Resolution No. 946

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF OPEN ACCESS ON THE LOWER DESCHUTES RIVER

- Whereas: The City of Prineville, in cooperation with the Cities of Maupin, Madras and The Dalles and Jefferson, Wasco, Crook and Sherman Counties who comprise the local governments in the region near the Deschutes River; and
- Whereas: The City of Prineville recognizes the need to restore and protect the natural resources of the Lower Deschutes River including fish, wildlife and water quality in order to ensure environmental quality and regional economic vitality; and
- Whereas: Environmental and social conditions on the Lower Deschutes River have significantly improved since the implementation of the Lower Deschutes River Management Plan; and
- Whereas: Any limits of access by the public should be based on current environmental and social conditions; and
- Whereas: If any limits on access are implemented by the managing agencies, it shall be to solve a documented environmental or social conflict and only then as a last resort after all other efforts have failed; and
- Whereas: The quality of life of our communities is enhanced by the ability to access and share the Lower Deschutes River with family members, business associates or friends with little or no advance planning; and
- Whereas: Spontaneity and open access to the river is vital to the economic interests of the outfitters, destination resorts and local merchants that provide employment and commerce in our communities.
- Now Therefore: The City of Prineville hereby resolves that the Bureau of Land Management shall implement no system that will limit the publics right to access the Lower Deschutes River without a documented environmental or social conflict that doing so will solve and only then as a last resort. The publics right to enjoy open and spontaneous use of the public lands and waters of the Lower Deschutes River shall be a right enjoyed by all of Oregon's citizens.

Dated this 26th day of August, 2003.

City Manager/Recorder Henry Hartler,

Stephen P. Uffelman, Mayor By: