

February 21, 2025

Chairman Jeff Golden
Members of the Oregon Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire
Oregon State Senate

Dear Chairman Golden and Committee Members:

My name is Kim McDonald and I live in Bend, Oregon. Other than being a passionate fly angler, I am also a forester with a PhD in natural resource management. I work as a private consultant for a variety of tribes, non-profits, and other landowners.

As an avid fly angler I care deeply about water quality and in-stream flows which can affect fish populations. Oregon is not only a destination “bucket list” spot for fly anglers from all over the world, but our state also champions our respect for wildlife habitat.

From here in Bend, I frequently fish a number of amazing rivers, including the Crooked. Its mysterious canyons and quality fishery are an anglers dream. But like most rivers in Oregon, we expect a lot from our water: ranchers, farmers, wildlife, residential uses. Ensuring we are able to track and understand where water is being withdrawn by water right holders is essential in providing the clean, clear, cold water vital to our fisheries. Points of withdrawal or diversion can make it or break it for water quality and in-stream flows.

I strongly support SB 427 which will allow us to better monitor and control when a water right holder seeks to change the point of diversion and the impacts to vital aquatic wildlife. Oregon relies on our epic rivers for so many stakeholders, this bill will help ensuring those rivers continue to provide for all Oregonians.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kim McDonald
Bend, Oregon