I support a ban on smoking on the public beaches. I have hiked and spent time on the beaches where people are smoking on the trails and on the beaches around me and into my face. This destroyed the fresh air around me. The smell and fumes carry a long distance.

I am sick of seeing cigarette buts everywhere, for some reason smokers do not see it as litter. And I am aware that butts are picked up by wildlife and are toxic.

Fire hazards from careless smoking also are an issue that a total ban could address.

Debra Sharp, Corvallis OR

Sent from Windows Mail
I am against this proposal for a ban on smoking on the Oregon beaches.

Bill Chain  bill.missinglink@gmail.com
I have lived very near Oregon State beaches for the past 20+ years. While I would like to see smoking banned on the public beaches, I believe a far more important focus for OPRD is to ENFORCE current law regarding fireworks on the beach. My observations have been that illegal fireworks pose a much bigger threat to our ocean and beach environment than smoking. The fireworks that are used on our beaches destroy wildlife and litter the beaches. Almost nowhere along the Oregon Coast is any serious effort made by any law enforcement agency to curtail illegal firework use. Please try to enforce current law rather than taking on new ones which will not be enforced either. Thank you for your consideration.

Helen Westbrook
2860 Log Bronc Way
Astoria, OR 97103
503-325-5120
This proposed rule to ban (restrict) smoking on Oregon beaches is an unenforceable rule. Think about it. All the energy, time, talent, and effort in the development of this proposed rule making. For what? For political correctness?

I am sure that there are many other projects at the OPRD that could have used the resources spent on this proposal that would have yielded a better outdoor experience for beach visitors than this proposed rule?

I can only imagine what Oswald West and Tom McCall would think of this proposed rule making.

Please do not adopt this proposed rule as it lacks both scientific rigor as well as rational thought.

Don Erickson
18375 NW Snowden Ct.
Portland, OR 97229
My comment is against any smoking restrictions on "public" beaches; that includes all beach land that is NOT privately owned. The restrictions against smokers has become more and more strict in the past ten/twenty years. Smoking on the beaches of Oregon is less dangerous than drivers under the influence of intoxicants.......more people die everyday in car accidents (while the intoxicated driver walks away). I don't like my rights being taken away from me.....born and raised on the Oregon coast.....hunting, fishing, beach combing, clamming....all these pleasures have had "restrictions" put on them. Smoker are outside in the fresh ocean air........leave them the hell alone. All the smokers I know that take pleasure in going to the beach......bring their "butts" home with them. Do not put smoking restrictions on our Oregon beaches!!!! Thank you

Sula Odette
1950 Willow St
Florence, Or 97439
To Whom It May Concern:

In regard to smoking on the beach; I am not able to attend any one of your meetings so I am hoping that this email will count as my input.

First off, it is important for you to know that I live 2 blocks from the beach in Rockaway Beach Oregon, so I am at the beach A LOT! I am a 21 year resident and tax payer of Oregon and I am a smoker.

**I am 100% opposed to a smoking ban on the beach.**

#1 I believe we have too many laws in place that are already unenforceable.
#2 I believe this to be a massive waste of money and resources.
#3 Smoking is legal but we are standing by as Oregon bans smoking from every single public area which I find to be a contradiction to the purpose. You want the tax dollars but you don't want us to smoke.
#4 The residents here have not seen any enforcement of the illegal firework laws and out of County residents continue to blow off thousands of illegal fireworks throughout the entire year.
#5 If this is a fire safety issue then why are campfires allowed at the beach? On a constant basis we go down to the beach to find hot embers still burning from a campfire abandoned.
#6 If this is a trash issue: countless times we encounter broken alcohol bottles, empty plastic bottles, toilet paper, food wrappers, etc. Cigarette butts are the least of the environmental problems at our beaches today.

Hopefully I have shown you some examples of the problems the beach faces and that laws currently in place are next to impossible to enforce and even if they were enforced we do not have enough Law Enforcement to have them wasting their time going after smokers on the beach. We have several water rescues every month, that should be the focus on our beaches.

In closing, please do not ban smoking on the beach. As long as cigarettes are legal it is unfair to ban them everywhere and force good citizens to break the law.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ocie Johnson
19450 S. 1st St.
Rockaway Beach, OR 97136
Thank you for proposing the smoking ban on Oregon beaches. Our family fully supports this. Please approve it. The beaches should be smoke free for all.

Thank you,
Brett Horner
3127 NE Skidmore St
Portland, OR 97211

Sent from my iPad
I am a former chain-smoker. I was born in Oregon and have lived here nearly all my 64 years, even residing in Seaside for four years in property I owned for fifteen years. I stopped smoking 18 months ago. I OPPOSE THE BAN on smoking on beaches. Most smokers I know will pick up after themselves. If there are ashtrays or butt receptacles, most smokers will use them. The air circulation on an Oregon beach is ever-changing and swirling. There is space for recreational exercise and action on the sand -- not just sunbathing. No one is forced to breath second hand smoke at our beaches. All smokers know the risks of smoking to their health. Guilt and being an outcast is not the answer. Spend your money, please, on providing trash receptacles. I suggest money be directed to enforcing anti-graffiti laws. Coastal towns depend on tourism; the beaches are one of the few spots smoking wallets are welcome. Even though I no longer smoke, I urge you to NOT PASS any laws or regulations prohibiting smoking on Oregon’s beaches. I will not spend my money in areas that do not appreciate visitors who are responsible, creative, financially able, and generally accommodating. Jerilynn Coleman, Oregon City
The wind carries many smells on the beach, the ocean air, the cooking of roasting hot dogs or burgers, the smell of tobacco smoke. I personally would rather smell the ocean, or meal cooking while walking on a clutter free beach. Please consider banning smoking on the beach for the 80% of us who don't smoke and don't want to walk through toxic butts.

Thanks K

Kriss Renfro

Harney County Health Dep.
T.P.E.P & BCCP Coordinator
420 N Fairview
Burns, OR 97720
541-573-2271
Cell 541-589-0951
Please note my opposition to any proposed ban on smoking on Oregon state beaches. I am not a smoker; however, I cannot support such wide-spread governmental regulation that suppress individual freedoms or rights. It is not an appropriate role for our state government.

Thank you,
Dana Vugteveen
Oregon citizen
OPRD,
I am not a smoker. I lived on the beach front in Seaside through the heavy smoking '70s and '80s. I continue to have access to a family ocean front home in the area. I often walk the beach. I hardly ever see a cigarette butt. A lot of beach littering is of great concern to me especially plastics in the form of drinking containers, broken glass, dog poop. Hardly anywhere on a beach as popular as Seaside are there trash bins to be found. I don't hear anyone lobbying for a plastic bottle ban on Oregon beaches.

I believe that your Department has a lot of work to do to protect the environment on Oregon beaches. A smoking ban will lead some Oregonians to believe you are doing your job. But many of us know that passing a smoking ban, easy for non-smokers to back but nearly impossible to enforce, is a cover-up for many other responsibilities left unaddressed.

I vote NO regarding a smoking ban on Oregon beaches.

Denise K Tuhy

Sent from my iPad
To whom it may concern,

We live in Ashland, OR and are appalled at the gross over-reach of these draconian smoking bans in Oregon's public parks, as well as the one being proposed for the coastal beaches. These undertones of morality judgment surrounding the tobacco issue are the headwaters of a broader tyrannical crackdown on personal freedoms. It's not the transitory waft of tobacco smoke on the beach that significantly threatens anyone's longevity. In it's effect on public health and pollution it pales in comparison to the toxic discharges of hard rock mining, fossil-fuel energy production, industrial agriculture & manufacturing, etc. How is it that tobacco consumption earns the most adamantine of our condemnations? I suppose it's a lot easier to attack the "unsavory" activities of the guy whose smoking upwind than it is to direct one's righteous ire and activism at those industries and institutions that really threaten our safety and happiness.

And to the issue of cigarette butts being thoughtlessly strewn across the landscape, it's not tobacco smoking that impels littering but rather a culture that lacks respect for the natural world...you'll find plastic wrappers, beer cans, and a vast array of other non-biodegradable cast-offs alongside. If someone throws a butt levy a heavy fine, don't ban the smoking...how ridiculously reactionary. I repeat, relative to the environmental pollution and deleterious health effects of industrial activities in this state, the negative impact of tobacco smoking by individuals in our state parks and beaches is negligible. There is no good, cogent argument for this sort of prohibition...it's on the slippery slope toward totalitarianism.

Sincerely,

Dustin Lyons & Tera Ptacek
Alkahest Moccasins & Leathercrafts
alkahestleather@yahoo.com
www.facebook.com/AlkahestMoccasinsLeathercrafts
www.etsy.com/AlkahestLeather
Regarding OAR 736-021-0100, (Prohibits Smoking of Tobacco Products on the Ocean Shore):

I am opposed to the implementation of the proposed rule specified above.

I am a long time resident of the state of Oregon, a non-smoker, and a frequent visitor to various Oregon beaches. I see no substantial problem caused by smokers on these beaches.

Second hand smoke as a serious problem in an environment of constant wind does not pass the giggle test.

Cigarette butts do not pose a serious problem in my extensive experience - discarded water bottles, maybe.

Existing anti-littering regulations, if enforced, would cover both butts and bottles.

Adding yet another unenforced/uneforceable regulation contributes nothing positive, in my opinion, to respect for state regulation in general.

I urge the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department withdraw OAR 736-021-0100 from consideration.

Paul C Dinu
2637 SW Hume Ct.
Portland, OR 97219
I understand you're accepting comment on a proposed ban on smoking at Oregon's public beaches.

I wholeheartedly support this ban for two reasons.

First, I, like more people every day, suffer from asthma and one of the triggers for an asthma attack is cigarette smoke. Most of the time, it's pretty well controlled with maintenance medications. However, walking down a city street becomes an obstacle course dodging smokers standing outside businesses indulging in their chosen habit. It doesn't take much smoke to cause a coughing fit leaving me searching for my rescue inhaler and gasping for breath.

Most of the time, our Oregon Coast with its fresh ocean breezes is a place of refuge to a person with a lung disease. Unfortunately, there are those times when the beach also presents the same breathing hazard for me as our city streets.

The second reason I support a smoking ban on public beaches is the litter left behind. While many smokers are considerate, many others seem to think the beach is just a giant, sand-filled ashtray where they can leave their spent cigarette butts. Even if they're buried they eventually surface causing an unsightly mess and a hazard to birds and animals who mistake them for food.

Please go forward with this ban.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Wanda Davis

503-508-1428
876 SE Miller Ave
Dallas, OR 97338
I am a smoker. Also a camper, a hiker, a volunteer and many other things. When in a public place and wanting to smoke, I move off from everyone around me to do it. On this you can ask anyone I travel or hang out with. I carry a small personal airtight ashtray to deposit my butt into. I know there are smokers out there that don’t, but, I do this no matter where I am. In my utv that I take to the beach, I have an ashtray. In my car, I have an enclosed portable ashtray.

I am tired of the rant against smokers.

How about we start on a new group. Let’s say, illegal aliens, how about immoral public officers starting with His Majesty, King Kitz or the others in public office that cheat lie or steal. Maybe, welfare fraud, SSDI fraud, misuse of public funds, let’s ban drinking in public parks, gang related activities at public places. These are just a very few groups we can start with. Oh wait, there are already plenty of laws out there that don’t get enforced on some of these groups already.

My tobacco taxes pay for a myriad of things for the government of Oregon, as well as those people who don’t want to work and have moved here to Oregon for the ease of getting on public assistance. Can we put a stop to the influx of lazy “I need a handout” group?

Do me and everyone else a favor and put my tax money to better use than harassing smokers.

Barbara Vugteveen
No bans on our public beaches of any kind please.

No ban on smoking on public beaches, thank you!
I vote no ban on smoking on public beaches!

It's simple, no matter what you pack IN, you pack it out..........
I am in favor of banning smoking on all Oregon beaches. (The litter smokers leave behind is atrocious)  
I also support the current ban in state parks. I just wish it was enforced in the state park surrounding the Capital in Salem.

Laurel Triplett
Salem, OR
I am against this ban.

Kristine G Laurance.

Sent from my iPhone
I am in favor of restricting tobacco products. They are unsightly litter and the smell of smoke is very unpleasant.

Thanks,
Barbara Burr
I just wanted to share my position on this proposal. I DO NOT smoke but I find this continued attack on smokers rights disturbing. Yes we do want them to quit but you can not make someone quit.

We need to STOP this encroachment into their rights. Already the state in the person of the Governor has decided that they will ban smoking on state property. I didn’t realize that there was already a ban added to state parks. That is unfortunate. We need to pull back from this rush to limit their rights. Instead we need to work toward educating people and also we should be having our law enforcement units actively citing litterers including those who throw their cigarette butts away.

Do not placed a ban on smoking on Public Beaches.

Steve Stephens
As a former smoker, 24 years ago, I am one person against the smoking ban. I walk over a mile on the beach by Sunset Beach approach almost every day of the week and very rarely see a cigarette butt. I do see a lot of plastic bottles and remnants of fireworks, but rarely cigarette butts. One concern I have is that if they are not allowed to smoke on the beach, with plenty of fresh air, they will end up going into the dunes with all the beach grass creating a real fire hazard. Besides that, who is supposed to enforce this law, State Parks, OSP or the Sheriff's department? There is already a ban on camping on our beaches but almost every day we see people that have camped on the beach overnight, some still sleeping in their sleeping bags, so that law is not being enforced, why would the smoking ban? I feel this is a very bad idea a waste of money and a waste of time and am totally against it.

Thank you,
Steve Thornton
90325 Lewis Rd.
Warrenton, Or. 97146
In a word: yes, yes, yes!

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Marilyn Safier
My Bonanza store:  http://www.bonanza.com/booths/MareCrochets
My Etsy store:  https://www.etsy.com/shop/MareCrochets?ref=search_shop_redirect
I want to go on record opposing a smoking ban on Oregon beaches. I also oppose the smoking ban at Oregon State Parks, but I know this has already been passed.

Jennie Reisch
974 Wildflower St. N.E.
Salem, OR 97301
reischcoop@msn.com
I oppose this. It is unenforceable and not to mention the fact that it's wrong to tell people what to do with their lives. You aren't going to change what people do, it's just going to piss them off. It seems like slowly all our liberties are being taken away, and I don't think that's right at all. Enforce litter policies. Stop telling people what to do with their own bodies though. I recently quit smoking but I 100% do not support this. Things like this make me want to move out of Oregon.

Thank you,
Jordan Millen
While I abhor finding cigarette butts anywhere I find this proposal an over-reach. It's a nice thought, but how can it be enforced? Furthermore, there is already a fine for littering, which includes cigarette butts. It makes sense to ban cigarette smoking in campgrounds due to the risk of fires, but how many fires are started by live cigarettes dropped on the beach?

I think the solution is better publicity and education. Not only is littering spoiling the landscape, but it is a threat to wildlife. I suggest that the money which would be allocated to this proposal be given to organizations such as SOLVE for more beach cleanups.

Delores Porch
2677 NW Ginseng Pl
Corvallis, OR 97330
I am writing to say that I disagree with a smoking ban on Oregon beaches. I do not feel that creating a ban and trying to enforce it is in the best interest of the Tax Payers of Oregon. I feel that by banning smoking on the beaches and using the excuses that litter of cigarette butts is one of the main reasons and subjecting other people to second hand toxic smoke is why is a weak argument. I also do not see anyway that this ban and ticket idea would ever happen. We cannot even afford to police neighborhoods to make them safer let alone have officers wasting time writing tickets to smokers. So creating a law and using my taxes to fund the creation and implementation would be a gross misuse of funds. There simply is no point in it.

I have grown up here in Oregon. I smoked for over 35 years and I NEVER threw a cigarette butt onto the beach. When finished it was burned in a firepit or put into my pocket. And every single time I smoked on a beach the wind was blowing pretty darn hard. I have never been to the beach in Oregon when there was a completely calm day with no wind.

I have seen more trash from fast food sacks (from extremely obese Oregonians and tourists) and water bottles then anything else on our beaches. I have also seen by far, more dog poop. I have even watched people stand by their dog while it is pooping and do NOTHING to pick it up.

Stop wasting my taxes on creating more unnecessary laws! Instead of being afraid of the paranoid non-smoking extremists that want to create these stupid bans and laws, stand up and tell them to DEAL WITH IT! And at the same time, ask them if they fit into any of the following scenarios:

You drink ANYTHING out of a disposable can or bottle on ANY public or state owned land.

You eat ANY type of fast food on our beaches, in our parks or at your desk on State property. Even if you are obese and have a pretty good chance of getting heart disease and then driving my healthcare premiums up from your medical treatments.

You have small children that you cannot fully control behavior on in ANY public place in Oregon. Has your child ever thrown a tantrum because they were hungry or tired and you could do nothing to soothe them. This affects my mental health adversely since I have no children of my own and go to the beaches or parks to relax!

You wear strong smelling body sprays, hair sprays, deodorant, colognes, etc...I am allergic to
them all and they are also not good for our environment. But you continue to spray them on!

You own ANY pet that you take out of your own back yard and put in ANY public property. They might poop when you are not prepared to pick it up...! And many of you do NOT pick it up because you do not want to carry it around while you are on the beach trying to have fun.

You drive ANY vehicle that has a gas or diesel engine. Walk or ride a bicycle folks! It is healthier for you and your environment!

You use a dishwasher that drains waste water filled with chemicals and drying agents

You do NOT recycle every single item in an appropriate bin no matter how small! To include your leftover vegetables that can be put into a green can now as well as putting the rest of your leftovers in a compost or out for the wildlife to eat.

I could go on and on....we all have bad habits and affect the environment in an adverse way in a million different ways. Banning cigarettes because YOU are afraid that people will RUSH the beaches due to the other public area bans is not the right answer. STOP THE NONSENSE! I am a nonsmoker and I do not care in the least if a smoker wants to smoke anywhere other than a public building or with 10 feet from a doorway. I will simply walk away from them rather than smell it or put my lungs into a situation where they must process it.

These people that would like to ban smoking 100% in Oregon are the same people that enjoy a glass of wine or a micro-brew or a fast food meal. All of these things can cause a cancer of some type and can kill people. These people would be extremely upset if they were told that they could never have another drip of anything alcoholic or eat anything fried in grease or drive any vehicle that uses any type of fuel in this State. They need to stop picking on a very small part of our population.

I would also like to know how these people supporting this ban did a study on smokers rushing the beaches when smoking was banned in public hotel areas, etc....do they have recorded video of MANY people smoking on the beaches? I would love to see it. Our beaches are never crowded. We do not live in Florida, Folks, we live in the rainy state. I am lucky to count 20 people at a time on an Oregon beach for the most part.

And where is the study that the second hand smoke on that windy beach is the cause of anyone's death after being there for a visit?

Have any of these people sat by a campfire to warm up on their beach visit and made
Smores or a Hot Dog? There is a lot more smoke coming from that then my smoking friends cigarette!

Did the volunteers that clean the beach remove more cigarette butts then they did other trash from picnics? I would also like to see video of that and where it was recorded. Hearsay is not good enough proof.

DO NOT put a ban in place because a very few number of people decided to be fanatics and are trying to make Oregon even more of a Nanny State than it already is.

Besides, I would much rather that a nonsmoker not smoke while they are driving their car and might cause a wreck from distraction or for them to have a smoke inside of their home where you may cause a house fire or pollute their precious pets, loved ones, children or friends! I completely prefer that they smoke outside where the air can push it and "dilute" the toxins! If we continuously ban all outdoor areas from smokers they will eventually end up standing in the middle of a busy street or sit inside of their cars or do it inside of their private residence.
I totally support the ban. Thank you!

Lisa Richardson
574 Bliler Ave NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-851-7673
keizerfire@aol.com
Hi my husband is a disabled veteran and I am disabled and we have a 6 yr old son we all have allergies and asthma and someone smoking at the beach especially on a windy day can make us sick and ruin our experience like it will give my husband a migraine and our son can get asthma attacks it ruins the air quality and makes others sick its not right to expose others to second hand smoke and force others to have to breathe that and its hard if you have asthma and allergies why should we suffer because people are selfish and want to smoke in a public place I wish they would ban smoking in parks and outside business and other places. In seaside here at our nice public library our new librarian bless her heart was awesome enough to help pass a ban having to do with smoking at the library inside and outside which is a total blessing. It would be a bigger blessing to also have them ban smoking at the beach as its also bad all the cigarette butts on the beach its bad for the environment and wildlife and goes out in the ocean and pollutes the oceans too. Please ban smoking on the beaches thank sincerely kindwyn and leonard hoge seaside oregon (503) 717-1142
Just wanted to say PLEASE CONTINUE the smoking ban at parks. Many of my family members have died of COPD and I don't smoke. I am a nurse and have seen how smoking ravages the body. Having to inhale someone else's second hand smoke is, in my opinion, a BLATANT violation of my health rights. Because of the health risks of second hand smoke, smoking should be banned in ALL public areas. If folks chose to engage in behavior that harms only themselves then so be it. Do that in your own home where your decisions effect only you.

Dave Ferdig
503-385-6701
deferdig@gmail.com
david.e.ferdig.mil@mail.mil
I am not a smoker. I am however opposed to banning smoking on Oregon beaches. We have laws against littering and those should be enough to enable the enforcement to prevent litter from smoking. Please, no more unnecessary laws. Promote "carry in, carry out" in regards to waste, garbage, cigarette butts and provide waste recepticals and education. Thank you.

Janet Birmingham  
19550 Blanchard Road  
Cloverdale, OR 97112  
503-398-5436  
jcbirmingham@outlook.com
Sir/Madam;

I was raised on the Oregon coast (Clatsop County) one house off the ocean in Gearhart. From before I could remember, we spent our summers, and occasionally our winters, living in and visiting Gearhart, walking the beaches, learning how to shoot a rifle, and at age 13, how to smoke a cigarette, shoot off fireworks, and beachcomb.

I also spent thirty years of my adult life attending to the morale, discipline, law and order, and training of soldiers under my charge. One of the first lessons of leadership is “never issue an order you cannot enforce.”

The proposed rule to ban smoking falls into this category.

In post-military retirement, I spent over a dozen years teaching residential contractors how to comply with Oregon Occupational Safety and Health rules. My point is two-fold. I understand enforcing discipline with the individual; I understand enforcing rules for a group (like contractors). I understand enforcement of state rules.

The proposed rule to ban smoking also falls into this category.

At age 74 I thought I had seen or heard of too many stupid rules in my fifty plus years of working. This proposed rule by Oregon Parks and Recreation, for whatever good reasons you people may think apply in this case, is still an order, rule, ordinance, or any other enforcement code that cannot be enforced.

I hope I have made my thoughts clear to you. If you have any questions, comments or need any clarifications, I may also be reach on my cellular phone at 503-702-2174 or via email at 311bandit7@gmail.com.

E. L. Devereaux III
Sergeant Major, US Army Retired
Oregonian Since 1940
Please ban smoking on beaches. People who want to be healthy and takes walks or jogs on the beach don't want to have change path every time come up on someone smoking or have to move picnic spot because smokers sets their picnic spot next you.

But the big reason for smoking ban on beach is the cigarette butt littering. Its disgusting. Most smokers have no decency to not throw butts on beach.

Thank you

Kimberly Omnes
Dallas, Oregon
Good morning-

My opinion is that banning smoking in the rest of parks and Oregon coast is too much and I don't support it.

Thank you for considering my position.

Francisco Mora.
I support a ban on smoking on Oregon beaches! A ban will help air quality and litter along our beaches. Thank you!

--Erinne Goodell
3241 NE Holman
Portland, OR 97211
Oregon Parks and Recreation District:

I would like to encourage you to adopt tobacco free Oregon Beaches. Currently in Oregon there is an overwhelming demand for tobacco-free spaces. Over 36 local jurisdictions in Oregon have adopted tobacco free or smoke free policies in their recreation areas for the health of their residents and visitors.

My family owns a beach house in Lincoln County and we frequently spend hours on the beaches throughout the year. Secondhand smoke on the beaches is a concern for my family members with asthma or an allergy to smoke as secondhand smoke exposure can trigger asthma attacks and other adverse health effects for them. The US Surgeon General states there is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure and studies* indicate that sitting just three feet away from a smoker outdoors can expose you to the same level of secondhand smoke as if you were sitting indoors with a smoker.

While riding my horse on the beach last weekend I was exposed to secondhand smoke three times in just one hour. Having an immediate family member who died prematurely from secondhand smoke makes me even more cautious of exposure. Please help protect our family and myself from exposure to secondhand smoke on our Oregon beaches by adopting rules to make our beaches tobacco free.

Thank you for your consideration of the health of all Oregonians and our visitors!

Barnoya and Glantz. Cardiovascular Effects of Secondhand Smoke: from the Center for Tobacco Control

Kris Williams
541-548-1540
I won't be able to get down to the hearing but I wanted to voice an opinion.

I lived at the coast for several years and I'm for the ban. We used to walk for miles and miles and hunt for agates and could see the smoking "residue". It's not so much the smoke; the wind takes care of that.

It's the litter; the packages and little pieces of foil and the seemingly indestructible cigarette filters. Someone should put a GPS on one of those things and track it for a while. They ride on the tide until they come to rest on the high water line and I have much praise for the occasional individual who crushes the smoke and tucks the filter in a pocket.

Count me as a yes vote.

Patricia Morgan
Smoking on beaches should be banned mainly because of butts left for others to pick up or to injure wildlife. It scares me to see a lot of cigarette butts in the trails at Mary S Young Park when the forest is so dry.

Dave Kruse
Gladstone
Dear Sir or Madame --

The American Civil War was raged not so much to establish the truism of "majority rules," but rather to firmly engage the principle of "majority rules with minority rights." In Oregon today, law-abiding, tax-paying, and voting adults, who also engage in the use of tobacco products, are increasingly restricted from publicly owned outdoor properties, including parks, fairgrounds, campgrounds, outdoor exhibition and event areas, and forested lands during fire season. While at one time, smokers bore this discrimination under rubrics that emphasized freedom from second-hand smoke and/or indoor air quality, today the new rubric centers around the littering of cigarette butts.

I love Oregon's oceans and outdoor spaces. I respect the sensitive ecosystem balance that exists in our ocean, and I even earn a portion of my annual income from our oceans. I am a doctorally-prepared professional who, oddly enough, works in the compound of public health. I spend much time in Oregon's great outdoors, Oregon's waterways, and the Pacific Ocean. I carry a small ziplock bag with me and dispose of cigarette butts in that bag and carry them home for proper disposal.

Oregon does not need more rules, regulations, or restrictions. We need to enforce the codes that currently exist, and this includes anti-litter laws. Adding more restrictions is not the answer. Twenty percent of Oregon's adults are smokers. At twenty percent, we are a minority, but we have the same right to enjoy Oregon's shores as non-smokers. It is in this outdoor open-air space that no one can complain about second-hand smoke or indoor air pollution. Instead, we should all be encouraged to enjoy the great outdoors, to respect its fragile nature, to leave it better than we found it, and to gather in awe -- as Oregonians -- and not as smokers or non-smokers -- amid this great heritage that our forefathers so thoughtfully secured for future generations to enjoy. OPRD's proposed restrictions have already gone too far. Let's add common sense, enforcement of existing regulations, and an accurate understanding of minority rights to a balanced discussion.
This looks like a solution to a non existent problem. I live in a beach community with both pedestrian and vehicular traffic access to the beach. I walk the beaches on a regular basis. I don’t remember ever seeing a cigarette butt, on the beach, in the 7 years that I have lived here. As an ex smoker, The smell of tobacco smoke is very offensive to me, and I avoid places where people smoke. However, banning smoking on the beaches of Oregon is not the answer. Enforcement would be non existent, and dedicated smokers are likely to ignore the ban. The state already has laws prohibiting littering. Discarding waste, or litter, is a punishable offense already, subject to hefty fines. Implementation of existing litter laws on the beaches makes more sense, even though enforcement is still unlikely. Our society is overwhelmed with regulations, most of which are unenforceable. Another one will be a waste of taxpayer resources, and I urge you to reject the promulgation of this regulation.

Thanks you for your serious consideration of this issue.

R. Lathrop
Port Orford, Oregon.
Thank you for starting this. smoking at the beach is a nuisance and a problem.
Having lived and recreated on and near the beaches all my life I think it is about time that we limited our air space and our walking spaces to those who have little regard for the quality of both. Aside from being accosted by bitter and choking second hand smoke, we also have to be concerned about those with us be it children, animals or ourselves having to be careful not to step on the hot part of a used cigarette or just having to smell the used butts. Please try and implement a way to keep these folks and their habits at a safe distance from our noses and lungs and the unadulterated beach sands... Thanks Becky
I support banning smoking on the beaches. I base my opinion on science. The filter was placed on cigarettes to help protect the smoker from the toxins in the smoke. All smoke emitted is toxic whether filtered or not. Unfortunately, many who smoke leave the filter (butt) behind on the beach. I doubt that any studies have been done on important microorganisms, insects, birds, fish and other life on and near the beach and tidal waters. I cannot find any benefit to the health of the environment, wildlife, aquatic life or children to allowing people to exhale cigarette or other smoke. the cigarette butt is but an additional danger. I see cigarette butts every time I walk.

When I walk the beach, just one smoker upwind will ruin my fresh air. I have always wondered what health consequences this will bring. Close proximity has nothing to do with exposure. I can smell smoke from a long ways away.

cigarettes are toxins. I don't mind if other people smoke as long as I am not subjected to any form of the toxicity. Unfortunately, smokers are rarely courteous or conscious about who they are subjecting to their pollution.

I own property near a beach in Oregon.

Thank you for protecting the public and the environment.

Linda Christensen,
Manzanita, Oregon
I fully support banning smoking on Oregon's publicly owned beaches.

Thank you,
Betsy Ayres
PO Box 2
Cannon Beach, Oregon 97110

Written with Siri's help; please excuse mistakes
To Whom It May Concern:

I oppose the smoking ban on public beaches. It is ridiculous to allow camp fires that cause more smoke than a cigarette and ban cigarettes. I agree that litter is a problem, however, there is already a ban on littering and throwing glowing objects from a vehicle. I, as a smoker, abhor throwing cigarette butts anywhere other than in the trash or fire. I love the outdoors and the nature here in Oregon, as others do. I would never want to litter natural environments, as the beauty would be diminished.

This ban amounts to too much government control. New York tried banning sugary drinks (only the large containers, because people who drink the small sizes NEVER use the “free refill” benefit). Trying to regulate cigarettes in the outdoors is ridiculous. Soon, we will be penalized for our thoughts. Why don’t you just make us wear a scarlet letter and get it over with sooner. That way, non-smokers can start yelling and pointing us out before we even get close enough to them to offend them. Better yet, have the drummer boy precede us (those wearing the scarlet letter) so that the non-smokers can run for their lives before we pollute their environment by just breathing.

This is just plain discrimination. I thought discrimination of minorities was illegal under the civil rights act (sarc).

Kellie Walker  
776 Concord St. NE  
Salem, OR  97301  
Registered Voter and Concerned (discriminated against) Citizen
Please send me the text of the proposed rule regarding banning smoking on the Oregon coast, so I can read it and make timely comments before the deadline, which I believe is Aug 28.

I have not seen the proposed rule but would like my comments below, considered. I am unable to attend any of the public hearings. I can't help observing that the last week of August is not an opportune time for people to attend because of summer vacation schedules. I just heard about this proposed rule in today's newspaper.

Thank you in advance for passing my comments along to the Commission and/or hearings officer, whichever is appropriate at this point in the process.

------

I am particularly intrigued about the "plastic butts" environmental concerns: it appears such concerns are already addressed by laws and related fines on the books re littering and by the DEQ.

It appears that the concept of Oregon open beaches is to provide free and unfettered access.

As a disabled person it may be a long and unrealistic hike to my car or designated smoking area. I always use the mantra, if you bring it in, carry it out and leave no trace. No garbage is left behind. If someone is actually persistent enough to be even able to get a cigarette lit on the windy beaches... I think you get the drift.

While horses can regularly roam and poop on beaches and people make huge bonfires on the beach on hot days... And set off illegal fireworks. Because you really can't think it's better for one's health to smoke in their confined car or Rv in a parking lot. It would be better to say no smoking within 30 feet of non smokers and let the natural wind filter it away. Perhaps the state parks and rec should offer free nonsmoking patches to customers to encourage them to be smoke-free.

Is this rule about health or littering or both? How often do you actually see a person walking down the beach smoking and bothering other people? I can say "never". Just snuff the butt and carry it out with any other trash. Is a rule necessary?

If you want to make an impact, provide Signage encouraging people to be considerate, provide doggy poop bags and cigarette butt receptacle at beach egress. Signs that remind people caught leaving any trash or poop on the beach are subject to a fine.

Keep Oregon beaches open and accessible. Thankyou.

Marilyn Krug
267 Turnage St NW
Salem, OR 97304
Please accept the attached letter as public comment for ocean shores rulemaking on behalf of the Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention Section of the Oregon Public Health Division. A hard copy has also been mailed to the address listed on the Parks and Recreation Rules website.

Best,

**Rebecca Pawlak, MPH**
Oregon Health Authority | Public Health Division | Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention
desk: 971-673-1034 | mobile: 503-969-8437 | rebecca.l.pawlak@state.or.us
After smoking for 27 years I quit in 1992. I am a non-smoker who is against the ban for smoking on beaches. If this goes into affect then shouldn't all camp fires be banned as they put out more smoke than cigs and leave charcoal in the sand.

As far as the litter aspect, then you should also ban all bottles, cans, plastic cups, plates, all fishing from shore (as we all deal castoff with fishing line), chewing gum (wrapper & the gum itself), kites (broken string), candy bars (wrappers), potato chips (bags) and the list can go on and on.

Remember when Gov McCall said "Vist Oregon but don't stay"? Maybe the slogan should be "We're a nanny State that outdoors only belong to some".

If Oregon is so down on cigs, then ban them out right and make it illegal to but them in Oregon. Oh I forgot, we need the SIN TAX!

Dik Phillips
The Oregon Beaches are our most
Wonderful Treasure. Let's keep them
smoke and residue free!
Sent from my iPhone
I strongly support the proposed smoking ban for Oregon's beaches.

Secondhand smoke is harmful. It is impossible to escape it in more crowded areas or when walking by smokers. The best way to get rid of the butt litter is by eliminating smoking. Oregon's beaches are iconic and sacred. Smoking and cigarette butts do not belong there.

Thank you, Alexandra Phillips
1311 Chemeketa St NE
Salem 97301
Dear Oregon Parks,

From what I've heard of the proposal to ban smoking on Oregon's beaches, it sounds like the problem is litter on the beach. If that is so, I think it would be better to develop a plan to attack that problem directly.

Pocket ashtrays are available. I looked on the internet and saw one at $15; others are more expensive ($39 and up).

However, it isn't really the ash that's the problem, it's the butt. Perhaps the Parks Dept. could find someone to manufacture a small "butts box" that would attach to a cigarette pack and sell for $10 or less. Then the Parks Dept. could mount a publicity campaign for smokers to buy the "butts boxes" and use them in parks, on beaches, and other public places to reduce litter. Maybe the Forestry Dept. could be enlisted in the campaign to encourage smokers to prevent wildfires by using the boxes.

Sincerely,
Sally Hollemon
Please include me as an ardent supporter of the ban. State and Federal Governments wisely spend significant amounts dissuading people from smoking for all the right reasons. Therefore, as a sister state agency you should not accommodate smoking in any venue that you control. As a frequent beach walker the visual and environmental pollution created by discarded cigarette filters is a public menace that should not be tolerated. I applaud your efforts and hope you hang tough. Thank you, Dan Simmons, Salem, Oregon.
Gentlemen,
Although I agree with the smoking ban in principle, I do not support it. Because of all the good work they are doing, I do not believe your staff nor law enforcement agencies have any free time to deal with the additional complaint levels this policy could generate, therefore the ban would be for the most part unenforceable. I think the Department’s efforts are better spent focusing on more pressing issues that reap real results than this “feel good” policy. I agree the cigarette filters, etc do present a health hazard to wildlife, but don’t the current in-force littering laws cover that same aspect? If any time and energy is to be expended on the issue, why not enforce existing laws?

Sincerely
Ronald Potter

Ronald Potter
P.O. Box 2140
Waldport, OR 97394

(541) 563-2824
Tobacco use continues to be the leading cause of preventable death in Oregon and is associated with a number of diseases including multiple cancers, diseases of respiratory and cardiovascular systems, and strokes. Tobacco contributes to over 22% of all deaths in Oregon, costing taxpayers more than $2.4 billion (2009) in direct medical expenses and lost productivity. 34.8% of 11th grade students report that they smoke. During car rides where one person smoked, levels of fine particulate matter averaged more than three times higher than the maximum safe indoor air limit recommended by the World Health Organization. 21% of 8th graders reported riding in a car with someone who was smoking cigarettes. A typical one-hour hookah smoking session is the equivalent of inhaling smoke of 100 or more cigarettes, (World Health Organization, 2005, TobReg Advisory Note – Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking: Health Effects, Research Needs and Recommended Actions by Regulators) Investing in successful public health interventions for tobacco prevention and education programs is key to the health of Oregonians.

Alissa Leavitt, MPH, MCHES
OPHA Health Education & Promotion Section Chair
aleavitt.ophac@gmail.com
503-358-2331

Sent via iPhone. Please excuse any grammatical errors.
I think it is a great idea to ban smoking on the beaches. I feel that smokers invade on peoples enjoyment by blowing smoke that drifts into others space. Tell me where can you go and not find a cigaret butts on the ground. Seeing cigaret butts in the sand just takes away the beautiful Oregon Coast. I think people have the choice to smoke or not as long as it does not harm others. I don't think smokers respect others and the proof is on the ground no matter where you are just look down. Thank you
Robert long

Sent from my iPad
John S. Dearing  
126 NW 21st Street  
Corvallis OR 97330-5531  
541-754-2557  
JSDearing@comcast.net

August 19, 2014

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Commission  
725 Summer St NE Suite C  
Salem OR 97301  
oprd.publiccomment@oregon.gov

SUBJECT: COMMENT ON PROPOSED RULE BANNING SMOKING AT OREGON COAST BEACHES

I urge the Commission to ban smoking at Oregon coast beaches.

The beaches of Oregon belong to the citizens of Oregon. As an Oregon citizen who has difficulty breathing because of a partially-paralyzed diaphragm, I think it is an important for public health that public places be smoke-free. I believe that no one has the right to force others to breathe their smoke. Smoke is a carcinogen.

Smokers cause a major littering problem on Oregon's beaches, particularly with cigarette filters.

Every citizen has the right to breathe clean air. No one has the right to impose their smoking habit on others. And no one has the right to litter. Our beaches are not ashtrays.

No one needs to smoke!

John S. Dearing

The problem is litter, not smoking. Please just enforce the litter laws and leave the polite, law abiding smokers alone.

Wendy Schink
Bay City, OR
Nothing is more unsightly than cigarette filters floating on the beach. The filters take a lifetime to disintegrate and will harm wildlife when eaten. Look at the number of filters cleaned up each year by the SOLVE beach crews and then multiply that greatly to the number we can’t see. This is a good move to keep Oregon’s beaches clean.
I strongly support this ban!
Darus Peake
Nehalem, Oregon
I think it would be appropriate to have designated smoking areas, just like other public places. Cigarette smoke gives me a headache and runny nose. Thanks,

Barb Faith
President
ARCpoint Labs of Portland
Certified Disadvantaged Business Ent. (DBE)
Certified Woman-owned Business (WBE)
Certified Emerging Small Business (ESB)
Wellness Summit Sponsor
OAME, PBA and SHRM Member
12003 NE Ainsworth Circle, #103
Portland, OR 97220

We are accepting new clients and welcome your referrals.
Hi,

Even though I abhor smoking and all it’s awful consequences, I don’t believe we should create a law that bans smokers from Oregon’s public beaches. Even smokers have the right to those beaches and the right to slowly destroy their lungs if that is what they wish. Once we begin banning smoking on the beach, what will we ban next? Will that include campfires or dogs or anyone or thing that annoys one group of people? Let’s keep Oregon beaches free and open to all even if we disagree with who they are.

Thank you,

Theresa Roberts
Lead Librarian
South Tillamook Co.Library
503 965 6163
troberts@co.tillamook.or.ur
Dear Sir or Madam:

I support smoke-free public beaches, but I do think that having a “smoking area” designated would be the kindest thing to do. Perhaps something along the lines of the accommodation for pets, a separate area for those who cannot or will not quit smoking. I do not have any objection to the new vaporizers in an outdoor setting, as they do not generate the kind of smoke and litter that cigarettes do.

Thank you for my opportunity to have a voice.

Sincerely,
Elaine Ziebart
2556 Phipps Ln NE
Salem, OR 97305
971-600-3463
Hello,

I heard about your efforts to make Oregon shores smoke free while attending a CDC cancer conference in Atlanta. Many years ago, I had the opportunity to spend the weekend in Lincoln, Oregon. What a beautiful place!

I commend your efforts to consider and hopefully approve the initiatives to make your shores smoke free. Of course, it would greatly benefit the citizens and sea life of Oregon, but keep in mind that you are also leading the way for the rest of the nation.

Thank you!

Kristina Giard-Bradford  
Program Manager  
Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Program & Tennessee Cancer Coalition (TC2)

Tennessee Department of Health  
Division of Policy, Planning and Assessment  
Office of Cancer Surveillance  
Tennessee Comprehensive Cancer Control Program  
2nd Floor, Andrew Johnson Tower  
710 James Robertson Parkway  
Nashville, TN 37243  
615-741-1638  
Fax 615-253-5187  
Kristina.g.bradford@tn.gov

The mission of the Department of Health is to protect, promote and improve the health and prosperity of people in Tennessee.

The mission statement of the TC2 is to measurably reduce the burden of cancer on the citizens of Tennessee by implementing a collaborative statewide plan driven by data, science, capacity and outcomes.
After working for 30 years in a public health dept., I do not think this measure would drastically improve public health. Dick Lemery
I strongly support banning smoking on all Oregon beaches. Whenever I walk on one of our beautiful beaches, I am dismayed by all the 'butts' I see on the sand. I will never understand why smokers think it is ok to litter in this way. Please please enforce a ban.

Thank you
Jane Mailloux
Portland, OR
Oregon ranks near the top in a number of categories. Unemployment, school drop-out rates, poverty, and so many other elements which really do need Oregon's Governor and the legislature to take some positive action on. Instead, they seem bent on taking my rights away.

Call it freedom of speech? I like to smoke. I think it's a filthy habit and I know in every inch of my being I should quit. The fact is, I'm going to die one day...as is everyone. But I want to live my life the way I want! I enjoy a cigarette now and then. I reflect on the day's activity, the next day's goals, and the beauty of the sunset.

I spent nearly five years of my life in the pit that was southeast Asia during the Vietnam 'conflict.' I didn't run to Canada as so many of my peers seemed to want. I believed it was my duty, indeed my responsibility to take part in defending the rights we inherited through countless decades of brave people giving their lives, or portions of their lives to maintain our freedoms.

I feel betrayed! Is it freedom to prevent me from enjoying the Oregon Coast while enjoying a cigarette, pipe, or even a cigar? Yet it's easy for you in Salem to take that right away. After all....we're just smokers right?

It would seem you all could find a great deal more to spend you time. Oregon has real problems. Why must you persist in taking away the rights of so many.

I'm almost ashamed to admit to my friends....I live in Oregon.
From: Deidrie Lindsey
To: PUBLICCOMMENT + GPRD
Subject: Smoking on Beaches
Date: Thursday, August 14, 2014 11:15:05 AM

I am a resident of Coos County and am greatly offended when I am forced to inhale cigarette smoke.
I support have a clean air ocean beach,
No Smoking on Ocean Beaches.
Thank you

Deidrie Lindsey, CADC II
ADAPT North Bend, Program Director
400 Virgina Ave Suite 201
North Bend, OR 97459
O: 541 751 0357
F: 541 751 9985
deidriel@adapt-or.org
Oregon Parks and Recreation District  
725 Summer St NE, Suite C  
Salem OR 97301  
Attn: Vanessa DeMoe, Rules Coordinator  

Aug. 13, 2014

The Board of Commissioners of Clatsop County supports the proposed Oregon Parks and Recreation rule prohibiting the smoking of tobacco products on the ocean shore state recreation area.

Restricting smoking on Oregon beaches aligns with Clatsop County’s tobacco free-ordinances for worksite properties and the county fairgrounds. The Board supported the policy to restrict the use of tobacco products in our state parks and recreation areas, and we support a policy that would restrict that use on our ocean shores. The proposed rule supports the efforts of Oregonians and visitors to improve our health and clean up the environment, and ultimately saves money by decreasing the economic burden of tobacco use.

In addition to the proposed rulemaking, the Board also recommends that the proposed rule:

• Includes all smoking products, not just tobacco
• Includes e-cigarettes

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input.

Sincerely,

Scott Lee, Chair  
Board of Commissioners
Oregon should be a front runner against pollution rather than individual rights.

Enforce the litter laws we already have in place! Post that cigarette butts are litter and start fining (warning first, of course) in parks, on city streets, parking lots, at beach trails and on the beach. Private and government property owners should be fined for not cleaning their parking lots and/or for cleaning them by blowing the butts and other bits of trash into the street and storm drains.

I live on the coast, I walk and clean the beaches all the time. Rarely do I see or smell people smoking on the beach. Beach trash is coming from the cities and there is far more plastic than butts. Where are the trash cans?

Here’s a thought - Why not force manufactures to use biodegradable materials for butts and short term plastics? That would make life much better for our oceans.
1. Cigarette butts make up 30 to 38 percent of waste along shorelines and waterways

2. The Ocean Conservancy reported that the most common kind of trash that they find on beaches is cigarette butts. That's because the vast majority of cigarette filters are made of cellulose acetate, a kind of plastic that isn't biodegradable.

3. "As a result of the lab work we've done, there's a suggestion that there is a persistent contaminant effect that gets into the food chain," said Novotny. "In addition to the chemicals in cigarette butts, tobacco is grown with pesticides that aren't regulated. So there is a whole range of contaminants that haven't been studied yet."


As a concerned Oregonian who visits the shorelines regularly, I strongly urge you to Restrict smoking of tobacco products on the Ocean Shore Recreation Area.

---
Mark P. Fulop, MA, MPH
2137 NE 51st Ave
Portland, OR 97213
Oregon Parks Department,

I am an Oregon resident who has a comment on this issue;

I am against prohibiting smoking on public beaches, as so many rights of tobacco users have been terminated already.
I like to visit the beach and sometimes have a smoke, I will take my trash with me when I leave.
I have walked barefoot in the sand, and had my foot cut by a pull tab from a soda or beer can, this caused stitches and a scar.

Are you going to prohibit drinking soda and beer also? Or is this just an issue for smokers, to further remove them from a public place where they are using a legal product. If you are not willing to ban all products that produce debris on the beach, why are you targeting just one product and it's use? Aluminum does not deteriorate over time.

I feel that the aluminum pull tabs are more dangerous, although telling everyone they cannot take cans of soda or beer to the beach is not on your agenda. I don't drink soda or beer, and therefore cannot leave one of the pull tabs in the sand for someone to get cut on. So if you are only targeting one user of debris, it is not fair. Make it across the board, no food with packaging, no aluminum cans, no bottles of beer or soda, no plastic bags and no cigarettes. Or else leave this issue alone, please consider this view.
Sincerely,

Jude Baley
541-265-2815
jude@newportnet.com
I want to say the OPRD has my full support when it comes to banning smoking on public beaches. I don't smoke, but my mother is a heavy smoker.

We both agree that smokers tend to be inconsiderate when it comes to disposing of their cigarette butts. My mother and I recently visited Fogarty State Park and discovered discarded cigarette butts littering the beach. It was an eyesore.

Cigarette butts are not only an eyesore, they're an environmental hazard to wildlife that ingest them. They don't break down easily in the gizzards of shorebirds, and chemicals in the filters can be toxic to birds and other wildlife that swallow the butts.

I don't want to have to breathe in someone's dangerous cigarette smoke when I visit the beach, so I say by all means ban cigarettes on the beach.

Sincerely,

Radford Bean
Hello,

I live in Eugene and regularly visit my father-in-law who lives in Florence. For health and environmental reasons, I strongly support banning tobacco use on Oregon beaches.

Thank you,

Jennifer Jordan
883 Almaden St
Eugene, OR 97402

Sent from my iPhone
I could agree with some restriction on beach smoking, but not a total ban. I think there would be enforcement problems with a ban. Tobacco suppression generally is getting ridiculous. And how about marijuana smoking? Thank you, Alan Bach.
We already have a littering law for beaches. Second hand smoke not a problem, to windy and beach fires have more smoke. If I stand in water I can smoke (I'm not on beach by law) I don't smoke but I think it's time to make sense of our laws and don't let anti smokers make us look like fools thank you

Sent from Gary's iPhone
Attached, please find my comments in support of prohibiting smoking in the Ocean Shore Recreation Area.
I do not support a smoking ban.

Respectfully yours,

Pat Dunne
5155 NE Voyage Ave
Lincoln City, OR 97367
I don't care if people smoke outside, but I wish they wouldn't leave their cigarette butts littering the beaches. Also bottles & other misc. trash. I would rather see you enforce a current ban on littering. I'm not a smoker. We don't need more new rules if you can enforce the ones you already have. Leave the smokers alone!
As a former Oregon resident (and hopefully near future), a multiple time Oregon coast visitor to the state parks (including in September 2014), a biologist and a member of the oncology clinical trial profession, I say KUDOS!!! Smoking is a nasty, violent habit that harms humans and the environment (I was a wildland firefighter with the Florida State Parks. Not all fires are started by lightning). I am extremely pleased to know that my stays in the Oregon State Parks will be smoke and trash free as are on Cancer Center campuses across the country.

Thanks for the opportunity to make my opinion matter.

Sydney Goosen, BS, CCRP
Clinical Research Supervisor
New Mexico Cancer Care Alliance
1201 Camino de Salud NE,
Administrative Building, 2nd floor
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106
(505) 925-0365
sgoosen@nmcca.org
I recently read an article in the Oregonian that Oregon States Parks is considering restricting or eliminating smoking in all state parks. The argument quoted in the Oregonian stated that cigarette butts are found on the beach, really, this is the logic that is used to eliminate smoking on the windy, fresh air beaches of Oregon? The solution, with little thought, is to remove peoples rights to smoke on the beach and by the way in states parks. Have you ever been to Nehalem State Park, Fort Steven State Park, Beverly Beach State Park or other Oregon state parks? People love the idea of camping in the out doors, which includes camp fires. The entire Park is covered with a thin layer of camp fir smoke. However some one like myself would no longer be able to site on a lawn chair, cold beer in one hand and a cigar in the other. Imagine the horror of a small cigar emitting a stream of lethal smoke into the camp fire smoke covered air stream, Emagine that. The same logic is used apparently when smoking on the beach. Camp fires are providing warmth and a means of cooking a hot dog, maybe marshmallows. Inadvertently garbage is left behind, plastic bags are seen on the beach along with paper garbage. However no laws have been proposed to eliminate picnicking on the beach because it causes garbage to accumulate on our beautiful beaches. Stop people from smoking on the beach because a cigarette butt might be found? I believe the decision making process is deeply flawed by people that are not capable of making logical, intelligent decisions, and have hidden agendes.

Steve Redman  
503-659-5121  
Milwaukie, Oregon  
Retired Disabled Vet
From: Lance Fitzjarrald
To: PUBLICCOMMENT + GPRD
Subject: Smoking on Beaches
Date: Thursday, August 07, 2014 11:00:26 PM

I spent countless hours as a child on fine sand beaches and was always amazed at how many cigarette filters would be found among the grains of sand. If the cigarette companies would do away with filters in cigarettes I would have no problem with people smoking at the beach. Or if people actually collected and threw away their cigarette filters "butts" I would have not problem. There already are anti-littering laws and yet smokers continue to litter. Maybe instead of passing a no smoking on beach law, Oregon should pass a law that a person caught smoking is per se evidence of littering.

--

Lance D. Fitzjarrald
PO Box 2335
White Salmon, WA 98672
509-637-0471
OR: #09216
WA: #31783

If you have any reason to believe that you have received this communication in error or that you are not the intended recipient please contact Fitzjarrald Law Office immediately and destroy the communication.
I was raised in Oregon; I attended Willamette University, the University of Oregon and now reside in Eugene. I have also vacationed nearly once a year in Cannon Beach for the majority of my 37 year life. I encourage the swift adoption of banning all forms of smoking on Oregon beaches and strict enforcement of that law to the best your resources allow. I appreciate the sentiment of easing into a new legal restriction, but I oppose any long term lenience toward enforcement.

I lived in San Diego, CA two blocks from Pacific Beach for eight years. In that time, two separate alcohol consumption restrictions, an open fire ban and the smoking ban went in place for that beach. Frankly the result was a general improvement in the overall quality of life in that area. Unfortunately, I was unaware and happened to be cited on the first day of the 8:00pm alcohol restriction that went in place; I possessed an open container at 8:30pm and received a $75 ticket which was later reduced to $45. Sure, improved awareness of the new law would have been appreciated, but they did their job and I don’t fault them for that. I was a young adult and the penalty was steep, but you can be sure that it never happened again.

Oregon stands for a lot of wonderful things, but disrespectful behavior and environmental negligence are not two of them. I wish the public could police themselves appropriately in order to maintain responsible freedoms, but it is clear in this case that they cannot and require regulation to protect and improve the quality of life in our beloved state.

Now, if only we can enforce dog owners to keep their pets leashed and remove their waste, our beaches can be appealing again.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brent Desgroisellier
Hi Chris:

I’d just like to add that second-hand smoke is a physical assault on another person and should be regarded as such, that is, it is not okay, ever.

Ellen

On Aug 1, 2014, at 2:38 PM, HAVEL Chris * OPRD <Chris.Havel@oregon.gov> wrote:

> Got it, thanks.
> >
> > From: Ellen Hawks [EllenHawks@hotmail.com]
> > Sent: Friday, August 01, 2014 1:37 PM
> > To: HAVEL Chris * OPRD
> > Subject: Smoking on beach
> >
> > Dear Mr. Havel:
> >
> > In regards to the proposal to ban smoking from beaches, I am fully in favor. The old saying, “Your right to swing your arm stops at the tip of my nose,” applies here. Someone’s right to smoke stops at my lungs.
> >
> > As an inhabitant of a rural, coastal Oregon town I am also troubled by city folks thinking of our area as a wide open space to pollute. The point of the great outdoors is not for urban people to abandon all restraints, do damage, and then return home.
> >
> > Thank you for your time.
> >
> > Ellen Hawks
> > PO Box 695
> > Waldport, OR 97394
> >
This new law proposal is idiotic on so many levels.

1) hey you've already kicked smokers around and outside restaurants, work places, public buildings, and unfairly overtaxed them. Enough already.
2) we've got how many laws already on the books that the police can't enforce, and you nanny state lovers want more?
3) when oregon foolishly legalizes pot this fall, will 'smoking' as defined here include pot smoking? Yeah, didn't think so.

Get a life! Quit trying to regulate every last place we stand and freedom we have, especially oregon beaches with all that wide open space.

This is a joke, right?
I am a non-smoker but this type of government intrusion into private lives anywhere whether public places or private places must stop. No ban of smoking on public beaches. If you folks don't have enough to do someone should find some constructive work for you.

Larry & Sharon Brown
1067 Keystone Loop NE
Keizer, OR 97303
As regards the proposal to ban smoking on the Oregon beaches, I would be firmly against the proposal.

While I agree that the litter from filter cigarette butts is a disgusting problem, to ban all smoking is not the answer. For the following reasons;

1) Some people smoke cigarettes that are not filtered and the butts are biodegradable and do not cause a litter problem.

2) Some people smoke a pipe and the ash from a pipe is also biodegradable and causes no problem.

3) Some people smoke cigars. The butt from a cigar is also biodegradable, although it takes longer, and is not a problem.

4) Enforcement of a smoking ban would be very difficult, time consuming, and expensive. However, if the State of Oregon has the resources to enforce a ban on smoking then they should have the resources to enforce a litter ban instead which would not affect smokers that are not causing a problem and would encompass all people that litter.

John Nieder
Estacada, Oregon
i am writing to offer support for your ideas to ban smoking from the beach.
i am also allergic to wood smoke and for one would be happy to see beach fires eliminated as well.

marvin rubenstein
503-892-1948

MARV
The new rule to ban or limit smoking on the ocean shore is redundant and somewhat deep pocket. The environmental concerns stated on the Oregon parks and rec web site regarding plastic cigarette butts really has nothing to do with the actual smoking of tobacco. It has to do with littering. There are already laws prohibiting littering in Oregon. How enforceable would a law of this magnitude have to be? Will a visit to a park or beach be fraught with the same uncivil frisking and harassment currently found in our airports to our native citizens? How welcoming is this to out of state visitors? Will it prohibit tourism to the coast for smokers? Where will the smokers from the casinos go to smoke when they leave the building? Tourism is the life blood of the Oregon coastal towns.... Is this really a grand idea when looking at the consequences of such a ban should it discourage visitors?

Visitors to the parks and beaches are not in jail. (is smoking indoors in jails permissible?) Smoking is not a crime. It is already banned indoors and within ten feet of doorways. Outdoor smoking is not a health hazard to others. What is really being requested is to ban someones idea of a bad smell. The toilets at the beach smell. Dead fish, seaweed and rotting wildlife at the beaches have a bad smell. What really smells bad is the ridiculous amount of time and money wasted on this agenda. Appease the micro-managing controlling liberals (who wish to take away all the decisions of the citizens of this formerly free nation and create a communist state) by farming out work release inmates to do litter patrol and let the court be adjourned. Or would the site of the orange overalls upset them too? And where, oh where would they smoke on their work breaks?

The real humor of this is that it is so windy at the beach that lighting or keeping a cigarette lit would discourage it as a smokers first choice in locations to light up. In summary, I believe you should "lighten up" and get off the backs of these law abiding, tax paying citizens. Someone has too much time on their hands. Perhaps the backers of this ban should work patrolling the nations borders, where they might be of some use. Courtesy is not enforceable on either side of the fence.

Mrs Lorilyn Wilkes, 50 year native Oregonian
I am opposed to a law prohibiting smoking on Oregon beaches. It seems like a waste of time and money to put a law on the books that is unenforceable. We already have littering laws on the books for those who choose to discard their butts on the beach.

The beach is a very large place. How would this law even be enforced. Are you going to have cops patrolling the beaches looking for smokers? Who will be responsible for the cost of the police. I live in Newport and I don't think that we have the budget for our local force to keep people from smoking on the local beaches. If you called the cops to report a smoker, by the time a cop would show up to issue a ticket the smoker would be done smoking and have moved on. You would have to have a cop actually see someone smoking in order to issue a ticket, which doesn't seem likely.

I go to the beach almost every day, and I hardly ever see a smoker. I don't see butts on the beach. I do see soda cans, beer cans, trash, broken glass, baby diapers, plastic bags, old tires etc. It seems like we have better things to do than worry about a non existent problem.

Margaret Boone
2226 N Coast Hwy #153
Newport OR 97365.

NON smoker
The idea of banning smoking on public beaches is patently ridiculous. Smoking poses no greater threat to public health or safety than the common and time-honored tradition of building bonfires. Regarding the scourge of unsightly cigarette butts, smokers are no more likely than anyone else to litter, and this is already accompanied by a fine.

Please do not unnecessarily ban smoking on public beaches and demonize smokers.

Thank you for your consideration,
Karen
Portland
This is a poor idea. Enforce littering laws if that is part of the concern. The incidence of second hand smoke being a health hazard, in the outdoors, especially the oceanside, is a long stretch.

Please don't make more regulations.

Thank you<
Wayne proctor
Please, consider this as part of your public comment for rule-making regarding banning smoking on OR beaches. I hope that for myself, my family, and the people & wildlife of Oregon that you BAN SMOKING on OR beaches.

My name is Lindsay Stover and I recently moved to this beautiful state in the past year. The predominant reason why my partner and I moved to OR is because we were absolutely drawn to the stunning coastline. Without a doubt, the beaches and parks along the coast are a national gem and deserve every consideration by us as stewards in how to protect and preserve their delicate beauty. Certainly, the feeling you get when you see the ruggedness of the rocky cliffs and huge trees and water… it’s hypnotic, isn’t it… it reminds you of everything in life that is truly important… we moved here to be closer to it.

My family tries to go and visit a new state park on the coast at least 2-3 times a month to hike, surf, and be in nature. A recent experience at Devil’s Punchbowl State Park was bothersome to us. We were enjoying a morning of surfing and were having lunch on the beach when a group of 5 people came and set up near us. Unfortunately, we were down-wind from them and when they all lit up cigarettes, the smell forced us to move. We live in Portland because of work and when we make the effort to visit the coast, we want to be in nature and enjoy a restful space. We had a similar experience hiking at Ecola State Park where two people were smoking who were ahead of us on the trail and it really affected our experience and we had to wait a long time for them to get ahead of us, still the smell lingered in the air. I think smoking is a personal decision… but, cigarette smoke is repugnant to many who don’t smoke, it’s not like a campfire, it smells toxic and affects your experience as a visitor in a natural area and is hard to ignore.

Every time we go to the beach, before we leave for the day we do a mini-beach clean up. We pick up trash around the beach and all the way back to our car. There is an international stat there from the Ocean Conservancy’s clean up days that says 35% of the total debris collected is cigarette butts. My family is here to tell you that in our experience, that number is much higher in OR and anecdotally I estimate that 85% of the trash we pick up is cigarette butts.

My puppy comes with us on our trips and also loves the coast. My partner and I lovingly call her the “two-year old”… and any of you who have ever had a puppy probably know what I’m talking about. She finds everything on the beach. Aside from the bull kelp, she is always finding plastic bags and cigarette butts. We have to rush over to her and pry open her mouth to fish out the butt that she’s chewing on
and will swallow without intervention. Honestly, I prefer it when it’s a piece of plastic and not someone’s discarded butt. It sends this jolt through you when you notice she’s chewing on something. Now, I can only imagine how heightened that concern would be for parents of young children. Cigarette butts and the smoke they emit are both toxic to humans, animals, and ecosystems.

Please, consider my family’s experience when you discuss why it is important to ban smoking on public beaches. I want to breathe deeply air that only has the flavor of the sea and walk on beaches without the paranoia of a parent worried about their child ingesting someone’s discarded butt. I want the next beach clean up we do to have less cigarette butts we collect. Thank you.

Lindsay A. Stover
Innovative Grant & Program Development Solutions
Cell: (248) 872-4419
Email: innovation.forward@gmail.com
To whom it may concern,

I am an Oregon resident as of five years and have resided in the Pacific Northwest for over a decade. I absolutely am in love with the ocean and the mountains. I recreate in the ocean frequently through surfing. The ecosystems and environment of these areas deserve the utmost respect and preservation.

I ask that our state continues to push towards the direction of banning cigarettes on beaches. I currently sit on the Surfrider Foundations board of directors and urge our policy makers to continue the push to keep our beaches clean and green.

Sincerely,

Phil Schlieder
NO....it is NOT a problem, and this state has many much LARGER problems to deal with.

Marcia Atkinson
Salem, OR

Have you had your Vitamin D3 levels Tested?? You should be in the 50-70 range. (70-90 if you have cancer or heart disease)

The 52% paying TAXES cannot support everyone for much longer....
To whom is may concern,

I'm writing you today in support of the proposed rule to ban smoking from Oregon's public beaches. As a member of the Portland Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation I have participated in numerous beach, river and park clean ups all over the State of Oregon. I can say without a doubt that Cigarette butts are the #1 item I find during these clean ups. Cigarette butts are made of plastic and are toxic to marine life and recent studies show that they are lethal to fish. Also, the litter takes decades to decompose and is toxic to young children, wildlife & pets. Second hand smoke exposure outdoors can be just as harmful as indoors. As a surfer and recreational beach user this smoke degrades the recreational enjoyment of one of our states greatest natural assets, our 362 miles of public beaches.

I believe Tobacco free beaches will succeed in areas that have good signage, public education, and self enforcement.

Thank you,

-Mason Brock
8228 SE 8th Ave
Portland, OR 97202
Message from Patti Bush:

Smoking ban on beaches. Are you insane? I have seen dog poop, packaging, straws, paper pieces, plastic on the beach, food items and your proposing a smoking ban? I think you're barking up the wrong tree, and have other issues that need to be addressed. How ridiculous!
My opinion on this is that once again a part of society is making decisions for us all. Smoking cigarettes is still legal in this country and a big part of tax dollars for the state. I resent being told where I can smoke outside. No one is affected by second hand on the beach. There is always wind blowing, so the smoke is blown away. Now you want to take away another right of mine! You can't enforce the beach laws you already have! I will continue to smoke on the beaches and anywhere else that is outside until the animal leash law is enforced in this state. And when people are required to pick up their pet's feces. I am absolutely appalled that I am accosted almost every time I go for a walk on the beach by someone's unleashed dog and I have to dodge piles of dog feces that an owner left. Never mind there are signs everywhere about both these things.

I don't think you should make more laws when you don't enforce the ones you already have.

Sincerely,
Deborah Runkle
I support a smoking ban for/on Oregon Beaches. As more and more people visit our beautiful beaches, we can not rely on the willingness of residents and tourists to observe common sense to respect the beauty and ecology of beaches that are some of the most beautiful on the West Coast. Aside from the effects of cigarette butts on the ecology, there are many people whose health is adversely affected by this smoke. We aren't restricting smoking...we are restricting smoking on our beaches. I also support a ban or restriction on campfires on the beaches. Both of these activities create environmental issues. I have, on two occasions, had to leave hotels on the coast because the smoke from the beach fires filled the hotels and made it difficult to breathe. Hotel management stated that there is little they can do about this because there are no restrictions to limit where the fires can be, and because people building the fires have no regard for others (common sense). I support the smoking ban to keep the beaches clean for everyone to use...not just smokers...who I am sure are a minority. Respectfully,

Cheryl Rubenstein
3128 SW Fairmount Blvd
Portland, OR
I would welcome a ban on smoking on OR beaches.

Bob
I quit smoking years ago but banning smoking on the beach is ludicrous. Leave it alone. Enough already.

The wind blows too much to foul up the air and most garbage comes in from somewhere else.

Put trash cans and bags out. Most people would be happy to carry out more than they brought in if trash receptacles were available.

Get off the soap box. Smoking will continue to drop. You dont have to be stupid about it. Leave auto drivers alone too. Not everyone can ride a bike.

Sherrie Hooker
I come to the beach once a year from Spokane WA and this is great news. I hope that it goes through! Thank you for your hard work on this issue
Susan Davis

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Hi,

I am a non-smoker and I am strongly opposed to a smoking ban on the Oregon beaches. In my mind the beaches should be protected by as highways and the side of the highway is "the best place for people to smoke in Oregon". Smoking is a legal activity and smokers will some someplace. As a non smoker my top two choices for smokers are the side of the road and the beach. If it were up to me I would restrict all smoking to these places. It is very weird and irrational that someone propose to ban smoking at the beach. I understand that people have voiced concern about litter but the answer is increased enforcement of litter and not banning an activity that has nothing to do with litter. Let the stinky smokers smoke beside the road and beside the sea. Recruit the smokers to help with the litter problem. Please try to do something that makes sense, we have to live here in Oregon together.

Thank you,

John Dedrick
718 E Main ST
Silverton Oregon 97381
Smoking on Oregon Shores - I do not smoke myself but it seems very unjust to prohibit smoking on our Oregon Beaches. There are a number of people who smoke, there is plenty of fresh air near the ocean for the rest of us, it is not a fire hazard area, and I have not been bothered by litter from smokers. Let them enjoy the beautiful Oregon Coast too!
I am on the third time in 2014 trying to give up cigarettes, This time I am on day 8.

As you know it is a STUPID addiction - but a legal one.

It is a RIGHT in many Oregon tax payers opinions (and the majority of Oregonians) Even those that can not get to Meetings and like my mother (who has never smoked) who does not use the internet nor emails...

Yes you should Be allowed to smoke anywhere outside
  - Including beaches & parks, places you like to go with your family and children, that if you were not allowed to smoke (like public place indoors) you might not go.....

NO do NOT ban smoking on beaches or anywhere outside!

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion,
Liz Krossman
I vote for letting people smoke on the beaches. I do not smoke myself but there is plenty of fresh air. It does not create a fire hazard and there are lots of people who need to smoke. Let them enjoy the Oregon beaches too. I have been on our beaches quite a lot and I do not remember being offended by litter created by smokers. Alcohol and substance abusers are much more likely to ruin others ability to enjoy our beautiful outdoor sites.
Oregon State Parks:

Smoking of tobacco products on the Oregon Shore Recreation Area should be banned.

The litter alone is sufficient cause for the ban. Also, given wind conditions, it is not possible for smokers to prevent smoke and odor from intruding on other users of the area.

Thank you.

Steven Demarest
PO Box 6624
Portland, OR 97228
(503) 282-4469
... I am very much IN FAVOR of expanding the non-smoking restrictions on State Park Properties to include the Ocean Shores. Not only will it help keep the air cleaner while we enjoy the beaches, it is one less group of objects to be left as litter in the sand.

... I congratulate Oregon State Parks for taking the initiative in creating a cleaner camping experience and hope you will now continue on to encourage a cleaner beach area, both air and sand.

Nancy Nichols
Beaverton, Oregon
Please don’t restrict smoking on Oregon beaches. While I can understand the issues people have with it (litter, health hazards to others, etc.), it’s not really fair to smokers who are already so limited in areas where smoking is permitted and just goes to further the sense of isolation we already feel. I already have to go a couple hundred yards away from my place of work in order to smoke. Please keep Oregon beaches like Europe – not all of us are inconsiderate boobs with no consciousness of our fellow citizen.

Gwin DeMatteo
As someone who loves going to the beach with my family, I say YES, ban the smoking. The litter issue, along with the possibility of kids or animals ingesting the cigarette butts, not to mention the fresh air being despoiled all argue for banning smoking on beaches. Thank you for considering my opinion.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Bade
Here is my comment on banning smoking along the shoreline in parks. I’m for banning it mainly because of the cigarette butts. People who smoke are generally very unconscious about disposing of their cigarette butts. I don’t want to be walking on a lovely shoreline and encounter litter of any kind. I live in downtown Portland and the number of cigarette butts that litter the streets is amazing! I often wonder where they all end up after a heavy flooding. I think to protect seabirds who may ingest the butts is important to consider, also the fact that they are unsightly. Tanya Molina 1900 SW River Dr. Portland, OR
in response to Oregon parks banning beach smoking: July 2014

As an Oregon-born resident voter, I hereby state my opinion and view on the governmental ban on beach smoking. First, people of this country (not just this state) have the right to use ANY product that is legally available to them; this includes cigarettes and other tobacco products.

These are the very products that brings approximately $260 MILLION dollars to Oregon's coffers each year. Source:

https://www.thelundreport.org/content/tobacco-tax-revenue-projections-much-20-percent

Oregon is already hurting financially and YOUR department wants to BAN smoking even MORE than you already have? It would be shameful and ridiculous to ban smoking on the beach.

Oregon has huge (HUGE) areas of sandy coastline. Let ALL the visitors enjoy it to the fullest...this includes smoking those wonderfully-smelling pipe tobaccos the MAJORITY of us enjoy seeing and smelling. After All, what is an ole' Sea Captain and Sherlock Holmes without a pipe of fine-smelling tobacco?

WE ALL need the lore and enjoyment of smoking. Just because our governor is a medical Doc doesn't mean he should be dictating people's lives. I'm voting against any and all efforts to ban smoking anywhere and voting some someone OTHER than Kitzhaber. Pass my letter here on, please.

L.T
age 49
POB 2371
BEND OR 97709
Please vote in FAVOR of a smoking ban on Oregon public beaches. The main type of litter that I see there is cigarette butts. I just read several opposing opinion emails from smokers talking about curtailed freedoms and how they "never leave butts on the ground". That's all well and good that they don't, but most smokers do.

Think about it for a second. How many smokers that you see carry around something with them to dispose butts into? I’d guess one in 100.

I’m tired of always walking over someone else’s litter on the beach, most of which happens to be cigarette butts. Add this to the fact that most of the filters don't biodegrade and it's a huge problem that doesn't go away on its own.

Thanks for considering voting in favor of a smoking ban.

Cheers,

-joe
To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing this to comment on your decision to ban smoking on the Oregon coast. I read the article in the Bandon Western World and I felt that it was an unfair article and very biased. I believe the writer is a non smoker and really doesn't have a clue about the materials that make up a cigarette. The article said that the primary concern is the "plastic butts that can persist for years, even in the harsh beach environment". Who wrote this?? This is crazy!! Cigarettes are NOT normally made of plastic butts. They are made from paper, fiber, and tobacco, all of which decomposes very quickly and easily, especially in harsh environments!!

I understand that non smokers don't like the smell but really, it's not impacting them in the open air. If this issue is for the environment than this ban is unconstitutional!! Do you own the air?? Cigarettes do NOT pose a threat to the environment. They are not made of plastic!! What poses a threat is all the pets that are left to do their business and the pet owners not picking up their dog feces!! This along with horse feces, are left to wash into the ocean. Don't you think that poses more of threat to the environment than cigarettes? I sit and watch 12-15 horses pass by back and forth many, many times a day and no one cleans up their feces. It's just left to the tides to clean up. Is it natural for that to go into the ocean?? I believe those toxins go into the environment at the beach more so than the few smokers that you want to ban.

I believe there are rights for the smokers and to keep taking their rights away is unconstitutional!! Yes, it's harmful for smokers but not for the non-smokers, especially out in the open air. You've already taken away the ability to smoke in restaurants, bars and other buildings, now, you want to take away the open space?? This is nuts! If you allow the ban then you will take away any potential commerce from those who would spend their money to stay in various places along the coast. Can Oregon really afford losing money from smokers?? Oregon needs all the tourists and commerce it can get since, it's already struggling financially! Who would enforce this ban? This would again cost Oregon more money to enforce! Who is willing to pay someone to sit on each beach to enforce this ban? What about owners who live at the ocean and smoke. Are you willing to take their right away? When will the policing stop?? What will be next??

I am against any restrain on smoking and will continue to fight on this issue. What will happen when cannabis is allowed in the State? Will you be banning those too by saying the marijuana joints consists of plastic? Those who do not smoke should get educated in the
materials that make up a cigarette! With all of the bans already in place, there doesn't need to be any more. There are less smokers out there so smoking at the beach doesn't impact the environment. I'm sure there are many more impacts to the beach environment that we could use are precious resources for, than more bans!! Come on and get real!! If this is passed, I'm sure there will be less tourism in the already struggling small beach towns!

Think about this and don't let this ban pass!!

Sincerely,
Donna L Dietrick
I am a former smoker, and am against this ban.

Many smoking bans were enacted due to concerns about second hand smoke. The only way to stop second hand smoke is to not allow first hand smoke or require major, and costly, upgrades to ventilation systems. So banning smoking in indoor areas is a logical move.

However, the concerns for beaches are fires and litter. Therefore, the logical move is to crack down on littering and leaving lit cigarettes - not ban their use, as the act of smoking is NOT the cause of the problem.

When I smoked at the beach, I made sure my cigarette was out and put the butt back in my cigarette pack, to be disposed of properly later.

Enforce the rules that pertain to the actual issue.

Sincerely,

Jeanene M. Hammers
I am a non smoker. I think a non smoking rule for the beach is poor. It is unenforceable. Too much area, to few people to enforce. Our park personell have plenty to do at this point and maintenance without having to spend money trying to catch people smoking. If we are going to spend the money I would rather see an intensified anti litter/proper disposal of cigarette campaign.
I fully support this effort and would like to see it become law.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, we are facing massive problems with climate change and it is time for all states to BAN INDIVIDUAL CAMPFIRES. Encouraging the burning of wood for “recreation” has to stop. Its nuts to see state parks actually SELLING campfire wood when we must look at all available ways of reducing CO2 production. Have ONE Saturday night group campfire, combined with educational talks on nature – this will encourage community AND an opportunity to educate the public on environmental issues. AS THE STATE’S NATURAL RESOURCE AGENCY YOU SHOULD BE THE LEADERS!

Irene Schmidt
Mt. Horeb, WI
Dear Oregon Parks and Recreation Commissioners:

By considering a ban on smoking on the wonderful Oregon beaches, you are moving in the correct direction. I have never understood why smokers believe that someone else will pick up the remains of their cigarettes. Apparently they were never housebroken by their mothers! The anti-litter movement has reduced a lot of trash that we used to find on our beaches, but the cigarette butts remain ever-present. Not only are these things unsightly, but they add yet another source of plastic to the detritus that is floating around in our ocean. They present a hazard to wildlife when they are mistaken for food, and their persistence in the environment means they are never really gone -- they just deteriorate into smaller and smaller particles of plastic.

It is difficult to imagine enforcement of such a regulation, but that is no reason not to enact it. If the regulation is there, at least it provides a basis for taking action by the appropriate personnel, which is not the case at this time.

Thank you for considering this regulation, and I encourage you to adopt it.

Maradel Gale
Please ban smoking at public sites unless there is a designated smoking area. Today, as a Portland tourist visiting the coast, my twin boys and I two negative cigarette experiences that put a blunder on our trip.

First, a man was smoking next to us while we were trying to enjoy the fresh air at Devil's Punchbowl. Second, I felt the need to pick up someone's discarded toxic litter (cigarette butt) on Ona Beach.

Thank you,

Jennifer Fullilove
Portland, OR

Sent from my iPhone
I vote NO..as a Non Smoker...enough !!!   I in Lincoln City I seldom see smoking at our local beaches...it's TOO WINDY !!!   I know butts are a problem but I see few laying around ....there are more kinds of "trash" on the beaches to deal with...like cans, dog poop, plastic "stuff" ...etc, etc,etc.

TAMARA AHMUTY.......registered voter in Lincoln County,
Nothing is worse on a beach with the wonderful fresh air than going by a person smoking a cigarette. It is so unexpected and so foul. I think it should be outlawed and you can even add plastics to that in the form of fish bait being sold in Styrofoam containers and anything else with plastic. It all ends up on our beaches.
Picking on smokers is easy these days. Please consider that air pollution comes more from autos, camp fires, wood stoves, citronella candles, and other incendiary devices which are all allowed on beaches.

Ease up!

Brian Kirk

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone
Dear Mr. Havel:

In regards to the proposal to ban smoking from beaches, I am fully in favor. The old saying, “Your right to swing your arm stops at the tip of my nose,” applies here. Someone’s right to smoke stops at my lungs.

As an inhabitant of a rural, coastal Oregon town I am also troubled by city folks thinking of our area as a wide open space to pollute. The point of the great outdoors is not for urban people to abandon all restraints, do damage, and then return home.

Thank you for your time.

Ellen Hawks
PO Box 695
Waldport, OR 97394
Sir/Madam:

In listening to an OPB *Think Out Loud* broadcast discussing the subject, it seemed as if a number of assertions and assumptions were not supported by facts (data). My point in writing is to advocate the Department devote the time needed to determine the degree to which statements about costs, benefits and disadvantages are supported by hard data, including studies by scientific literature.

Below are several assertions and assumptions for which hard data and scientific studies are needed to support the public policy decision about this matter.

1. Assertion: The plastic in cigarette butts presents a hazard to marine wildlife (e.g., turtles, birds, fish): We know there is a lot of plastic debris discarded in the ocean and there are many reports of it being found in stomachs of some species of birds, mammals and fish. Yet, generally do not know the degree to which these adversely effect these organisms. Presence does not equal effect and risk; rather, these are a function of the magnitude, duration, and frequency of exposure. This is a basic principle of toxicology.
2. Assertion: Second-hand smoke represents a significant exposure known to cause adverse effects: Again smelling smoke does not necessarily equal a risk of adverse effect.
3. Cost: Would it be more cost effective to try to control all litter instead of smoking? Certainly, there is a lot of litter on our public beaches, much of it much larger than cigarette butts.
4. What proportion of all the litter is cigarette butts? Have we sampled randomly in a stratified subset of State park beaches?
5. Cost: What percentage of time would our staff devote to trying to enforce the smoking ban, and what is this cost on a yearly basis?

I suspect there are bigger fish to fry than banning smoking on our beaches. As mentioned, why not more provisions for litter control? The reasons the Park spokesperson gave in support were questionable assertions and assumptions. If they are truly supported by data, cost estimates, and scientific studies, then fine. But I suspect they were simply speculative, unfounded cause and effect assumptions. We cannot have public policy decisions made on the basis of the qualitative preferences.

Thank you,

Rick D. Cardwell
2193 NW Kinderman Place
Corvallis, OR  97330
I am a lifelong non-smoker, and I would support some sort of ban on smoking at Oregon beaches. Perhaps a compromise could be struck? No smoking on trails or within a certain number of feet (100?, 500?) park structures, picnic tables, public access points, etc.? That would limit smoking in the most populated areas, sparing the rest of us from having our enjoyment of nature due to smelling non-natural smoking. It might also limit the litter issue.

I would find it a violation of personal freedom if smoking were banned on all parts of all beaches. I’m afraid this could lead to smokers only being allowed to smoke in/on their private property. While that is the approach legalized marijuana has taken, I think right now it would be too much too soon for regular smoking.

Ms. Dresden Skees-Gregory
7322 NE Shaleen Street
Hillsboro, OR 97124
503-645-1202
Hello, I am Alice Covey, Tobacco Treatment Specialists, and I would like to support a ban of smoking at all the beaches in Oregon. My address is 40911 Cornucopia Hwy, Halfway, OR, and my phone number is 541-540-2979. I have the personal reason of not wanting to be around 2nd hand smoke but the main reason I would like to support a ban is the toxic chemicals that are in cigarette filters that are littered at beaches. These chemicals leach into the water and poison the water. Please consider the information in this information while deciding whether we should continue to allow these toxins to be littering our beaches.

Respectfully, Alice Covey, TTS
49011 Cornucopia Hwy,
Halfway, OR 97834

The attached fact sheet supports this.

Poisons leach from the 4 trillion cigarette filters that we chuck each year, harming health and environment alike. They should be banned

FOR the past two decades, the environmental group Ocean Conservancy has organised the annual International Coastal Cleanup. Hundreds of thousands of volunteers scour beaches all over the world, picking up trash. By far the most common item they pick up is cigarette butts. Last year they removed more than 2 million of them. Cigarette butts are also the most common item collected during urban litter surveys.

By one estimate, around two-thirds of the 6 trillion cigarettes smoked worldwide every year end up being dropped, flicked or dumped into the environment – around 750,000 tonnes in total.

The effects of cigarettes on smokers' health is well known. I think it is time we paid more attention to the effects of cigarette waste on public health and the environment.

My non-profit Cigarette Butt Pollution Project has studied cigarette waste from a number of perspectives, including toxicity, accidental consumption by children and animals, and potential for human health effects. The results suggest that we urgently need to reduce this burden of toxic waste.

Used cigarette butts are not just pieces of non-biodegradable plastic. They also contain the carcinogens, nicotine and toxins found in all tobacco products.

We have found that one cigarette butt soaked in a litre of water for 96 hours leaches out enough toxins to kill half of the fresh or salt water fish exposed to them. We know that children and animals consume these pieces of toxic trash, that there are costs to the communities that must deal with them, and that there is biological plausibility to the idea that so many cigarette butts tossed into the environment each year may leach out chemicals that could impact human health.
We have also found that the tobacco industry has thoroughly distanced itself from any sense of responsibility. Many other industries have signed up to Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), a principle which assigns responsibility for the environmental management of consumer waste to manufacturers of the original product. EPR has been applied to electrical appliances, batteries, paint, mattresses, car tyres, electronic gadgets, beverage containers and other consumer products, and has dramatically reduced the environmental blight and health risks associated with these products. However, it has been assiduously avoided by the makers of the most deadly of all consumer products, cigarettes.

The tobacco industry is aware of the problem of cigarette butt waste but has largely left responsibility for clean-up to communities and individual smokers. Its own efforts are more about image than action, such as supporting reputable environmental groups' clean-up campaigns and distributing hand-held ashtrays, as if these might somehow encourage smokers to refrain from butt-flicking. These approaches have not worked.

Some in the tobacco industry have proposed replacing plastic filters with biodegradable ones. This is not the answer. Biodegradable filters would still leach out toxins while falsely reassuring smokers that they were protecting the environment. They would be more likely to dump their butts without feeling as guilty as they do now.

We have proposed a number of options to address the problem. One in particular holds promise: get rid of filters altogether.

According to the US Surgeon General and the US National Cancer Institute, filters do not have any health benefits for smokers; in fact, cancer risks have actually increased over the 50 years they have been used.

Filters were originally designed to keep loose tobacco out of smokers' mouths, not to protect their health. So they are really a marketing tool. They seem to reassure smokers that they are doing something to limit the health consequences of smoking and thus may discourage them from quitting. They also make smoking more palatable and make it easier for children to start. The ventilation provided by the filter may reduce the tar and nicotine yields of cigarettes as measured by a machine, but smokers compensate by changing their puffing behaviour and inhaling more deeply.

For these reasons, filters may be considered a health hazard. If their purpose is simply to market cigarettes and make it easier to get addicted, they should be banned. This would simultaneously slash the environmental burden of cigarette butt waste and decrease the addiction potential of tobacco. Both the environment and public health would benefit.

The first moves are being made in that direction. Earlier this year, a group of politicians submitted a bill to California's State Assembly to ban the sale of filter-tipped cigarettes. The bill failed, but its sponsors say they will try again.

In the meantime, the problem is likely to get worse. Indoor smoking bans may make public spaces more pleasant but they encourage people to dump butts outdoors. The environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy reported a 43 per cent increase in cigarette littering in England after an indoor smoking ban was introduced in 2007. And the e-cigarettes now widely used by smokers may be
a new source of environmental contamination, with the batteries and used nicotine cartridges being carelessly discarded.

Smokers and policy-makers have been deceived by the promise of filters as health-protective devices when in fact they do not make cigarettes safer and they discourage quitting. If these marketing tools were removed, many more smokers will decide to quit, fewer kids will take up smoking, the environment will be cleaner, and those who do quit smoking will spend their money on other consumer products. It's time to stub them out.

This article appeared in print under the headline "Time to kick butts"

**Thomas Novotny** is a professor of global health at San Diego State University, California, and founder and chief executive of the Cigarette Butt
I am for banning smoking at all public places because I don't want to be around anyone smoking but I particularly want to comment about what cigarettes do environmentally to our beaches here. I am including here a fact sheet on the environmental reasons why smoking should be banned and that is because with smoking comes the trash of cigarette butts which is at the very least 1/3 of the trash found at beaches. The information in the attached fact sheet is reason enough to ban smoking at state beaches.
I am for banning smoking at all public places because I don't want to be around anyone smoking but I particularly want to comment about what cigarettes do environmentally to our beaches here. I am including here a fact sheet on the environmental reasons why smoking should be banned and that is because with smoking comes the trash of cigarette butts which is at the very least 1/3 of the trash found at beaches. The information in the attached fact sheet is reason enough to ban smoking at state beaches.
I fully support the state's efforts to ban smoking on Oregon's beaches. Reducing the litter is important for birds and marine animals. I understand the possible enforcement problems, but just having the rule will probably make a difference.

Kathy Lincoln
3291 Willamette Dr. N.,
Keizer, OR 97303
Hello,

I applaud for working toward this healthy and clean solution for Oregonians and our beaches and hope that you will consider extending it to state parks as well. We spend a great amount of time at Champoeg and other parks like Rooster Rock disc golfing and the amount of cigarette litter in the parking lots and on the tees is appalling and sad. In addition it is horrible to have to follow a group of smokers along the courses and not something I will do with our son causing us to leave or skip holes. In the picnic areas, it is even worse and make forces is to either sit in litter from smokers or move if we are invaded by second hand smoke.

Thank you for working toward a healthy Oregon.

Kimberly Connell-Croston

Sent from my iPhone
I think trying to ban smoking on Oregon beaches is ridiculous.

How often does the wind NOT blow at the coast. Second hand smoke argument is invalid.

Is there not already a law prohibiting litter? How would this be any more enforceable than that law?

Oregon needs politicians that will take care of education, infrastructure, true criminals, etc.

Their job is not to tell the citizens of the state what they can or cannot do. I have a mother, I don't need another.

From a smoker
*who doesn't litter, doesn't smoke inside the house, doesn't smoke in vehicles.
And I pick up after my dog too...
As a constant beach goer here in Lincoln City, I have never been adversely affected by any smoking of any kind here on the beach. As an ex smoker, I can relate to the pleasure one gets from relaxing with a beer and a cigarette on the beach. I think this proposal is such government overkill of what isn't a real problem, and an invasion on one of the still legal pleasures that are available to our visitors here. Now I worry some misguided crusaders will propose no beach barbequeing or campfires or God know what someone will think up. Lincoln City survives on the dollars our visitors bring in good weather for times on our beaches. Such a ban on smoking at the beach, would be just another negative to visit our city, as currently we are in the midst of major highway 101 widening that is persuading some to "not fight the traffic". Puleeeeeeze do NOT enact this ridiculous ban. Thanks, Carter
I oppose banning smoking at the beach, because I oppose trying to solve one problem (litter) by limiting/banning/regulating a different freedom/behavior (smoking - not littering). Especially, in this case, by banning the behavior of a persecuted minority (smokers have become this in the last twenty years), because many ban supporters have ulterior motives - they are dogmatically and unconditionally opposed to smoking and will use any excuse to curb it.

I support a better way to stop littering, all littering.

I support individual freedom

I don't now nor have I ever smoked cigarettes.

I too am quite annoyed with cigarette butts and inconsiderate smokers who litter.

loren davis, portland

503 830 4444
In response to Matt Love's piece regarding the 'bureaucratic overreach' of a ban on smoking on beaches, one just has to recognize that cigarette butts are the most common item picked up on coastal and waterway cleanups worldwide. Will a smoking ban solve the problem? No, but it gets people to think more about butts as toxic hazardous waste that requires more than behavior change among irresponsible smokers. About two-thirds of butts are discarded by smokers without regard to the environment...whether on beaches, on sidewalks, or into storm drains. This all goes downstream to aquatic environments. At the risk of further southern Californication of Oregon, I would like to suggest that more attention be paid to the upstream source of butt waste: the tobacco industry and the tobacco product. Along with beverage containers, used paint, and electronics, butts should be taken back and disposed of as toxic waste, and the tobacco industry is the economically and industrially responsible for that take-back. This is Extended Producer Responsibility, and it can work. One way we are proposing to address the product is to ban the sales of filtered cigarettes at the state level. Filters have no health benefit and in fact are simply a marketing tool to reassure smokers and make smoking more palatable. This can be done at the state level and no one will die or be subjected to bureaucratic overreach. Think about it.

Thomas E. Novotny, MD MPH
Former Assistant Surgeon General of the US Public Health Service
Founder and CEO of the Cigarette Butt Pollution Project
www.cigwaste.org
Sir/Madam:

Whilst the actual smoke is rarely a problem for me, I see a lot of cigarette butts in the sand every time I visit Oregon's beaches. Therefore, I support your proposed ban. I also congratulate you on trying to make Oregon cleaner.

Sincerely,

Paul Kennington
La Grande, Ore.
I forgot to mention: I have 2 dogs, and I do pick up and discard their poo. And I’ve had to pull them off smelling cigarette butts and garbage on the beaches.

On Jul 31, 2014 5:00 PM, "Karin Guy" <kaz0709@gmail.com> wrote:
Hello,

I read the Siuslaw News article about the State seeking feedback to the proposed tobacco restrictions.

I am in support of the restriction, but I’m not sure how effectively it can be monitored and/or people cited. As you all know, the beaches are endless in this lovely state, and I’m not sure how successful it will be to enforce. People’s behaviors and habits are not an easy thing to change.

After visiting Florence on a regular basis for the past 10 years, I moved here in December 2013. Daily walks on the beach or around our lakes have opened my eyes to the lack of concern people have about our environment. Not only do I see cigarette butts, but also soda cans, gun shells, general garbage, and my “favorite,” dog poop. The litter and poop start at the parking lots, down the paths, in the sand (poop sometimes buried in the sand), and along the shoreline. It could be worse here at Heceta Beach because of the amount of tourists, but our winds most likely blow away much of it, except for the poop. Also, due to our winds, it would be tough for people to smoke on the beach, hence, why the parking lot south of Driftwood Shores is littered with cigarette butts.

Would garbage cans, posters, education materials, and a supply of poop bags help? It might, but at Woahink Lake in Honeyman State Park, they provide poop bags and post notices, but amazingly, poop is still not picked up. And cigarette butts are left in the dry grass...

I wish you the best of luck in this!

Thanks for asking for our opinion,
Karin Guy
88123 Windleaf Way
Florence, OR 97439
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I wish you the best of luck in this!

Thanks for asking for our opinion,
Karin Guy
88123 Windleaf Way
Florence, OR  97439
I support the proposed rule.

Cigarette butt litter on the beaches is significant and inappropriate. Volunteers spend hundreds of hours annually collecting and disposing of a just a fraction of the litter on selected beaches. Our beaches should not be ash trays.

Cigarette butts pose a significant risk to fish and wildlife by contributing to water degradation and inadvertent ingestion. Whole cigarettes/butts and their degraded microplastics are equally detrimental.

Opponents claim the rule is unenforceable. I live on the North Oregon coast, and as with much other law enforcement, it only takes an occasional officer dealing with errant drivers, inappropriate beach behavior, etc. to send a message and develop compliance. Oregon Parks' current education program in their regular parks about the extended smoking ban is something easy to duplicate in partnership with other organizations, such as SOLV, Cannon Beach education program, law enforcement, etc.

Thanks for proposing a great new rule to help keep our beaches and oceans cleaner.

Thank you.

Teresa DeLorenzo
I strongly support the ban on smoking on the Ocean Shore Recreation Area for the following reasons:

1) There is an existing precedent about no smoking on state agency grounds.

2) There is no way to prevent smoke from entering another person’s space. In fact on the beach, the winds would blow the smoke further down the beach than next to a building. Smokers violate non-smoker’s right to clean air in a public space when their smoke enters the non-smokers space.

3) Smoking in general is a large health concern and cost to citizens in the way of health care costs. Sure, the tax helps pay for some of this, but there is often cost financially and/or non-financially to non-smokers as a result of the poor health of the smoker. This type of ban would be no different from a ban on alcohol consumption in a state park.

4) The majority of smokers discard their cigarette butts inappropriately, thereby polluting our state lands.

Robin Barnes
Oregon Citizen
Dear Mr. Havel,

I understand from listening to OPB that the main objections to smoking on the beach can be summarized under the headings: second hand smoke and litter.

As for second hand smoke, anyone who ever spent ten minutes on an Oregon beach will realize that this objection is absurd!

As for litter, I would much rather see an effort made to ensure that beach users pick up beer and soda cans, fast food wrappings etc. than get hung up about a few cigarette butts. I myself will always pick up any cans, paper that I find and take it home.

We moved to Oregon from the East Coast in 1998 and I love the state dearly, regarding it as my natural and final home. We camp a lot in those wonderful state parks, the best to be found in the nation. One of the characteristics that I really enjoy about Oregon, compared to East Coast beaches, is that there are no lifeguards, no flags, no designated this and that and that and the only rules are sensible, safety related ones, such as 'watch out for sneaker waves.' In Oregon, one is free to fall off a cliff, get lost on a trail or drown in the ocean. One hopes that none of those events happen, but the point is that Oregon has not been a rule driven environment.

PLEASE do not define more rules that, as we know, are practically very hard to enforce.

Sincerely,

Scilla Edwards
Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

I agree we have an issue with cigarette litter on beaches, but I do not feel a ban is an effective solution for the long term and will only add to Oregon's budget deficits to pay for the signs and enforcement costs. Here is an idea that will pay for itself:

Cigarette Filter Tax

In order for cigarettes to be sold in Oregon, a tax is collected on every pack and a stamp is placed on each pack. It is my understanding that this tax is focused on the health risks associated with smoking and has no provisions to address the litter issue. I propose that we add a separate tax on each pack of filtered cigarettes that would be required to receiving Oregon's approval to be sold in the state. The proceeds of these taxes would fund two processes:

- Establish recycling depots (like the current bottle/can kiosks) and pay the administrative salaries of this program.
- Pay anyone willing to collect cigarette litter and bring it to the depots "by-the-pound".

Oregon then takes all this cigarette litter and sends it to recycling programs like Terracycle' Cigarette Waste Brigade where I believe that are paying $4/pound.

The idea is for the initial taxes that are collected to allow the cigarettes to be sold would pay for 100% of the costs of the depots, administration, and "by-the-pound" fees paid to citizens. The State of Oregon then inherits a new revenue source to put into the Parks and Recreation Department projects.

Win/Win/Win...all the way around:

- Smokers of filtered cigarettes get an extra financial incentive to quit.
  - Note: if they do not want to pay the extra tax they can buy non-filtered cigarettes that do not carry the extra tax and add their own biodegradable filter, like "Greenbutt". We should look at ways to encourage biodegradable filters to be sold in Oregon.
- Indigent/Poor people are given another opportunity to pick-up trash and get paid by-the-pound.
- The program pays for itself
- The State of Oregon/Parks and Recreation Dept get a new revenue source from the recycling reimbursements.
- All of Oregon's beaches, parks, school yards, buss stops, etc. are regularly cleaned for cigarette litter.

Bottom-line: A smoking on the beach ban may be effective for only the first few months it goes into effect. It will NOT be a long term solution and it will cost the State of Oregon for all the signs you will need to post/maintain at all the beaches.
Let's do something that will be truly effective at reducing the worlds #1 litter problem, cigarette litter.

Thank you for your consideration,
Bob "Woody" Woodward
Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept.,

I am strongly in favor of your proposed ban on smoking on Oregon beaches.

I don't think smoking has any place where people go to enjoy nature.

But an even stronger reason is that too many smokers have proven themselves to responsibly discard their butts. They are unsightly and disgusting and seemingly everywhere, and especially ugly when wet. They're also ingestable by animals and by small children. (My nephew, then 2-years old, would pick them off the sidewalk.)

Please institute the smoking ban.

Sincerely,

David Appell
4315 San Francisco Dr. NE
Salem, OR 97305

david.appell@gmail.com
503-975-5614
I oppose the ban on smoking on Oregon Beaches for the following reasons:

1. A study on the effects of individuals smoking to the air quality of the Oregon Beaches has not been conducted to provide statistics that support the need for this ban. The Oregon Beaches have few areas in which the air is not constantly circulating. How will this ban actually change the quality of air on Oregon Beaches?

2. Littering is already banned and that ban should be enforced for everyone - smoker and non-smoker. Singling out smokers specifically and saying it’s due to the cigarette butt litter doesn’t work as not all smokers smoke tobacco via a cigarette and not all smokers drop their butts on the beach. If we are unable to enforce the ban on littering, what makes anyone think the ban on smoking will be any easier to enforce? This is an example of punishing everyone for the poor behavior of the few.

I understand that smoking is unpopular and smokers are an easy target but please consider this:

For those with “health” concerns: will the following be banned on the beach, as I have concerns about these unhealthy behaviors - drinking alcohol, foul language in the presence of minors, religious ceremonies or practices performed, pet waste, consuming foods that are unhealthy or have been determined to contribute to obesity, etc. All of these things some might find offensive or unhealthy, however, Oregon Beaches are to be enjoyed by all Oregonians so my personal opinion is - to each his own. I fail to understand the current need to force one’s opinions or beliefs on everyone as it’s “for their own good”.

If the state of Oregon has funds burning a hole in its pocket, I believe there are MANY more beneficial uses for it than enacting and enforcing a ban on smoking on Oregon Beaches.

Gary Guyer, Oregon resident for 20 years
Robyn Guyer, Oregon resident for 54 years

Sent from Windows Mail
I support not only the ban on cigarette smoking (and am hoping cigars and pipes as well) but urge the department to ban open burning of wood in state parks and campgrounds. As was determined by the DEQ over 25 years ago with wood burning stoves, byproducts of burning of wood are large quantities of small particulates. These particulates are small enough to directly enter the blood stream through the lungs causing serious health problems similar to second had cigarette smoke. The state DEQ requires (for the past 25 years) that all new wood stoves meet new requirements and that existing stoves be removed at time of residence sale. The new stoves elevate the temperature and greatly reduce small particulates. This can not be done at temperatures found with open burning. I have often driven down forest roads to find dense smoke near campgrounds. This smoke is more prevalent and more serious than second had cigarette smoke. I urge you to ban open wood burning. I know this may not be popular but is a serious health problem and like cigarette smoking bans people will appreciate breathing clean mountain air as part of their state park experience.

Regards,
Dave Huntley
MPH student
To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to oppose the proposed smoking ban on the Oregon beaches for two main reasons: the inability to adequately enforce the ban and the risk this poses your park rangers.

First let me point out that I worked for Oregon State Parks for eight years, three years with Reservations NW, and five years in the field as a Park Ranger at Nehalem Bay State Park and finally as a Ranger 2 at Cape Lookout State Park. I now work as a 911 dispatcher for Tillamook County.

First, OPRD has very few enforcement rangers for the 362 miles that spans the Oregon Coast. These rangers spend the majority of their shifts in the main parks of Fort Stevens, Nehalem Bay, Cape Lookout, Devils Lake, etc, but there are dozens of satellite parks that line the beaches where staff are few and far between (cleaning restrooms, garbage, and ground maintenance). If people choose to smoke on these stretches of beach with limited staff, there is no way to enforce the ban.

In front of the campgrounds themselves, especially during the busy summer, the ranger staff rarely spends any time on the beach as their time is spent enforcing the two vehicle limit, check out times, overseeing the booth staff and maintenance staff, as well as trying to make sure the campers are not destroying the park's natural resources. This, on top of maintaining working facilities and general park maintenance. Rangers barely have the time or resources to enforce the dog leash rule on the beaches. How are they to enforce the smoking ban?

I've always believed as an enforcement ranger that OPRD rules and regulations are not arbitrary. Each one has a specific reason, either to maintain the park's beauty and safety or to protect the visitor. One can't say this for the smoking ban. Smoking is a personal life choice. If a visitor does not agree with this life choice they have miles of beach to enjoy where they aren't bothered by second hand smoke. And if cigarette butts are the issue, I can assure you that there is other offensive litter on the beach, but we aren't banning plastic waste which has a more lasting and damaging effect on our wildlife and natural resources.

Additionally, as you can see from the scathing comments and visitors to your Facebook page arguing amongst themselves about this, that you've sparked a controversial issue. Again, with this one it puts personal freedom at the forefront. As an enforcement ranger and now
working in public safety, I can assure you that Verbal Judo is a tool but will not keep your rangers safe while attempting to restrict a visitor who feels confronted about a personal freedom, not to mention one of the most highly addictive substances known to man.

Your rangers do a beautiful job keeping the campgrounds beautiful while maintaining the facilities and trails that make visiting state parks safe year round. Of all the issues I confronted in my five years as a ranger, people smoking was never one of them. I should mention that I hate cigarettes with a passion, but the only problems I had with smoking was other staff smoking near the break room and shop doors where the smoke would waft into the breakroom and work areas.

I understand that the Salem staff have job to do, but spend a day in the field with any ranger on a busy summer day and you will see that banning smoking on the Oregon Coast is a fruitless endeavor.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Hydee Berger
Tillamook, Oregon
After hearing discussion on OPB today, I would like to submit the following comment:

Rather than a complete ban of smoking on all 360+ miles of coast, or alternatively doing nothing, how about a 6, 12, or 24 month period of education (signage, TV or billboard ads, web) and deliberate monitoring to collect specific data on rates of cigarette litter (rise or fall), or the number complaints of people being exposed to 2nd hand smoke during the monitoring period- especially families with young children and where that occurs.

We know the litter is a problem, but are we also talking about adding more waste receptacles to encourage proper disposal in the busy beach areas or giving the smoking folks the incentive to police themselves by perhaps deferring the "ax" if public smoking behavior changes short term? Its disappointing to think it has to be this cut and dry.

Perhaps there are certain beach areas that should be non smoking given large crowds and crowd density. That is also data that could be collected to help make an informed decision.

The comment about receptacles above relates to the fact when smoking was "in", you always had ashtrays close at hand both indoors and out. Now that public opinion has changed, many ash receptacles, garbage cans, etc are gone--limiting where options for a smoker dispose of their litter properly.
From:       Brian Conroy  
To:  
PUBLICCOMMENT + OPRD  
Subject:    Reduculous Waste of Time and Energy  
Date:  
Wednesday, July 30, 2014 1:33:19 PM

ARE YOU SERIOUS

This is one of the most ridiculous wastes of money and resources I have ever heard of.

1) Second hand smoke is a non-issue at the beach  
2) You have laws against littering  
3) It is unenforceable  
4) Who is trying to justify their job by creating and enforcing this stupid idea?  
5) The second hand smoke problem has been SOLVED! Leave it alone now!  
6) If the law passes, I will take up smoking on the beach just to see how you are going to stop me.

Work on something that we need. If you need make work, eliminate your job and save us some tax money.

Brian Conroy
I want cigarette smoking banned around the world, not just in Oregon, primarily for health reasons. But I'm opposed to the state restricting smoking on Oregon's beaches.

A smoking ban would largely be unenforceable. A smoking ban creates a slippery slope that inhibits personal freedom. It's already illegal to litter yet people do.

As a frequent beach visitor second hand cigarette smoke has not been as bothersome as the increase in litter. Oregon Parks should focus on educating people not to litter in the first place, and to carry out their garbage. The public has to care enough to leave public places as good or better than they found them for the benefit of future visitors.

I don't have a problem with Oregon Parks adding warnings to already existing signs along the lines: "Cigarette smoking is unhealthy and deadly. Please don't smoke. Please dispose of your cigarette butts responsibly."

Thank you for seeking public commentary on this challenging issue.

Robert Ehelebe
239 NE Fargo Street
Portland, OR 97212
Greetings--
I am an outspoken non-smoker, so I usually side without question to any proposal to restrict smoking or to further tax tobacco products. Thus, I would normally support your proposal to ban smoking on the beaches of Oregon. However, in this case I have two concerns.

First, would such a ban be truly enforceable? Voluntary compliance or enforcing the rule in those rare cases where a beach ranger and a smoker intersect makes the rule fairly toothless. Why enact a rule if it cannot be enforced?

Second, where exactly would smoking be banned? The US Forest Service controls the beaches in the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, right? Or does the State? A federal agency is under no obligation to enforce a state regulation. There may be other jurisdictional questions that should be answered.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.
Sincerely,
Richard B Colvin
83655 Hwy 101
Florence, OR 97439
rb_colvin@yahoo.com
We are non smokers, but we think the State of Oregon is infringing on adults rights. Are you going to allow medical marijuana smokers to smoke on the beach? Are you going to arrest illegal immigrants when they smoke on the beach? If not then that is discrimination, preference over Oregon taxpayers. Enough is enough of our government wanting to control our lives!!! We live on the beach at Lincoln City, walk on the beach and never have a problem with smokers, what is the problem is DOGS!!!! They are running loose plus we step in Their waste, to be polite about it. Since this is big government why not go ahead and outlaw people on the beach, that's what is coming next!! Oh I forgot, campfires are going to be banned also, they already tried it in our town. How ridiculous!!!! Don't you people have better things to do than drum up worthless laws for more government employees to enforce them???

Carol Koffel
Dear Ms. DeMoe

We are completely in favor of the proposed ban as we understand it.

We are concerned that there seems to be no definition in your rules of the items banned by the proposed rule. If your governing statutes do not define "tobacco product," given that the definition in ORS 323.500 (14) (as an example of the meaning of the term) excludes cigarettes, you may want to clarify what it is that the proposed rule would ban. Please make it clear that the new rule bans cigarettes as well as the other products listed in ORS 323.500 (14).

Thank you for the chance to comment,

Mark and Betty Troseth
Portland, Oregon
I support the proposed smoking ban on our state beaches. Personally I think smoking should be banned in all areas of our state parks and other public lands.

The biggest issue is litter. Education about littering obviously doesn't work, because people already know that they should not litter and yet they do it anyway, because they have no self respect, nor respect for our environment, wildlife, or other people. I'm all in favor of major fines for littering along with sentences to perform public service (primarily trash pick up). Maybe then people would get the message, but those laws need to be enforced by both law enforcement and the judicial system, but littering just never seems to rise to a priority. I think that is unfortunate, because it indirectly teaches people that our society is willing to tolerate littering.

The second issue is second hand smoke. We have had neighbors who smoke outside and their smoke would drift over to our yard and through our windows into our home. My husband, in particular, is bothered by the smoke. He smoked as a young person over 30 years ago and then quit, but the smell of smoke makes him nauseous and causes him to have headaches and I believe that it his body still reacting to the memory of the toxicity to his body. So even though we're outside and our neighbors are outside, we are still bothered by their smoke.

Smokers have no one to blame, but themselves. If smokers behaved with responsibility and respect than we wouldn't be having this discussion. It was a privilege that they deserve to lose.

Julie Schneider
Bend, Oregon
I cannot believe banning smoking on beaches (an open air environment) can even be considered legal.

The argument for creating an improvement in regards to litter and possible fire issues assumes that all smokers dispose their cigarette debris on the ground.

I am a non-smoker but all of my friends who do smoke, extinguish their cigarettes in receptacles that they carry - just like dog owners carry bags to clean up their dog's feces.

The issue I am having is watching dog owners either not clean up their dog's feces or... worse yet, dog feces being deposited on the beach in general anyway. It is unsanitary and frankly disgusting. I really love the idea of running my toes through the sand and finding dog poop under foot or watching a child pick up the debris.

I seriously doubt that you will find many Oregonians who will want to ban dogs from running on the beach or not be allowed to travel with them. Again, I do care about animals and do want them to enjoy open spaces so I just deal with it.

It also seems as if whatever Portland does the rest of the state has to follow. This is like a bully kid getting his or her way and trying to make everyone else do what they want them to do.

Where will it end?
To whom it concerns,

I am against a smoking ban on Oregon beaches. I do not smoke and feel it is unhealthful. Nevertheless, I think it is an over reach of government and restrictive on individual freedoms.

Please use the taxpayers' money and your time on things that matter. Do not pass laws that you will not enforce.

Thank you for taking input.

James Jones
Smoking should not be restricted on beaches. Smoking and littering are different issues. Unless there is a fire hazard smoking should not be regulated out of doors. Education and enforcement should be focused on the littering and fire hazard issues.

Regards,

Michael Blanco
ITS Dept
Linfield College
Office 503.883.2616
Cell 971.237.1384
I am all in favor of banning smoking on Oregon's beaches. The majority of our citizens do not smoke. Why subject non-smokers to an unnecessary health and safety risk because smokers are psychologically and physically addicted to such a substance. We know the dangers of cigarette smoke and they are quite real. All this, and the environmental impact on our beaches because of cigarette butts.

People who say that such a law will decrease tourism because of such a law are way off base. This didn't happen at the bars when the no smoking law went into effect, and it won't happen here either. These are scare tactics meant to sway and divert our attention.

Please, do the right thing for Oregon's residents and our environment. Make our beaches smoke free!

Regards,

Christian Gurling
As nice as it would be to have no smoking on the beaches, I find this a bit too much. My son-in-law smokes and by banning him from smoking on the beach (and he has always made sure to dispose of the remnants of his cigarettes in the trash bag we bring) – you are taking away the option of him coming with us. He will not smoke in the car, as he has a young son. It just does not seem fair. I am a former smoker and do not like cigarette smoke; but this ban seems way out of line. Why not designate certain stretches of the beach as Smoke-free (including campfires) but not the entire beach. Thank you

Sue Townsend
I am writing this as a citizen and not on behalf of any client in response to the proposed regulations affecting smoking on the beach.

As I understand the proposed regulations, they would apply to three kinds of beach areas: (a) the area west of the ordinary high-tide line, which belongs to the State of Oregon under the Act of Admission; (b) those portions of the areas east (upland) of the ordinary high-tide line to the vegetation line (commonly called the dry sand area) to which the state has title through purchase or otherwise, and which OPRD operates and administers, and (c) those portions of the dry sand area that are in private ownership, to which the public has acquired easement rights through prescription, in which OPRD regulates the public right of access under ORS 390.620 and ORS 390.635.

I am objecting to the proposed rule only to the extent that OPRD asserts the authority to prohibit landowners from smoking on their own property. The statutory framework of beach regulation directs OPRD to regulate and administer the public’s easement rights in the privately-owned portions of the dry sand area: specifically, ORS 390.635 gives OPRD jurisdiction over the “land and interests in land acquired under ORS 390.610, 390.615, or 390.630” in order to carry out the purposes of those statutes. For those lands in which OPRD does not hold title, but merely administers the public’s easement rights, the statutory framework has not granted to OPRD the right to regulate and administer the rights of the private landowners, and it seems to me that OPRD does not have statutory authority to prohibit the private landowners and their guests from smoking on the privately-held portions of the beach, because their right to use the beach does not depend on Chapter 390, nor on the holding of State ex rel. Thornton v. Hay.

Sincerely,

Dean N. Alterman
[T] 503-517-8201 [F] 503-517-8204
I am voicing my support for Oregon Tobacco-Free Beaches.

_Venus Fromwiller, BS, MA_
Community Educator
Columbia Memorial Hospital
2111 Exchange Street
Astoria, OR 97103
venus_fromwiller@columbiamemorial.org
503-338-4520 Direct Line
503-338-7564 Community Outreach
503-325-8009 FAX
HOURS: M-W 8:30-1:30
I am in favor of a smoking ban on the beaches because of the considerable litter caused by the butts.
Thank you,
Ann Gaidos-Morgan
3565 NE Manchester
Corvallis OR 97330
I should firstly say that I am not an Oregon resident. I'm in WA. But, as someone who goes to the Oregon beaches far more often than I go to the Washington beaches, perhaps I can at least give an opinion.

If it were up to me, which it is not, I'd ban smoking period. There is nowhere a non-smoker can go to avoid second hand smoke when someone who is smoking is near. But, that is a personal preference. I don't like the smell and it causes a little breathing trouble if I get even a whiff. Banning it altogether is not practical.

That said, I'm not sure banning it from beaches is practical either. It is probably more practical than the alternative stemming from my big question.

My big question is, is littering not already illegal? Smokers have gotten away with tossing their butts wherever they wish, for so long, that I don't think they even consider it littering. It would cost more, but enforcing the littering laws seems, to me, to be the way to clean up the butts, and not only on the beaches, but everywhere and in all states.

A ban on smoking on beaches in Oregon would not stop me from going to them, but I have nothing to lose.

Thanks for letting me give my little two cents.

-- Linda

You pile up enough tomorrows, and you'll find you've collected nothing but a lot of empty yesterdays. -- Harold Hill (The Music Man)
To whom it may concern:

I am writing in response to the steps being taken to ban smoking on Oregon beaches, I am opposed to such a ban.

If this is basically just another one of Gov. Kitzhaber’s plans to help us help ourselves to be healthier, then that is not a valid enough reason. We are all big boys and girls (most of us responsible) and are perfectly capable of making our own decisions without having to have "Dad"/Big Brother go on a power trip to decide what's best for us. I don't know anyone who couldn't benefit from making healthier choices, but are perfectly happy to live their life as they so choose. It's called freedom.

Although I appreciate and understand the concerns regarding litter on our beaches, I don't think that that such a ban is going to help to achieve the desired goal. Being a smoker myself, I (as well as all fellow smokers I know) am very respectful of our beautiful beaches, and take pride in all areas of the state. We NEVER leave cigarette butts on the beach, and always carry away all of my trash. I am also always respectful of all other beach goers and make a point to never smoke near them.

I feel that people who currently use the beach as an ashtray will continue to do so whether there is a ban on smoking or not. As well as other inconsiderate people who leave their garbage for others to clean up. There will always be "those people" who ruin it for all.

Where do the rules stop? What will be next, no drinks or picnics on the beach because there are enough stupid people who do not pack their trash out? What about banning dogs, so that my grandchildren and I don't have to watch our step to avoid stepping in dog poop. (I still wouldn't want a ban to disallow dogs) I also often see paper where it is obvious that a person has used that spot as a toilet. But I rarely see cigarette butts on the beach.

Every year someone drowns while enjoying a day at the beach. Should there be rules made to ban people from getting to close to the ocean? Rules to close the beaches completely?
My point is that the beach is one of the few places left in the world that a person can go to to have a sense of space and freedom. There cannot be rules made for every situation. If there were, then we might as well all just stay in our homes to stagnant, and never be able to acquire that sense of peace and freedom.

Please no more rules, give us a little credit.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amy Silva
I would all for banning smoking in Oregon Recreation areas! As a non-smoker it is very upsetting to be enjoying nature and being hit by the horrible smell of cigarette smoke. Just this week we were at the lighthouse in Newport having a nice picnic and then being overcome by smokers from a near table! We actually packed up and left!

Thanks for putting this on the agenda.
Nancy Martin
Springfield, Or

Sent from my iPhone
When I first read the information online suggesting a smoking ban on Oregon beaches, I thought that perhaps it was a false but humorous headline lifted from the pages of the "Daily Onion". However, much to my dismay, I checked the OPRD website and sadly learned of the reality of the situation.

Perhaps I was not aware that all of Oregon's real problems have been solved recently? Why else would we even CONSIDER the needless waste taxpayer money and time creating more useless and unenforceable rules? Are we not constantly reminded that we do not have enough money for firefighters, schools, foodshelves, state police, etc? I am sincerely begging you to NOT move forward with this rule. I am not, nor have never been a smoker. Nobody in my family smokes. I am a health care professional, for that matter. However, I believe in the simple personal liberties that make this country and this state wonderful. The beach is a symbol of personal freedom, and it does not need additional rules and regulations.

Sincerely,

Greg Pick
Albany, OR
I oppose this ban. I presume that cigars and other smoking devices (pipes) and roll your owns will be exempt because they do not have carcinogenic filters. I live in Manzanita and I don't see this as a problem. Been here for over 15 years. Would rather see a ban on campfires and plastic bags.
As a past resident and a person who now pilgrimages to the coast 2 times per year, I, as a smoker, also have a love for the environment and a high respect for Mother Nature and what God has put on this planet for us to enjoy. I have never left a cigarette butt on the beach - I always carry a container to put my refuse in and to put other garbage I might see in as well. If you put a ban on beach smoking, you might as well ban any and all animals from being on the beaches (feces can cause many problems for people/children with bare feet)...... people shouldn't be allowed to fly kites either, what if someone has one come down on them and causes them to panic and get tangled up in the kite string?!.... No beach fires either, the leftover coals may be there for days under the sand and someone could get seriously burned if they aren't aware..... Throw down a blanket and have a picnic with a bottle of wine??? Oh- heck no - what if someone pops the cork and doesn't throw it away! or clutters the beach with their leftovers!!??

So - you see - banning beach smoking is ridiculous. It's a "free" area for people to connect with nature - yes, smoking is bad for you, I've heard all of the gruesome stories..... but to take away my right to sit and watch the sunset, in a beach chair, with a beer and a cigarette, is going a bit too far.

Cheryl Juhnke
204 Oak St. #138
Woodville, WI 54028

c.juhnke@yahoo.com

Have a Wonderful Day!
Hello,

I wrote before. OPB asked me on their show. Good to hear my points resonate.

Look, I think the proposed rule is just taking things too far. Encroaching on our freedoms. I think there is much better productive work you can do.

We didn't win two world wars, and send our soldiers overseas every decade, to protect our freedoms, to then ban smoking on our public beaches. If a guy is veteran, and returns home to the beach, for god's sake let him smoke if he wants to!

Smoking is not a problem on the coast anyway!!!

Let it go!!!

Educate the masses, don't over regulate!!!!

Thanks

Peter Nelson
Photographer / Artist

pnphotoart.com
I support Tobacco Free parks and beaches in Oregon.

-Cigarette butts are the most frequently littered item in the world

-Surfrider Oregon chapters do many beach cleanups every year, cigarette butts are consistently the #1 item that we find

-Cigarette butts are made of plastic and are toxic to marine life, recent studies show that they are lethal to fish, and they take decades to decompose. Also toxic to young children, wildlife & pets.

-Second hand smoke exposure outdoors can be just as harmful as indoors, degrades the recreational enjoyment of one of our states greatest natural assets, our 362 miles of public beaches.

-Surfrider and others are working with State Parks to adopt rules to create smoke free beaches. We applaud OPRD’s recent adoption of rules creating smoke free parks, next step is include beaches.

-Tobacco free beaches will succeed in areas that have good signage, public education, and self enforcement.

-Surfrider Oregon Chapters remind you to Hold On To Your Butts, our beaches and streets are not an ashtray

Best,
Craig Ernst
Development Coordinator, Portland Chapter, Surfrider Foundation
503.810.8823
Leave the poor smokers alone! I have been a non-smoker all of my life but not letting them some outside is such a politically correct joke! The anti-smoking Nazis have gone too far. The is no way second hand smoke is going to hurt anybody if one smokes outside. Afraid they will throw their butts down?...some do, some don’t but non-smokers throw trash onto the ground too. Let them smoke.

Sent from Windows Mail
I’m emailing to lend my overwhelming support to include our ocean shores/beaches in your tobacco/smoke-free rules. Not only are cigarette butts unsightly and environmentally damaging but coming across someone who is smoking causes stress to those who don’t want to breathe or smell the smoke. Thank you for understanding this and providing Oregonians with additional tobacco/smoke-free environments.

Paula Staight
Public comments to prevent smoking tobacco or any type of smoking products at public parks and beaches.

Environmental waste. Cleaning up hundreds of cigarette butts along an adopted highway proved how persistently they can last. Birds and wildlife mistake cigarette materials as food and suffer poor health and can die. Cigarette butts can be blown into adjacent streams, private property, wooded areas near the beach. Materials in cigarette filters, E-cigarette cartridges, medical and recreational marijuana cigarettes present environmental, health and aesthetic devaluing of the health benefits of fresh ocean air free of contaminants.

Personal experience as a child. Stepping on a lighted cigarette butt as a three year old playing on the beach resulted in an infected burn. Children’s health must be be protected from careless smokers.

Fire Danger. Dry and windy conditions at many beaches that may have dry driftwood, trash cans with inflammable materials, dry grasses, vehicles dripping oil and gasoline, present fire hazards if ignited by careless smokers.

Thank you for considering all comments. Jenny Velinty 419 Sherwood Loop Florence, OR 97439
I would like to briefly offer my opposition to the proposed smoking ban. There is no evidence that smoking in open, unconfined spaces presents any danger to others. Using statistics reporting large volumes of cigarette butts on the beach does not justify a ban. While it is easy enough to say that the butts may actually have blown onto the sand and were not discarded there, this is not really the point. What the focus should be on, is the fact that people that discard cigarettes in a public place are litterers. We have laws against littering. Enforce them. Do not blanket punish smokers for other’s lack of consideration. It may also be noted that litter on the beaches includes fast food containers. When is the ban on fast food coming?

Robert Dziekan

Sent from Windows Mail
I am very much in favor of tobacco smoke-free air at Oregon beaches. Second hand tobacco smoke has been proven to be carcinogenic. This is the reason it should be banned at public beaches.

I shouldn't have to hold my breath whenever a lighted cigarette is in my presence, so as to avoid inhaling cancer-causing substances. I can only hold my breath for 60 seconds, so I wind up inhaling the noxious fumes against my will.

A ban on smoking at our public beaches will help to improve the health of non-smokers who now are forced to breathe cancer causing smoke while trying to enjoy our beautiful coast.

Mary Addams
795 Willamette St
Apt 403
Eugene OR 97401
I don't think smoking should be restricted on Oregon Beaches. There comes a time when we have to say enough with making new laws. This is the land of the free so people should be able to smoke out in the open. We've already restricted smoking on State Property and in Oregon State Parks that should be enough. Oregon beaches aren't that packed that people are crammed in a small space, so non-smokers shouldn't have a hard time moving away from somebody smoking. I stopped smoking 8 years ago and I wish everyone would stop smoking, but smokers have rights too.

If it passed, how would the State of Oregon enforce the law? Hire more park rangers? There isn't enough money to hire more now for the parks we have, let alone adding a new law. I think Oregon should focus on other things like the bad economy instead of worrying about someone smoking on the beach.

Dena Plemel
I am a non-smoker but you just keep taking away our rights and I am tired of it. They are OUR beaches not your beaches and OUR is inclusive of both smokers and non-smokers. There is plenty of wind to make any smoke dissipate quickly and not harm the other visitors. As far as litter goes, we already have laws on the books to prevent litter by fines. That is enough!

Tom Keenan
12721 S Casto Rd
Oregon City, OR 97045

**A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination.**

*Nelson Mandela*
Your proposed ban on smoking on the beaches is ridiculous.

1) Why create a law that is not enforceable! The city of Newport where I live has a very efficient police force. They do not need to apply there staff to the beach. The commission of parks can supply the police force to enforce there own laws!

2) The oregon beaches have a natural current of wind almost every day. This is an area that has smoke quickly dissipated. This is an open area that second hand smoke is not a problem.

3) The animals that are on the beach continually drop feces on the sands. Most of the owners just leave the pollution on the beach. Why didn't the commission ban dogs, horses, and babies in diapers from the beach.

4) We need to not infringe upon the rights of people. I am not a smoker. I do not like laws that are made to regulate others lives because the majority want it their way.

5) Every day I walk on the beach. The garbage from boats, plastic and glass bottles, tsunamis, sea weed, dead sea gulls, and trees continually wash up on the beach. This has been a concern over the years. We do not make laws to regulate them. After all the cigarette buts will decompose faster thn the glass or plastic bottles.

Francis Franklin
536 SW 4th St
Newport, Or
I would like to voice my strong support of a ban on smoking on the Oregon Ocean Shore Recreation Area. Cigarette butts are the most common form of litter on any beach, and aside from being a disgusting public health issue, they are a massive threat to many forms of marine life.

Please, ban smoking everywhere on the beaches! Make the fines high, and enforce them with gusto!

Sincerely,

Michael McCusker
579 SE Hathaway Pl
Corvallis OR 97333
Restricted is an awfully mundane term. Let’s ban smoking on the beaches.

I live at MP 162 on Highway 101 and we explore the beach with our grand and great grandchildren as often as able.

We always carry a plastic 13 gal bag with us to pick up any ‘trash’ that does not belong there, labeling trash as that which naturally would not wash up. This includes organic matter and the like.

Even on a beach such as ours where there is limited use by the public, the number one item we find is cigarette butts. In second place are the plastic juice and other liquid holding bottles which do not fall under the current Bottle Bill.

The kids just don’t understand why people would throw their trash on the beach, and being a family of non-smokers it is difficult to explain. Thoughtless, not thinking are the primary adjectives we use and admonish them to never be like that.

BUT, don’t ban what you don’t intend to enforce.

Don Tucker
Yachats OR
This is to support OPRD's proposed rule to prohibit smoking on Oregon beaches.

Oregon's beaches are not an ashtray! It is disgusting, when walking barefoot in the sand, to find cigarette butts in the sand. It is also simply not healthy for them to be washed back into the ocean. Our beaches are our greatest asset--we are SO LUCKY to have all of them open and accessible, and we should do whatever we can to protect the beaches as well as those who walk on them.

It also makes sense to extend the smoking ban in parks to the beaches, since so many parks include the beaches.

Thank you.

Connie Soper
Portland, Oregon
Hello,

I am furious that you are even thinking of prohibiting smoking at the beach!! Are you trying to make Russia look like they have more freedom than we do here in America??

With every right that you/the government take away, the closer we come to being a communist country. And if you ask me, which you did, we are frighteningly coming to that realization at an alarming pace.

**DO NOT PROHIBIT SMOKING ON OUR BEACHES!**

Sincerely yours,
Jennifer Storms
a voter in Newport, Oregon
Hi,

Please count me in as a supporter of the proposed rules to ban cigarette smoking on the beach. I look forward to the reduction of the number of cigarette butts on the beach.

There is a bit of a presumption that all cigarette smokers are litter bugs.

Stephen Scarborough
2142 Brookhaven Way
Eugene, OR  97401
I smoke and I would love to see it banned in all public areas including the beaches, period. Help more of us realize how bad it is and stop a nasty habit.

Scott.
I absolutely approve of the new rules that restrict smoking on Oregon state park properties.

I also approve of prohibiting smoking on all Oregon's beaches. The main reason is obvious - dangerous and unattractive litter that last for decades.

Thank you.

Margaret Stephens
1830 23rd St NE
Salem, OR 97301
Please count us in on the NON-SMOKING side of this debate for public beaches.
Jim and Judi Gilles
572 S. Pine Meadow St.
Sisters, Or 97759
As a coastal resident, I welcome both the ban on smoking at state parks and on beaches. I pick up litter on our north coast beaches daily, and cigarette butts are a constant. They are toxic to children and wildlife as well as an eyesore. Also, when enjoying the parks and beach, being around smoke really detracts from my experience. Finally, I support the de-normalizing of smoking, which guides people to not pick up and to quit smoking. Smoking is terrible for our health and our environment.

Thank you for your leadership on these smoking bans. Sincerely,

Nadia Gardner
80285 Woodland Hts Rd
Arch Cape, Oregon 97102
We need to stop banning things. Personal responsibility needs to be stressed and, should that fail, enforce existing littering laws. Trash is trash, whether it's a cigarette butt or a used condom.

Catherine Carichoff

Sent from my iPad
I am not a smoker--or, rather, I am a reformed smoker, having quite five years ago.

I think this restriction goes too far. It seems unnecessarily prohibitive for Oregonians. I understand the concern about pollution on the beach (butts) but would the costs to implement this measure outway the cost to clean the beach? How will it be enforced? I can think of better ways to use funding than making our rangers the cigarette-police.

Why not put more trash cans in the parks and on the beaches? Encourage people to save and toss their butts and other trash in conveniently-placed receptacles. This seems to work for dog poop--handy bag dispensers and containers for the waste encourage pet owners to pick it up and dispose of it.

It is not illegal to smoke cigarettes. Yes, it is a very unhealthy habit, but restricting people from smoking on beaches will likely keep smokers from going there--and they won't take their kids--and this would be a bad thing in the long run. There will still be plenty of trash on the beach even if smoking is outlawed, so, really, what is the rationale?

Trish Voss
-----Original Message-----
From: Judy Snyder [mailto:judymauro06@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, July 26, 2014 8:26 AM
To: WALKOSKI Richard * OPRD
Subject: Smoke on beaches

Please ban smoking on beaches. I can't sit in peace and somebody always parks next to me and lights up a cigarette. Then when they are sitting far from me the smoke drifts up my nose I feel very physically ill from it. Travels a long way. Every person I have seen smoking in public places are extremely rude. Even though they know it bothers you they will not let it out. A look at non-smokers as whining people. I have asthma and makes me feel physically ill. Smoke has been a thorn in my side for many years. I feel as those smiling secondhand smoke has caused my asthma. I have lived in Oregon for 10 years and had to move eight times as I lived in smoke-free complexes where the rules are not enforced. There is a ban for smoking beaches please enforce it please please. Thank you Judy Snyder
Sent from my iPhone
I'm a non smoker. I've never smoked. I personally get very upset about the discrimination that smokers face. I don't like the smell of cig smoke but hey, you know what's worse. The 70 year old perfume drenched lady's. My god! It burns my eyes and nose. I know you know what I'm talking about too. :) my point is, I deal with it. The litter is a huge problem yes. I think that it should be addressed as such. A litter issue. Plastic bottles are a larger problem. That's what the garbage drift is out in the ocean. Why not ban those? How about fishing line? I see a lot of that as well. Up the fines for litter. But please don't punish and blame one group of people. Another approach, could be to just not allow the sale of cigs in the state that don't have a fully and quickly biodegradable filter. That would help out everywhere not just the beach. Just thinking out loud. Any how, thank you for your time. I hope you are one of the correct people to talk with. Enjoy the rest of your day.
~Justin Riley.
Salem Oregon.
971-222-7851
Message from Lisa James:

I don't see where else to comment as news articles say we can - but I am opposed to the ban on smoking on public beaches. They are public - and there isn't anywhere people can go anymore. It isn't as if our beaches are crowded like Rio. I pick up after myself and take all trash out. Enforce more littering laws, but give us one respite where the wind blows and we can go for a long quiet walk in peace, and take a break for a smoke if we want.
Hay. I just read an article in the bend bulletin about stopping smoking on the beach. Look. I grew up in Hammond and the surrounding beaches. I spent a lot of time picking up trash that consisted of Asian water bottles and other trash that would wash up. I smoke. I put my butts in my pocket unless I'm smoking a roll your own. Anyhow. This ban on smoking on the beach is not ok. I bet you don't smoke and that's ok. Its a bad habit. However it's not up to you to say that people cannot smoke on all places like the beach. Get real. You have no right to martyr your option. People that care more about the beach and the environment than you do happen to smoke. Stop being a jerk and start being an Oregonian. What about our infrastructure?????????? Roads, dikes, bridges, fish ladders, dams, canals that could use more hydroelectric dams, manufacturing to create jobs. Think about it and not someone smoking a cigarette on the beach.
Fantastic, I support this fully. Have been vacationing on your beautiful beaches for many summers.

Luanne Arias
Bellevue, WA
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the important issue that is the proposed smoking ban.

I am a Portlander who typically supports environmental, anti-litter, and public health campaigns. I don't smoke. But I am very against the idea of banning smoking on public beaches.

The great thing about Oregon's beaches is that they are open to everyone. When people go to the beach (as opposed to a park) they usually go for several hours. Banning smoking would discourage or prevent smokers from enjoying Oregon's beaches. This is fundamentally unfair, as smoking is a powerful addiction, not simply an individual choice you make each day. And it wouldn't just prevent smokers from going to the beach: it would prevent their families from going as well. It just isn't fair to cheat Oregon kids out of the quintessential "day at the beach" because they happen to have parents who smoke. Furthermore, according to the CDC, almost 30% of people living under the poverty line smoke (as opposed to 17% of the general population). This means that low-income kids will be disproportionately cheated out of an extremely important public resource.

If the parks department is concerned about littering, they should take steps to alleviate that problem. They shouldn't discriminate against smokers and their families.

Thank you,
Cassandra Cole
Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

As the owner of a house in Manzanita for 17+ years, I strongly SUPPORT the proposed ban on smoking at all Oregon beaches. The pollution of smoke and ciggie butts would become a thing of the past.

Regards,
Dennis M. Harper
Portland, OR 97209
503-228-0611
Have you people completely lost your minds?

We smokers who pay the highest taxes of any other Oregon citizen cannot enjoy our LEGAL right to smoke indoors anywhere but our homes and in our cars (IF there are no "children" under the age of 18) already, now cannot smoke in the parks WE pay for OUTSIDE. We have to stand 15 Feet away from any building, in the rain or snow, just to enjoy a smoke. And now, you wish to exclude over 700,000 Oregon citizens from sitting on OUR beaches and having a smoke??? Do you intend to extend it 12 miles offshore as well? You DO know that many fishermen smoke don't you? How about passing Cruise Ships.? Private airplanes flying overhead? Maybe you can regulate bird crap as well....

And WHO is going to enforce such a ridiculous infringement on our rights? Are you now going to add "beach smoking police"?

If this is about a few inconsiderate slobs who leave their cig butts on the beach, let's talk about the REALLY HORRIFIC SLOBS that walk their damn dogs on the beach leaving a trail of DOG POOP in their wake. Which would you rather step on in your bare feet???

STOP TRYING TO REGULATE EVERYONE'S LIVES! Life isn't about washing your lilly white hands with Purell every 10 minutes. Life is about love, laughter, freedom, and tolerance. Every one of you small minded bureaucrats need to learn to MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.

I will tell you now, that I for one will completely ignore yet another silly law/rule. You will have to kill me to stop me. You asshats are completely out of control with your laws...and worse, your private little administrative laws that none of us voters have a say in.

You idiots are only creating an environment for total anarchy. You will piss off enough citizens to start it and you will be the first casualties.

Christopher Clark
Gold Hill, Oregon
1: This will never work. The general population who smokes, and decides to visit the beach will smoke on the beach. The State does not have even remotely enough law enforcement to even enforce this to any meaningful effect.

2: I am quite sure there are far more pressing matters to be given attention to, for instance, repaving the Banfield sooner rather than later when its falling apart. Wasting tax payers money on a law that will have so little effect towards the overall situation will only incite further likelihood that those politicians who actually go through with this, will be out of office on the next election.

3: I live on the coast, There is not as much litter as people think. Most are conscious and pick up their butts from the beach. It would have far greater effect to post signs instead, asking politely that people pick up after themselves, than it would to put a useless law into effect that will likely not bear any fruit worth keeping.
As a non-resident who is nevertheless very appreciative of Oregon's lovely beaches, I am adding my voice to the believers who say that it would be a very good thing for smoking to be prohibited on Oregon's public beaches. From the standpoint of sanitation, environmental toxicity, health, safety and simple aesthetics, it can only be a good thing.

VL Kingsbury
Sacramento CA
If smokers would pick up the butts off the beach, this would not be an issue. HOWEVER, as a frequent beach walker, my husband and I can tell you that smokers do NOT pick up the cig butts. The sandy beach is considered a big ash tray. It is a hazard to our oceans, and an eyesore to humans. Keep Oregon clean & green!
Tricia Chandler, Depoe Bay
George Weber, Depoe Bay

Sent from my iPad
From: Curtis Taylor
To: PUBLICCOMMENT + GPRD
Subject: YES on beach smoking ban
Date: Saturday, July 26, 2014 7:43:45 PM

Tobacco products negatively impact and damage our environment. Cigarette butts are not just a nuisance, they are toxic waste. They contain chemicals that contaminate our waterways and ground soil and harm our wildlife.

Discarded lit cigarettes on the beach can cause driftwood fires, which can damage homes and land. It is also very costly to clean up cigarette waste - a problem that continues to grow every year.

Let's preserve Oregon's natural beauty and protect the health of its citizens by eliminating the impact of tobacco.

Curtis Taylor
Brookings, OR
To whom it may concern,
I am for a ban on smoking at the beach. I go there to smell the fresh air and walk on the sand, not smell cigarette smoke and see cigarette butts on the ground! People can smoke in their cars and keep the awful carcinogens to themselves. Thank you,
Betsy Hauser

Sent from my iPad
I’m not a smoker but smoking in open spaces should be allowed and littering enforced. This law will be difficult to enforce and taking away more of people’s rights. Banning smoking in buildings and at entrances seems responsible but banning it in open air spaces doesn’t make sense. Enforce littering of cigarette butts not smoking.
Prohibits Smoking of Tobacco Products on the Ocean Shore

The new law is redundant based on the reasoning of plastic litter! You already have a litter law for which they can be cited if they are littering. It is just prejudice against people who have a habit that doesn't hurt anyone in the open air. Smoking is a legal activity and discriminating against it is just that: Discrimination. Enforce the laws you already have instead of making prejudiced laws against people who like something legal which you don't care for.

Your web page states that; "Those who wish to make public comment must register with the hearing officer by 7:30 PM on the scheduled hearing date." But you give no contact name or link, just "staff". Who and how do you register?

Thank you for answering my question.
There is a concept that all officers are taught in early in their career-"Never issue a command that you know will not be obeyed." The same advice should be followed by lawmakers and regulators-"never make a law or regulation that you know will not be obeyed."

The proposed ban on smoking on Oregon beaches falls right into this category. No one is going to obey it. Smoking in the great outdoors harms nobody, the smoke from the campfires in the state camp grounds is much more toxic than anyone's cigarette. Where is the time and money to police the beaches to make sure someone isn't smoking going to come from? Who's going to report it and who is going to respond when someone does report it?

It is almost certain that no anti-smoking patrols will be formed and no one is going to respond if someone sees a person on the beach smoking.

Laws that are unenforceable and unnecessary get ignored, breeding contempt and defiance of the law.

Please spend your time on maintaining the park system, not fixing a problem that doesn't exist.

By the way, I am not and never have been a smoker so this doesn't affect me except for the fact that it's none of your business if someone smokes in the open air.
I oppose the proposed ban. Resources would be better used enforcing leash laws. My wife and I are dog owners and always have our dogs leashed and find the beaches to be unusable because of off-leash dogs.

The proposed ban on smoking is likely driven by a few whiners that feel they own the beaches. Those same whiners want everything banned that is not something THEY enjoy. Soon there will be a dress code and mandatory wearing of life vests. It's ridiculous.

Johann Eiwen
503-490-6471
That is the most ridiculous thing I ever heard...why doesn't goverment tell people when they cam go to the bathroom, they are way too much into people's lives, worry more about those sex offenders who don't register, crime, animal abuse, etc, I can go on and on, ridiculous.

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device
As an Oregonian, I strongly support a ban on smoking at the beach.
This proposal is ridiculous. It is another example of the government taking away freedoms from citizens. Smoking has become taboo in our society so the government wants to demonize smokers and banish them to certain areas. The government doesn't like it so it has to make laws against it even when no one is getting hurt and nobody's freedoms are in jeopardy. It just wants to dictate people's behavior to control the populace.

Smokers tax money is just as good as non-smokers tax money. So why do they get their freedoms taken away? And the smoke can't be called a nuisance because it's OUTSIDE and it's always windy. If someone is so offended by the occasional passing whiff of smoke on the beach that they are proposing laws to ban it, they have no idea about what freedom, liberty and America are all about. The argument about littering doesn't make sense because a lot of the litter is food wrappers and containers or drink cups. Are you going to ban food and drink on the beaches? A lot of the litter is footwear or clothes. Is the government going to make everyone walk around naked and barefoot? No one thinks about basic freedoms when they propose these bans. Stop for a moment and ask yourself, "Does smoking on beaches infringe on anyone's rights or freedoms." If the answer is no than there should be no ban!

Matt

Sent from my iPhone
To whom it may concern:
I am writing with great concern regarding this new attempt to further ban smoking on public beaches.

I am so tired of all of this archaic treatment of smokers. Yes, I know the health risks, and I know that it's a dirty habit. Having said that, I also know that treating a specific portion of people like the dregs of society is not the way to handle an issue. Are smokers littering? Some, yes. Is there a law against littering? Yes. Has it made a difference? Not that I can tell. It hasn't prevented people from dropping cigarette butts, or leaving their dog poop, or dirty baby diapers, soda & beer cans, food garbage or anything else either. Why should smokers, who pay more in taxes as it is, have to once again be the only punished culprits? If smokers were the only problem I wouldn't have an issue with this treatment, but they/we are not.

Picking on one section of society isn't going to do anything except alienate that group further. If anyone thinks it will force positive change, I believe they're mistaken. Maybe some people won't go to parks on principle. Maybe some will, and will smoke - again, on principle. The "Nanny State" mentality being used in the targeting of smokers has got to stop. I'm a responsible, tax paying citizen. I don't go out of my way to smoke around people. I usually do step away from people when I'm smoking. That's a courtesy I chose to extend because I understand that it can be offensive to non-smokers. Since the judgement against smokers has become so heavy handed (i.e. smoking bans in various places, constant increases in taxation, etc), I have yet to see a single non-smoker show me any courtesy. If I'm in a designated smoking area I still have to deal with the fake coughs, indignant stares, and comments as people pass by. I didn't do anything to them, and am jumping through all the hoops. I pay more for my habit, supposedly for the healthcare of everyone else's kids? I go to designated areas. I do what I can. I dispose of my cigarette butts appropriately, and still the witch hunt continues.

If you REALLY feel strongly that smokers are the cause of all the problems you face, how about affording them the same rights as everyone else? Instead of treating them like lepers why not put a few designated smoking areas along the more populated beaches. I'm not saying it's a cure-all, but as a smoker, if you gave me a designated area that was reasonably accessible I would absolutely choose to go there vs. smoke elsewhere on the beach.

I have no problem being respectful to non-smokers. What I have a problem with is not being respected in return. It's a give & take. There are bad apples in EVERY bunch. That doesn't mean we're all bad. I am consistently appalled with how awful smokers are treated. At the end of the day we're human beings, too. Give us the opportunity to co-exist. Try thinking outside the box. Work in the gray area, and spend less time in the black & white.

I really hope you take heed to what I've had to say. I like the idea that we still live in a democratic society, but as I watch policy change in all avenues of government I feel more and more that taking public comment is code for round file it if it's not in agreement.
No more nanny state behavior, please!
Thank you for your time.
Regards,
Anicee L. Cochran
503-468-5505
toxicbutterfly@gmail.com
Please do not ban smoking on Oregon beaches.
I spend a lot of time on the Cannon Beach area beaches and I have never seen anyone abusing their right to smoke. I also occasionally enjoy a cigar while on the beach. I am not bothering anyone or anything while doing it. This is not currently a problem or an issue. Please do not take away another individual right.

Michael Orth

Sent from my iPad
I am a lifelong Oregonian, one who loves the Oregon coast and a nonsmoker. In fact, I cannot be in a room where people have smoked recently. However, I am very against the proposed ban. It is overreaching the OPRD authority and infringing on our liberty. Just as importantly, it completely ignores the whole reason smoking in public places is banned in the first place - public health.

Let's look at the reasons for the ban:
1. It may alleviate the litter problem. While it's true that cigarette butts are obnoxious and harmful, it is already illegal to litter on the beaches. The law is not enforced. If you want to stop littering, address the littering problem head on. Don't use smoking as an excuse. Further, the SOLV efforts will not be lessened because of fewer butts, even if the ban is implemented. They will still scour the beaches for other garbage. The effort is the same regardless.

2. The ban on smoking in the parks may drive people to the beach. While that's possible, I submit it's less likely than proponents state. For most of the coastline, the state parks are comparatively far away. The few miles that abut state parks are relatively scarce. But this ban would cover the entire coast, not just the miles next to the parks. That is overkill, if you follow this argument, and overreach if you believe the OPRD has no authority over the public highway that is the coast. If anyone has jurisdiction here, it is ODOT, and they aren't saying.

3. Public health - wait, that isn't a reason, because not even OPRD believes that smoke bothers anyone on the coast. It is windy. It is wet. The whole reason for a smoking ban in public places is to keep bystanders from being harmed. I am one of those bystanders and I can honestly say secondhand smoke never bothered me on the coast - because I can stand next to a smoker and still not smell it. Try it sometime! You almost have to get in their face to breathe in the smoke and it still is not concentrated enough to harm anyone. So there is no public health issue, and therefore no reason to ban smoking in this public place.

Now, let's look at why we should not have a ban:
1. It is an infringement of liberty. A basic tenet of law and of this state is that liberty should not be infringed unless other matters are so egregious that the consequences of not limiting it would be even more detrimental ultimately to one's freedom. For example, imprisonment of a criminal is acceptable only because continued liberty for that person would likely harm more people who are completely innocent. It would, in fact, infringe on their liberty to pursue a life of happiness.

2. It greatly expands the authority of the OPRD without any legislative authority to do so, and without compelling reason. Uniquely to Oregon, our coast is a public highway, open to all and useable as such. Just as our public highways, such as OR 99E, are not closed to smokers, our beaches should not be. In fact, there has not been a case made that this public highway is significantly different than any other. Even more basically, the OPRD has no authority over state highways. Many are the highways that abut our state parks, but no one has ever said the OPRD has any say over what goes on on them. Rather, we look to the State Police and ODOT to set and enforce the rules. The Oregon Coast is no different.

In sum, there is no legitimate reason to adopt this ban, and overwhelming reasons not to. I urge OPRD to drop this idea and the Governor to look elsewhere to improve public health.

Tom Wrosch
Salem, Oregon

FREE 3D MARINE AQUARIUM SCREENSAVER - Watch dolphins, sharks & orcas on your desktop!
Check it out at http://www.inbox.com/marineaquarium
I support a ban on smoking at Oregon State Beaches. While some folks are considerate, in my experience most smoke where they want without consideration for others, and it makes it a less desirable experience for those seeking time in nature and breathing fresh air. Thank you for looking into this issue.

<,,><

Michael D. Barton
Portland, OR
darwinsbulldog@gmail.com
Blogs: The Dispersal of Darwin / Exploring Portland's Natural Areas
Twitter / Facebook
I support no smoking on beaches. Animals eat the butts and they take many years to degrade leaching chemicals.

It's a step in the right direction which is REVERENCE of the beaches and ocean.

Thank you.
To whom it may concern-

I grew up in a family of smokers. My mom, my step dad, my grandpa, my uncle, my brother, and I grew up in a time where there were still smoking and non-smoking sections of restaurants. And being a child, I never really got a say or input when someone smoked around me. I could only voice how much it bothered me but to know avail... But again, I was just a child. I rode in cars with people smoking and hated it. I was in houses where people smoked. It was hard for me to get away from it. My clothes reeked of smoke and it was a huge embarrassment for me as a child. It also made breathing uncomfortable with minor asthma attacks. If I had a choice, I would ban all smoking. Not only is it terrible for the person smoking, but it also hugely affects those around them. I wish the laws that are in place now had been in place when I was a child. I often wonder how different my life would have been. What relatives would still be with me today.

The banning of smoking in a car with a child was a HUGE step forward in taking care of our youth’s health. I’ve made it explicity clear with my mother that she is not to smoke ANYWHERE near my daughter and to please wash her hands after smoking. I know for a fact she doesn’t follow all these rules. But what can I do? I’ve gone so far as to threaten not bringing my daughter around her anymore until she quits. But people around me make me feel bad for that. But I’m thinking about the health as safety of my daughter.

I don’t want to consume anyone’s smoke, nor do I want my daughter or wife who is carrying our second child, to be subject to that. If people want to smoke, then fine, they have that right... but that doesn’t mean I need to be affected by it. Not everyone wants to breathe in someone else’s smoke.

I feel all public smoking should be banned. It’s not fair to the nonsmokers who have made the choice to not smoke. Am I completely healthy with my choices? No. But my choices affect me.

I support a Beach Smoking Ban. If not for the health issues, for the environmental issues. I’m sick of finding cigarette butts EVERYWHERE! Especially on my beautiful Oregon Beaches.

Thank you.

_Matt Voisine_
I am 100% for the ban on smoking on Oregon beaches. My family has participated in beach clean-ups through SOLV many times and what we found most of was disgusting cigarette butts; they never decompose. Please establish the ban and ENFORCE it. Thank you, Ellen Steen of Cape Meares, Ore. Sent from my iPhone
I am all in favor of a prohibition of smoking on public beaches. Cigarette butts are a blight on the landscape, dangerous to children and dogs if accidentally consumed, I don't want second hand smoke around my family, the scent of cigarette smoke is very offensive to many, and spoils the ambiance of the beautiful experience. Thank you!

Monica Rendon
I just read an article about the proposal of banning cigarette smoking from all Oregon Beaches.

First of all, I am not a smoker...never have been. My husband doesn't smoke, nor does my daughter. Most of the people I work with and associate with do not smoke.

With all of the things that is wrong with this country right now...with this state...all of the other things that needs to be fixed, are you trying to put in to place a law that is simply silly and ridiculous? As someone said in the comment section..."What happened to America being the Home of the Free?". I also disagree (at this point in time) of the lawsuit rulings that are making the tobacco companies pay HUGE sums of money to "victims". This day and age, no one is a victim any longer. We have known for years and years and years that smoking is harmful. So those people do not deserve money for choices that they have made. But at the same time...I do not agree with the State of Oregon imposing a law that people are unable to smoke on the beaches. If so...then I guess we better be sure that there are no drinking, no sex (let's see you try to enforce that one :>...maybe people just need to stay off of the beach period.

Simply a very stupid idea...a waste of our tax paying money...and a complete waste of time. Better spend that money figuring out how the state is going to manage the marijuana law once it passes...because this year it will (I have no doubt). Although I'm ok with that law passing...I am very leary about how it will be run. I don't like the way that Washington is running their liquor sales, nor their marijuana...so let's work on that instead of banning smoking on the Oregon beaches.

Sharon Andrews
@----------------->->
Banning smoking on Oregon Beaches is a fantastic idea, long overdue.
Yes.. A ban is welcomed. As a volunteer for the parks, I am always advising guests of the new ban in the park

Richard Venneman
503-964-4788
Sent from my iPad Air

****************************************************************
Please note that as of August 1, 2014, my email address will be:

rvenneman@icloud.com

The gmail will be closed.

****************************************************************
I hope they do ban smoking on the beaches! I am really tired of all the garbage including butts people leave behind. You bring it in, take it out! Don't just throw it on the beach...rude behavior.
Sent from my iPad
Hello. I'm writing to comment on the proposal to ban smoking on Oregon's beaches.

I do not feel that smoking should be banned on Oregon beaches.

If the issue is the litter caused by cigarette butts, I suggest we start by perhaps posting signs (or adding to signs already in place) asking people to carry their cigarette butts out with them when they leave and not to throw them down. This might not eliminate the problem of cigarette butt litter, but it might greatly reduce it. People are more intelligent and considerate than we often give them credit for.

I like to smoke a tobacco pipe. The simple ashes from a pipe discarded on the beach sand should not be considered litter.

Thank you for your consideration.

James A. Estes
8916 SW Terwilliger Blvd
Portland, OR 97219
jae1@comcast.net
Protect our children and ban smoking on public beaches. It would also be a way to deter pot smoking if that also becomes legal.
Stop trying to control people. How is smoking outside harmful to anyone? Most all cigarettes filters are made out of cotton, which is biodegradable so the environment card is not valid. This is just more controlling regulations being implemented by the government. People will not stand for this any longer!

Sent from my iPhone
The best course of action is to increase fines for littering on the beach. I’ve found about as many beer and soda cans, and plastic bags, and food containers on the beach as I have cigarette butts. It’s all rude and should be fined if caught. Heavily.

This sounds mostly like a PR move. It’s en vogue to be anti-smoking. Which I am all-for with regards to the workplace, restaurants, and other INDOOR places people go. I am for smoking bans in enclosed places because smoking is a personal legal choice, not one that should be forced on others.

But there is nothing more free than standing outside. Standing outside in a park like a forest, beach, mountain or desert is the epitome of freedom. Our beaches are large and open and very windy. There is very little, if no, physical manifestations of second-hand smoking-related maladies due to the outdoor nature of this activity.

Focus on the problem, not the popularity. The problem is the butts. If someone smokes in their car on the way to the beach and then carries their butt onto the beach and drops it, is that really better than someone who smokes while standing on the beach, and then tossing the butt into a trash receptacle that line the boardwalks?

Please don't be trendy. Argue the core issue. Do not ban smoking on beaches because it is not the problem, the problem is the litter.

Sincerely,
William
I would like to add my wholehearted support for new smoking restrictions on Oregon beaches. My wife and I own a house in Manzanita and walk on many of the beautiful local beaches. Smoking has no place on the beaches, detracts from enjoying the pristine environment, and adds unneeded trash. Thank you for the opportunity to add our comments.

Craig Soper
Carolyn Ableman
I am writing in support of the proposed ban of smoking on Oregon beaches. I regularly volunteer to clean Oregon beaches, and cigarette butts are a common item found littering our beautiful beaches and ocean waters. They do not seem to decompose readily (if at all) and are a component that fish and wildlife consume erroneously thinking it is a food item.

Thank you considering this important legislation.

Laurie Sheriff
2615 NW Elmwood Drive
Corvallis OR 97330

News Release
Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2014

Media Contacts:
Richard Walkoski, Director’s Office, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Desk: 503-986-0748, Cell: 503-510-9956
Chris Havel, Director’s Office, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Desk: 503-986-0722, Cell: 503-931-2590

Public comments period opens on rule to restrict smoking on Oregon beaches
Salem OR – Proposed rules that would restrict smoking of tobacco products on the ocean shore recreation area will be open for public comment through August 29, 2014. Comments will be taken by email, and through a series of four public hearings in August.

Rules that restrict smoking on Oregon state park properties were approved in February by the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission. Education about the new rule is taking place through 2014, and enforcement will begin in 2015. Previous public comments related to the state park rule asked the department to undertake a similar effort on the ocean shore, which is adjacent to many state parks. Citing environmental issues as a primary concern—plastic cigarette butts can persist for years, even in the harsh beach environment—the commission approved a staff request to consider a smoking rule for the ocean shore.

After listening to public comment between now and August 29, the department plans
to present information to the Commission on September 17 at its meeting near Silverton, and return November 19 with a final recommendation at the Astoria meeting.

Public comment will play a key role in the decision to create a rule. Comments can be sent to the department through regular mail (OPRD Beach Smoking, 725 Summer St NE, Suite C, Salem OR 97301), by e-mail (oprdf.publiccomment@oregon.gov), or in person at one of four public hearings scheduled in August. All hearings begin at 7 p.m. at the locations listed below.

- 8/20/2014 - Seaside Public Library, 1131 Broadway, Seaside OR
- 8/21/2014 - Central Lincoln PUD, 2129 N Coast Highway, Newport OR
- 8/26/2014 - Coos Bay Public Library, 525 Anderson Ave, Coos Bay OR
- 8/28/2014 - North Mall Office Building, 725 Summer Street NE, Salem OR

# # #
I heartily approve of this proposed rule. Not only will it greatly help to clean up our beautiful beaches, but whenever & wherever we can stop people from doing this terribly dangerous & expensive habit it should be done! I am a former smoker for 40 years & one suffering the bad & expensive results of this stupidity. Even though I quit this disgusting & smelly habit over 16 years ago, I will pay the price for the rest of my life! I am particularly saddened when I see so many young people smoking & hope measures like this and continuing to raise the prices/taxes on all tobacco products will help make them think twice before taking that first puff. I will pray for the success of this ruling.
Yvonne Elkins, North Plains, Oregon

Sent from Yvonne's iPad
I vote YES! Ban all smoking (including marijuana because that is coming soon), in ALL Oregon beaches AND state parks. Every time my husband and I have tried to enjoy a day at the park or beach, we have had to breath in the carcinogenic cigarette smoke from those smoking around us. It ruins our outings and makes us physically sick. Where can we go for fresh air outside these days? Secondhand smoke is dangerous to everyone and the filthy cigarette butts are everywhere. We tried fishing on Oregon's free fishing day this year and were surrounded by smokers. Secondhand smoke gives me migraines to the extent of pain so severe that I vomit. That day, both my husband and I went home with headaches. Needless to say, there are now renters next door smoking, and there is NO PLACE for us to breath any fresh air. These people that smoke have diminished our enjoyment of our home, our parks & beaches. Smokers claim that it is their right to smoke. What about our right to breath FRESH air. Where do we go?? Our State Representatives need to stand up for us. Please do so. Sincerely, Susan Tharp
Thank you for considering the smoking ban on Oregon beaches. I support this item in regards to public safety & wellness, as well as the consequence in reduced debris.

Tabitha Henricksen
Marketing Coordinator & Contract Admin

503-749-4949 • 503-749-4950 fax • ModernBuildingSystems.com
LEAVE THE SMOKERS ALONE ALREADY!! They have been taxed to death, banished, and persecuted so much!! You are making the responsible smokers (who pick up their butts) responsible for all the BAD smoker’s behavior!! There are also food wrappers, cans, and bottles all over our beaches!!.......Are you going to ban eating and drinking on the beach too?? This is something that WE should be able to vote on!! Oregonions are SO TIRED of a handful of people controlling our lives, making stupid rules, and taxing us beyond belief!! There are just as many non-smokers (like me) as smokers who think this ban would be ridiculous!! You seriously need to re-think this one!!
I don't smoke, and I never have. Regarding the proposed beach smoking ban: NOT JUST NO, BUT HELL NO. The State has no business being involved in such things.

Sent from my iPhone
Hello,

I am a native Oregonian, registered voter and in SUPPORT of the Proposed rules that would restrict smoking of tobacco products on the ocean shore recreation areas in Oregon.

I support this ruling for environmental issues as a primary concern--plastic cigarette butts can persist for years, even in the harsh beach environment, and for clean air in public spaces.

Suellen Rinker
Don't you people have anything better to do with your time and our money?

This is a asinine idea perpetuated by phobic non smokers looking for more attention.  
A little smoke is not a big deal on our miles and miles of beaches.  
Certainly not worth any new regulations.  
Try enforcing the litter laws first and stay the heck out of peoples lives.  
I am not a smoker but I am sick of this 'control' kind of thing in Oregon.  
We need no further regulation.

Pam
I read about a proposal to ban smoking in public beaches. And I believe such a ban is ridiculous.

I am not a regular smoker. But it's absurd to suggest restricting smoking in a wide open outdoor area where there is usually wind.

Please, take action on the thousands if more important issues for beaches and drop this frivolous idea.

Regards,

Doug Garnett

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Doug Garnett  
Atomic Direct - Portland, Oregon - 503-296-6131  
doug@atomicdirect.com  
www.atomicdirect.com  
Twitter: @drtvguru

Sent from my iPad
I sent an email and forgot to put my phone number on it. Judy Snyder
503-756-4956. Ps
If there is no ban then soon there will be people stoned on the beach
from pot also.
Sent from my iPhone
I sent an email and forgot to put my phone number on it Judy Snyder 503-756-4956

Sent from my iPhone
I fully support a ban on ALL smoking on Oregon's beaches.

Thank you!

Michelle Sheldon
Beaverton, OR
I am so sick of breathing secondhand smoke. I live in a smoke-free building but neighbor smoke comes directly into my apartment this is happened in every complex I live in that tells you smoke-free. Rules are not strict enough they let them get away smoking in them buildings. One will do anything about it I have moved about eight times trying to get away from it. I have asthma. Most likely got it from secondhand smoke. Then I go into the forest and on the beaches and get the same thing. It's horrible!!! I feel deathly sick from breathing that smoke. Please pass this ban and any others that you can do. If it passes please and force the rule. Judy Snyder

Sent from my iPhone
I am definitely for this restriction, both on the beaches and in the parks. However, unless park rangers enforce these rules, they are just another rule that goes on the books with no consequences. We have been to several parks where dogs run off leash, kids ride their bikes without helmets, and dogs bark constantly while rangers drive their trucks right by them. Don't create rules unless both park management and park rangers are in agreement and are willing to enforce them. Otherwise you are just wasting everyone's time.
Will do; I’m forwarding your email to oprd.publiccomment@oregon.gov. We’ll collect all public feedback there so the staff working on the proposal all get to see the same stuff.

Thanks.

Dear Chris,

Can you communicate to the powers that be, that the idea of banning smoking on our beaches is ....... well, absurd. How can you possibly enforce this? Why can't plastics be banned? What about alcohol? Regardless of the legal challenge to follow such absurd thinking, the State (Us) will have to foot the bill for lawyers,

We have serious and profound environmental issues in Oregon, this "anti beach smoking plan" clearly shows that your office is misdirected.

Thanks for your attention.

Tim
As an Oregonian and a fervent Oregon beach hiker, I’d love to see NO cigarette butts on Oregon beaches. We here in Colorado are so proud of our trails and the lack of trash, especially cigarette butts, on them.

Thanks for your work on protecting those incredible beaches!!

Mary Margaret Golten
I would love it if there were no cigarette smokers and their litter on the beaches. But how are you going to enforce it? There are already anti-littering laws but they are not enforced.

Pam Gurnari
2615 SE Salmon St.
Portland 97214
I am not a smoker and have never been a smoker but your idea of banning smoking on the beaches is just stupid. There will be nobody to enforce it and I can say that all the time I have been on the beach I have never been close enough to anybody smoking to the point that it would bother me. Your Liberal view of passing a law for everything is moronic. Eric Brown
I am writing you in regard to the proposed ban of smoking on Oregon beaches, OAR 736-021-0100. How dare you consider a proposal such as this. The parks department already insults the taxpayers of this state by charging fees for use. The taxes I pay already are supposedly being used in part for parks & I see it as a double taxation arrangement but pay any way because I realize the cost of everything goes up & felt the trade off was worth a few extra dollars. Then smoking bans started going into place & I quit using the parks so much & got selective about where I went. Now you want to do away with smoking on public beaches too. I am outraged that this is under discussion & I will not support any further development of parks. So far as I am concerned you may as well privatize all state parks & land should this OAR be enacted. At least then those of us who smoke can buy a "membership" to be able to openly smoke with whatever private entity purchases it. By the way I will fully support any bill that will involve selling off parks of any state county or city municipality. -Loy Beachy
There is no constitutional, statutory, or natural right in Oregon or in any other state to inhale poisons! Nicotine addicts need to realize that the rest of us are no longer willing to tolerate their psychotic desire to slowly but surely kill themselves--while also polluting our air.

Consistent with the mental defect of people who willingly inhale poison, they also seem to have no aversion whatsoever to polluting public places with the remnants of their death delivery devices. Thus, it is not just prudent, but in the public interest to ban smoking on public beaches.

Dave Picray
236 NE Azalea Drive
Corvallis, OR 97330
My husband and I would like to see a smoking ban on the beaches. We were just at Canon Beach the weekend of July 13. The weather was beautiful, but parts of our walk on the beach was ruined when we came near people who were smoking. All that sea air was not enough to disperse the smoke when walking past it. Then, of course, we have the problem of the butts thrown on the ground when they're done.

Sincerely,
Frank and
Pam Rosales
When will Oregon stop trying to control the freedom of its residents? I am a smoker and admit it is a filthy habit. That being said, it is my right. I do not smoke indoors, or inside my car, or in close proximity to non-smokers. I NEVER leave my cigarette butts on the ground and make sure every cigarette is extinguished and the butt is thrown in the garbage or put in my pocket.

My family members are avid hunters and fishermen and frequent the outdoors. I pay my share of fees and taxes to use these parks just like everyone else. In fact, I am paying a lot of extra taxes to subsidize this state by purchasing cigarettes. It is time for Oregon to take a stand and stop allowing special interest groups to dictate how the rest of us live our lives. I respect a person's right to breathe clean air and their choice not to smoke. Where is their respect of my choice to smoke? Apparently, they don't have any.

If air quality is the concern, are you also banning all campfires? If it is littering, issue tickets to the people throwing their cigarette butts on the ground. This law is another step in the wrong direction by forcing an individual to conform to someone else's opinion of how they feel we should be living our lives.

Sincerely,

Disheartened in Oregon
Hello,

I want to strongly oppose the no smoking rule on *our* beaches.

I do not smoke, but me or friends do enjoy the occasional fine cigar, etc. ( few times a year ).

Simply stated : The coast is our public land with access to all. People should be free to enjoy themselves as they please. I spend *a lot* of time on the beach. ( do you? or they? ). Smoking has never been a problem on the coast. To see more unnecessary rules, signs, and enforcement would be a vandalism and disruption of our freedom to enjoy our coastline.

It makes me angry more than ten minutes is spent on this issue. We have more important work to do. Better ways to spend resources.

A better use of resources would be to encourage everyone to not litter and not use the beach as an ashtray!

Teach children the way and we can live in a world free of over regulation.

Thank you,

*Peter Nelson*
*Photographer / Artist*
*peter@pnphotoart.com*

*pnphotoart.com*

p.s. I think your state parks rule is ok. But those are more developed, enclosed areas. The beach is *by law* undeveloped, wide open, and free to all. Not a place to make a smoking rule.
I read today online from Statesman Journal about the smoking ban for Oregon parks. I fully support this ban and am relieved. This past summer walking/hiking various parks I witnessed littering and litter all from smokers and their cigarette butts. As I’ve gotten older (41 ½ years old) my sensitivity to secondhand smoke increases. It is annoying, irritating, and offensive while enjoying Oregon parks to smell cigarette smoking while trying to enjoy our state.

I’m glad in 2014 our state finally made illegal for smoking in a car with a minor. I’ve long held this should have been made illegal before, but glad it is now.

I do hope in the very near future the smoking ban on beaches be included. The commercial showing how cigarette butts wind up on our beaches found by a dog is very real. I enjoyed two days on the coast this summer and saw cigarette butts on the beach and people smoking while I’m trying to enjoy the beach and fresh air.

Thank you.

Sophea Uk
Salem, OR