

## Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 15, 2015

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Agenda Item: 11b

Action

Topic: Scenic Waterways amended designation recommendation

Presented by: Chris Havel

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WHEREAS the only criteria considered by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for evaluating potential additions to the state scenic waterway are defined in ORS 390.855 and are summarized as (1) the river segment is relatively free-flowing and the scene from the river and adjacent land is pleasing, and (2) the river segment and its setting possess natural and recreation values of outstanding quality, and (3) the river segment and its setting are large enough to sustain substantial recreation use and to accommodate existing uses without undue impairment of the natural values of the resource or quality of the recreation experience, and

WHEREAS Oregon Parks and Recreation Department staff has consulted with other state agencies during its evaluation, and conducted public hearings in counties containing the proposed segments of the Chetco and Molalla, as required by Oregon statute, and

WHEREAS Department staff recommend exploring the option to include proponent groups, management plans, and county government support at some as-yet undefined point in the designation process in order to ensure future waterway designations are effective and sustainable, but that these ideas are not currently criteria by which designation recommendations are made,

NOW THEREFORE The Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission:

1. Affirms its decision to recommend designation of those segments of the Chetco and Molalla Rivers described in staff scenic waterway qualification reports presented in November 2014 without further conditions.
2. Rescinds every portion of November 2014 action on agenda item 10.a. stating county government approval, the existence of organized proponent groups, and the existence of a draft management plan are conditions to receive a Commission recommendation regarding the designation of a state scenic waterway.
3. Directs Oregon Parks and Recreation Department staff cooperate with advisory groups to pilot test the development of draft management plans for the recommended scenic waterway segments on the Chetco and Molalla rivers, and append the draft management plan reports to the existing scenic waterway qualification reports for Commission review by November 18, 2015.
4. Directs Oregon Parks and Recreation staff to deliver the appended scenic waterway qualification reports and the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission state scenic waterway designation recommendations to the Water Resources Department on

November 19, 2015, requesting concurrence of the Water Resources Commission.

5. Directs Oregon Parks and Recreation staff to submit the scenic waterway candidate reports, recommendations of the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission, and concurrence, if any, of the Water Resources Commission to the Office of the Governor no later than December 31, 2015.
6. In concert with Water Resources Department, directs Oregon Parks and Recreation Department staff to return to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission no later than June 2016 with an evaluation of the scenic waterway study process, and an optional request to open rulemaking or pursue legislative concepts changing the scenic waterway designation process to make it more effective or sustainable.

**Action Requested:** Adoption of the current resolution, replacing approval of item 10.a in November 2014.

**Action taken:** Unanimous approval.