

From: [Tom Hoyt](#)
To: [JWMCC Exhibits](#)
Cc: [Tom Hoyt](#)
Subject: HB5202
Date: Thursday, February 13, 2020 1:45:21 PM

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Girod and Representative Holvey and Committee Members,

I understand there is a public hearing tomorrow regarding HB5202 and the McKenzie River Discovery Center. Many thanks to Senator Floyd Prozanski for putting forward this ask.

I fell in love with the McKenzie River valley when I went to work for the McKenzie Bridge Ranger District in 1958. Since that time I have become very familiar with the McKenzie River valley through fishing, hiking, property ownership and friendships.

I fully appreciate the value of the river's origins, its culture, boats, native fish and flora. For years, I have been working with other river advocates to make the McKenzie River Discovery Center a reality. The uniqueness and purity of the water, the boats, the fish and the total ecosystem mandate the dynamic education center we are proposing. Our goal is to teach children and their families how to protect, preserve, enjoy and nurture the McKenzie River and all of its surroundings.

We are developing outstanding fundraising, education and construction management support teams. We have no debt and a 99 year lease at \$1 per year that gives us exclusive possession of 46 acres and six historical buildings. Our Board of Directors is dedicated to making the McKenzie River Discover Center an educational and tourism success.

Thank you for considering our request for your support.

Sincerely,

Tom Hoyt, President
McKenzie River Discovery Center