



September 21st 2015

FR: Wild Rivers, Wild Brews Coalition
 TO: Senators Wyden and Merkley & Congressman DeFazio
 RE: Thank You For Working to Protect SW Oregon Rivers from Strip Mining

Dear Senators Wyden and Merkley & Congressman DeFazio,

We the undersigned breweries of southwest Oregon applaud your efforts to protect the headwaters of the Wild and Scenic Illinois and Smith Rivers, as well as Hunter Creek and Pistol River from proposed nickel strip mines. We thank you for introducing the Southwestern Oregon Watershed and Salmon Protection Act of 2015 and offer our support as you work to pass this important piece of legislation in the coming months, including beers on us if you pass through southern Oregon!

Clean water is essential for great tasting beer. Clean water also plays a critical role in providing drinking water for local communities, creating habitat for fish and wildlife and supplying irrigation for agriculture. Our coalition of breweries stands together in support of protections that would keep the crystal clear, salmon-studded waters of the Kalmiopsis clean for our communities, fish and wildlife and local businesses that depend upon clean water.

The communities that surround Hunter Creek and the Smith, Illinois, Chetco and Pistol rivers have so much to gain from healthy, protected watersheds. Investment in sustainable industries and community infrastructure will add to the attractiveness of the region, bringing new businesses and residents alike. Craft brewing, tourism, and recreation based business ventures are growing industries and assets to Curry and Josephine counties and the surrounding areas of southwest Oregon. With the threat of destructive nickel strip mining, these natural treasures and related local industries of southwest Oregon are endangered.

We believe that clean water, fish and wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, must be protected now, and preserved for future generations. Please continue to work hard to pass legislation that would permanently protect the headwaters of Hunter Creek and the Smith, Illinois, Chetco and Pistol rivers to support the community's efforts in promoting sustainable economic development in southwest Oregon's Wild Rivers Country.

Sincerely,

James & Kristen Smith
 Head Brewer &
 Chief Operating Officer
 Arch Rock Brewing Co.
 Gold Beach, OR

Mark, Hanna and Matt Camarillo
 Owners & Brewers
 Misty Mountain Brewing Co.
 Brookings, OR

Mike Frederick & Alex Carr-Frederick
 Owners & Brewers
 Chetco Brewing Co.
 Brookings, OR

Carmen Matthews & Annie Pollard
 Co-owners & Brewers
 7 Devils Brewing Co.
 Coos Bay, OR



Gold Beach, OR



Brookings, OR



Brookings, OR



Coos Bay, OR



Grants Pass, OR



Grants Pass, OR



Medford, OR



Medford, OR



Medford, OR



Medford, OR



Medford, OR



Ashland, OR



Ashland, OR



Ashland, OR



Brandon Crews
Head Brewer
Climate City Brewing Co.
Grants Pass, OR

Jon Conner
Owner & Brewer
Conner Fields Brewing Co.
Grants Pass, OR

Scott Saulbury
Head Brewer
Southern Oregon Brewing Co.
Medford, OR

Nick Ellis
Owner & Brewer
Opposition Brewing Co.
Medford, OR

Neil Smith
Head Brewer
Bricktowne Brewing Co.
Medford, OR

Cameron Litton
Head Brewer
Walkabout Brewpub
Medford, OR

Alex & Danielle Amarotico
Co-owners
Common Block Brewing Co.
Medford, OR

Brandon Overstreet
Owner & Brewer
Swingtree Brewing Co.
Ashland, OR

Larry Chase
Head Brewer
Standing Stone Brewing Co.
Ashland, OR

Jim Mills
Owner
Caldera Brewing Co.
Ashland, OR