide significant funds to help pay for this initiative. The information available from this mapping will enable the GAG team to develop a more effective approach to this war on gorse which will continue to be a major objective of WRCA.

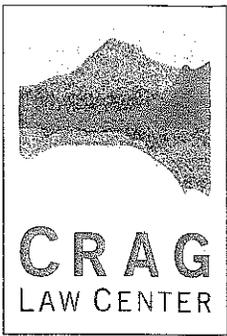


Second is WRCA's Triple Bottom Line policy of only supporting projects that include the three pillars of Community, Conservation and Economy.

With respect to the OPRD Land Exchange as it relates to the South Coast and to Whales' Cove we are confident that all three of these pillars are included. We believe that the additional \$2,500,000 that Mike is making available to OPRD should also be used on projects that include the three pillars but think that the Grouse Mountain Ranch acquisition lacks sufficient community support. We encourage OPRD to work to gain that community support or to reallocate the funds to other projects that do.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jim Seeley'.

Jim Seeley
Executive Director
Wild Rivers Coast Alliance
Office: 541-347-8842
www.wildriverscoastalliance.com



Courtney Johnson
Staff Attorney
courtney@crag.org

November 20, 2013

917 SW Oak St.
Suite 417
Portland, OR
97205

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301

TEL:
503.525.2724

Re: Bandon Biota Land Exchange; Testimony of Courtney Johnson
on behalf of Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition

FAX:
503.296.5454

www.crag.org

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment today regarding the land exchange proposed by Bandon Biota LLC. Oregon Shores is concerned that this proposal lacks the required information to adequately assess whether this exchange will comply with the Department's criteria and policies governing exchanges.

The relevant administrative rules, found at OAR 736 Division 19, make clear that certain information is required prior to evaluation of a proposed exchange. In particular, the criteria for exchanges initiated by third parties require that all proposals provide "adequate detail for the Department to evaluate the transaction for: (A) Natural resource impacts and protection, (B) Cultural resource impacts and protection, and (C) Overwhelming public benefit to the parks system." OAR 736-019-0070(3)(f).

The Department must also "Require the proponent provide the Department a written environmental review for all lands the Department is to receive in the exchange. The Department may determine that an environmental report provides information that further requires that the proponent provide additional environmental assessment." OAR 736-019-0070(e).

While the Department recently completed a thorough analysis of the BSNA parcel that would be *removed* from state control, Oregon Shores is not aware of any similarly detailed environmental report of properties the Department is to *receive* in the exchange. Without that assessment, the Department lacks "adequate detail" to evaluate the transaction for natural resource impacts and protection and overwhelming public benefit.

The Department's acquisition rules require appraisals that are current and meeting specific requirements. OAR 736-019-0100. No appraisals meeting these requirements have yet been made available to the public.

Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition
P.O. Box 33
Seal Rock, OR 97376
(503) 754-9303

COMMENTS OF PHILLIP JOHNSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OREGON
SHORES CONSERVATION COALITION

TO: OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION, NOV. 20, 2013

RE: BANDON BIOTA LAND EXCHANGE

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed land exchange between the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Bandon Biota. The Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition has commented extensively in writing. This is just to outline key points regarding our position on the exchange at this time.

1. We have kept an open mind on the exchange itself. There are plausible arguments in its favor, so we have continued to study the issue carefully. We have not yet taken a final position on the merits of the exchange. However, we do strongly state that all necessary information is not yet available, neither to the commission nor to the public. We urge the commission not to take a position at this meeting. If a decision is to be made, then that decision should be against the exchange, on the grounds that the necessary "overwhelming public benefit" standard cannot be conclusively demonstrated to have been met.
2. OPRD has produced an excellent environmental assessment of the parcel to be traded. No decision should be made until equally detail assessments have been done of the two parcels Bandon Biota wishes to trade. These assessments should be to the same standard as the OPRD report, and should be done at the expenses of Bandon Biota.
3. We understand that OPRD staff believes that it is appropriate to conduct appraisals of the properties only after the exchange has been approved. Regardless of whether this is standard procedure, we disagree in a matter of this importance. We have serious doubts about the financial value of the Bandon Biota properties, given developability questions. We understand that there is no requirement that the public receive equal or greater fiscal value in an exchange, but it would set a dangerous precedent to accept an exchange in which the public received less value in terms of the properties themselves (as opposed to extraneous considerations such as assistance with other purchases).

4. Purchase of the Whale Cove property would be highly desirable. Nevertheless, the practice of accepting direct financial help to increase the desirability of a land exchange—rather than basing the decision entirely on the land to be exchanged—could be a slippery slope. We urge the commission to consider this very warily in general terms, not just with regard to this exchange.
5. Proposed purchase of the Grouse Mountain property should be completely excluded from consideration of this land exchange. The properties and the value they provide to the public aren't comparable. Coastal shorelands are a rare and precious resource, and have many values to the public, ranging from their high visitorship to their potential role as a buffer in an era of climate change. However desirable the Grouse Mountain property may be for its own sake, it should be irrelevant to this proposed exchange with Bandon Biota. The use of funds enabling a purchase elsewhere to affect the calculation of value of a land exchange that otherwise would not sufficiently benefit the public is a step down the slippery slope mentioned above in point #4.
6. The commission should look very carefully at the impact that long-term climate change, and especially sea level rise, would have on the value of these properties. Increased erosion and flooding could render the Bandon Biota parcels of far less value, while increasing the value of the OPRD parcel as a buffer. The commission should take time to thoroughly explore this question before making a decision.
7. The decision in this matter will set an important precedent in establishing the “overwhelming public benefit” standard. This is why Oregon Shores has focused more intently on the process than on the ultimate decision to date. Our position is that in considering a major exchange of land initiated by a private party, OPRD staff should make all relevant information available to the public, then allow a sufficient period for the public to consider the information and then comment to the commission. That basic standard has not been met in this case to this point. We would suggest that all relevant information should be publicly presented to the commission at one meeting, and made available to the public, with final deliberation toward a decision at the following commission meeting. At the least, the public should have three full weeks after all information has been disclosed to comment. In any case, the public has not yet received full details on the ecological or fiscal value of the parcels that Bandon Biota wishes to trade, let alone had time to comment, so the Parks and Recreation Commission should at this time set the proposed exchange aside as not yet being ripe for decision.

Comments to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
Nov. 20, 2013, Corvallis, Oregon

Regarding: Bandon Exchange Proposal

Dear Commissioners,

By chance I find myself here today commenting on the proposal to exchange out about 32% of the current Bandon State Natural Area (BSNA) park property just south of the city of Bandon, Oregon. Land exchanges are a common and necessary tool in resource management. I have been aware of this proposal for some time but assumed the natural resource values of the entire property would be analyzed relative to the exchange area so cumulative effects can be addressed. I was disappointed and perplexed why it appears, at least from the staff report, that it was not.

What is missing in my quick overview are implications of the proposal to the beach and current long term management efforts by OPRD and cooperating agencies and partners. As I'm sure you are well aware, OPRD undertook a huge 7 year effort to develop a habitat conservation plan (HCP) for the state and federally listed western snowy plover (WSP) for the entire Oregon coast. Currently the BSNA is the only state park land occupied by WSPs year around and is managed under a comprehensive site plans completed last year. Habitat restoration efforts, monitoring, predator management and much more have been successfully undertaken for over 10 years in cooperation with other state and federal agencies. Looking at the coast wide park picture, odds are against other parks as proposed in the HCP ever providing meaningful habitat for the species given location, size and public pressures.

As indicated in the BSNA Western Snowy Plover Site Management Plan as well as the HCP, the most immediate problem with WSP breeding success is predation and especially predation by crows and ravens. The parcel of land proposed for exchange is immediately next to the snowy plover management area on the southern end and at the most 1500 feet along the west edge of the remainder of the property in question. We know from experience that human development, such as a golf course, will be a major attractant to corvids, especially crows, due to enhanced foraging opportunities of open grassy areas and garbage and trash that inevitably people will leave no matter how hard to try encourage them to do the right thing. More adjacent development will follow.

What is the impact going to be on the already stressed breeding population of plovers only seconds away on the beach? Whatever it is, I doubt if it will be positive but someone needs to take a serious look at the long term implications. At the least, OPRD should informally consult with the US Fish and Wildlife Service as the recently completed BSNA site management plan and the 2010 HCP are based on the existing acreage and condition of BSNA.

I like golf. It's in my family genes but Bandon does not need another "world class" golf course that no local resident can afford to play on. To conclude that this exchange will provide overwhelming public interest for BSNA and the Bandon area is a real stretch.

Thank you for your attention to my comments,

Charlie Bruce
1625 NW 17th. St.
Corvallis, OR.



County Court of Grant County

Judge Scott W. Myers

Commissioner Boyd Britton

Commissioner Chris Labhart

November 19, 2013

Mr. Jay Graves, Chair
Oregon State Parks Commission
725 Summer St. NE, Ste. C
Salem, OR 97301-1266

Dear Chair Graves and Commissioners:

On behalf of the citizens of Grant County, the County Court would like to once again voice our objection to the Grouse Mountain property acquisition here in Grant County.

We would like to reiterate, for the record, that OPRD has offered no reasonable resolution of our concerns. While we appreciate the Governor's office weighing in with some potential opportunities, we would be remiss as public officials if we did not insist on tenable commitments from the affected agencies, OPRD, DSL, DEQ, ODF and the Governor's office.

It appears this potential acquisition/exchange is on a fast track for completion so it is curious the Department has failed to consult with Grant County's Planning Department or Director regarding possible zoning implications and whether or not the conversion from farm, agriculture and timber to a non-farm public recreation use is consistent with the County's planning rules. The assessor has not been contacted by any OPRD staff member concerning property tax and ODF fire patrol implications.

With regard to our concerns about the 1862 water rights on the Grouse Mountain property, no-one from OPRD has contacted our local Watermaster's Office with questions or clarification regarding in-stream

implications.

We have suggested reasonable solutions to expanding Holliday State Park and have pledged to work OPRD to get the expansion done. These proposals have been rejected.

It would appear to the Grant County court that, at the very least, the decision regarding acquisition of the Grouse Mountain property in Grant County should be postponed or rejected.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Submitted for Commissioner
Boyd Britton*

November 20, 2013

Subject: Bandon Exchange/Grouse Mountain

To: Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, Commission.

I am Joe Ricker, Chairman of the State Board of Director, Oregon Hunters Association. I am here today to represent the 10,000 members of the Association. Oregon Hunter Association supports the land exchange and the establishment of the Grouse Mountain State Park near Mt. Vernon, Grant County. OHA's support is conditional on the premises that habitat enhancement for wildlife and hunting be allowed in the major portion of the park with established safety zone around camping area and facilities.

We understand the concerns of some Grant County residents and officials about the loss of private land in the county and any economic impact this may have. However, the land exchange and establishment of the Grouse Mountain State Park will also have positive impacts on the counties economy if managed properly. The park will bring additional tourism and offer additional recreational activities to the area.

Damage by wildlife in the John Day valley is of concern to the local community especially during the winter months when wildlife migrates to lower elevations and goes where the best habitat resources are available. The establishment of Grouse Mountain, State Park could be of benefit to relieve part of this problem. If wildlife habitat is enhanced on the 6000 acres it will benefit both wildlife and the local community. This enhancement can be accomplished by cooperation with many user groups and wildlife conservations organizations like Oregon Hunters Association. Hunters are the original wildlife conservationist and our organization alone puts thousands of dollars and man hours on the ground each year benefiting all wildlife in Oregon.

Joe G. Ricker
Chairman of the Board
Oregon Hunters Association



November 18, 2013

Mr. Tim Wood
Executive Director
Oregon State Parks

Dear Tim,

In response to any concerns over protecting the environment on the acres to be acquired by Bandon Biota, I would like to point out the following: Bandon Biota is committed to demonstrating how golf and recreation values fit into the natural landscape rather than competing with it. I take concerns over natural values seriously and should the exchange move forward, Bandon Biota will take all reasonable measures to ensure that rare native plant and wetland values are protected in the design and construction of any golf development on the acquired acres. It will also comply with all applicable environmental protection laws. I remind all that Bandon Biota also has undertaken a mission to have all gorse on the south Oregon coast removed in order to eliminate the invasive fire threat there now, and to restore the native habitat that thrived before the arrival of gorse. With the assistance of State Parks, I look forward to continuing these efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Keiser

November 19, 2013

Mr. Tim Wood
Executive Director
Oregon State Parks

Dear Tim,

I would like to add several last thoughts regarding the 280 acre tradeout of less than 25% of your BSNA:

- 1) Threatened silvery phacelia will thrive with our development. Census at Bandon Trails has doubled in the last 5 years. Silvery phacelia loves "disturbed sand."
- 2) Snowy plover will be unimpacted: the species avoids gorse, which I propose to remove.
- 3) I love the beautiful South Coast of Oregon. It must be protected, it must not be developed. It must not be invaded by an invasive, imported plant (gorse).

I want to protect the beautiful South Coast of Oregon while creating jobs, both full time and summer (youth employment). I want to remove gorse and replace it with native grasses (that's what a links golf course is). State Parks and I want to make the currently unusable BSNA into a glorious, world-class hiking trail so that thousands of recreationalists per year can use it! Right now, absolutely no one even knows the BSNA is there.

I love the South Coast and will do everything I can to enhance Oregonian enjoyment of this amazing place. Please do not vote for/allow "Gorse for All" to prevail! Because that means, "No one is using it now, so let's make sure no one uses it ever!"

Sincerely,

Michael L. Keiser

Serving Eastern Oregon since 1894

KILPATRICKS

Mike Kilpatrick, P.C.

P.O. Box A
195 W. Main Street
Mt. Vernon, OR 97865

Telephone: (541) 932-4455
Facsimile: (541) 932-4457

November 18, 2013

Mr. Jay Graves, Chair
Oregon State Parks Commission through
Tim Wood, Director
Chris Havel, Communications and Research Division
Vanessa R DeMoe, Commission Assistant

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY TO tim.wood@state.or.us, chris.havel@state.or.us, and
vanessa.demoe@state.or.us

RE: PUBLIC COMMENT – Re Bandon / Grant County proposal

I own the land West and North of the Meredith property. My ranch borders this property for more than five miles.

The Grouse Mountain acquisition does not meet the legal or practical standards to be a new state park. All real estate is unique in its own way. There is nothing outstanding on this property to include it as a state park.

I owned and operated the land and meadows on the lower reaches of Beech Creek for 50 years before Meredith's acquired it. The rest of the property is familiar as well. I have farmed, ran cattle, fixed fence and been on that property for almost 50 years. I own and operate 4,000 acres that has over 5 miles of common boundary with Meredith's property. To this date, no one from the State has contacted me by any means about this plan. I can only assume that is because they don't want information or input.

If the State Parks need office space and equipment storage in Grant County, the Mt. Vernon school and 9 acres are now privately owned and available for purchase. It would be a wonderful headquarters, meeting and educational space. If Grant County needs more State parks, why not place them on land that is already owned by the government. ODF&W own a lot of land in Grant County. A park on the South Fork or Murders Creek or Canyon Meadows would be a welcome addition and would free up millions of dollars in acquisition and maintenance costs.

Shaun Robertsons comments are correct and based upon facts and firsthand experience. I incorporate his comments and submissions to not make this comment any more lengthy. I urge the commission to do the smart thing with Oregonians money and find a different place for a

new State Park rather than the Grouse Mountain parcel.

Mike Kilpatrick

1

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Registration is optional; however, the Commission would welcome the opportunity to keep a record of those in attendance at this meeting, and would appreciate your indication in advance of any subject about which you may wish to make a statement.

Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6 A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Grouse Utu

Name: Cliff Bantz

Date: 11-20-013 Meeting Location: Covallir

Address: 660 Morgan Ave

City/State/Zip: Ontario Oregon

Phone Number: 541-212-2010

E-Mail Address cbantz@yturnvire.com

Organization Represented: Oregon Legislature

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Registration is optional; however, the Commission would welcome the opportunity to keep a record of those in attendance at this meeting, and would appreciate your indication in advance of any subject about which you may wish to make a statement.

Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6a

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition position on issue

x Name: Phillip Johnson + Courtney Johnson

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: Corvallis

Address: P.O. Box 33

City/State/Zip: Seal Rock, OR 97376

Phone Number: (503) 754-9303

E-Mail Address: orshores@telepark.com

Organization Represented: Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Registration is optional; however, the Commission would welcome the opportunity to keep a record of those in attendance at this meeting, and would appreciate your indication in advance of any subject about which you may wish to make a statement.

Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 469

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: GRANSE MTN RANCH

Name: GEORGE MEREDITH

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: CORVALLIS

Address: P.O. Box 160

City/State/Zip: MT. VERNON, OR, 97865

Phone Number: 541-932-2762

E-Mail Address grousemtn@orkelco.net

Organization Represented: GRANSE MTN RANCH

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Registration is optional; however, the Commission would welcome the opportunity to keep a record of those in attendance at this meeting, and would appreciate your indication in advance of any subject about which you may wish to make a statement.

Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6 A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Grange Mountain

Name: CHRIS B. LABHART

Date: 11-20-13 Meeting Location: _____

Address: 318 SE Hillcrest Dr. #

City/State/Zip: Town Dy, OR 97245

Phone Number: 541-575-1276

E-Mail Address chrislabhart@wtman.com

Organization Represented: Grant County Court

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

Registration is optional; however, the Commission would welcome the opportunity to keep a record of those in attendance at this meeting, and would appreciate your indication in advance of any subject about which you may wish to make a statement.

Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6a

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: 6a

Name: Steve Corey

Date: 11/ Meeting Location: Corvallis

Address: 400 NE Johns Ln.

City/State/Zip: Pendleton, Oregon 97801

Phone Number: 503-703-2101

E-Mail Address corey@corey-byler.com

Organization Represented: Band on Biota

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Grouse Mt. State Park Proposal

Name: Joe ✓ Ricker + TY Stubble ✓ field

Date: 26/Nov/2013 Meeting Location: Cornell

Address: 5985 Basil St. NE

City/State/Zip: Salem OR 97317

Phone Number: 503-399-0177

E-Mail Address: j.ricker1@ix.netcom.com

Organization Represented: Oregon Hunters Assoc

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
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Discovery

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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Bandar Land Exchange

Name: Vanessa Blackstone

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: CH2M Munn

Address: 725 2nd SW 6th Street

City/State/Zip: Covallis

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Organization Represented: _____

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) ba

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Bandon BionA
Grouse mt

Name: Jeff Thomas

Date: _____ Meeting Location: Corvallis

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Organization Represented: Grant County Farm bureau

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Bandon exchange analysis

Name: Charlie
Charles Bruce

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: _____

Address: 1625 NW 17th

City/State/Zip: Cowallis OR 97330

Phone Number: 541-752-9013

E-Mail Address cbruce47@gmail.com

Organization Represented: none

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: BANDON BIOTA EXCHANGE

Name: CAMERON LAFOLLETTE

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Organization Represented: _____

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6 A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: HIGH VALUE FARM
LAND CLARIFICATION.

Name: BOB JOHNSON

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: 054

Address: 1486 FIR CT.

City/State/Zip: BANDON OR

Phone Number: 541-944-9319

E-Mail Address UNITEDCOUNTRY@Ymail.com

Organization Represented: BANDON BIOTA, LLC

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
HISTORY
Discovery

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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Bandon Land
Exchange

Name: Katie Fiest

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: _____

Address: 3415 Commercial St SE

City/State/Zip: Salem OR 97302

Phone Number: 503-399-1701

E-Mail Address katie@oregonfb.org

Organization Represented: Oregon Farm Bureau

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: comment on Our letter

Name: Paula Krane

Date: Nov. 20, 2013 Meeting Location: OSU

Address: 3363 N.W. Crest

City/State/Zip: Corvallis 97330

Phone Number: 541-752-2361

E-Mail Address _____

Organization Represented: League of Women Voters of Oregon

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6a

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: BANDON EXCHANGE

Name: JIM SEELEY

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: OSU

Address: 667 MADISON S.W

City/State/Zip: BANDON OR

Phone Number: ~~847 62~~ 541 347 ~~8842~~ 8842

E-Mail Address jseeley@wildriverscoastalliance.com

Organization Represented: WRCA

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE REGISTER



Nature
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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) 6A

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Benson Exchange

Name: Brett Brownsonbe - Governor's Office

Date: _____ Meeting Location: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Organization Represented: _____

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission
PUBLIC COMMENT
ATTENDANCE REGISTER



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Agenda Item Number (if applicable) ba

Do you wish to make a statement?

Yes No

If yes, please specify subject: Bandon

Name: Judge Myers

Date: 11/20/13 Meeting Location: Corvallis

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Organization Represented: Grant Co. Court