



# Lane County Board of Commissioners

# FILED

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DEC 16 1997

BOOK 159 PAGE 1965

COUNTY CLERK

BY *M. Bullock*

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION 97-12-10-11 ) IN THE MATTER OF A RESOLUTION REQUESTING  
) A STAY OF DESIGNATION FROM  
) AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of Commissioners believes strongly that healthy river systems are in the best interest of the citizens we represent, and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of Commissioners supports *in concept* a federal initiative to support communities in their efforts to restore and protect America's rivers, and

WHEREAS, we have already made great strides in developing partnerships among federal, state and local agencies and our citizens to restore and protect Oregon's river systems in comparison to other states, and

WHEREAS, there are many different perspectives on how to structure and administer governmental programs designed to restore and protect rivers while respecting the authority of local elected officials and the private property rights of citizens living along our rivers, and

WHEREAS, we, the elected representatives of our river communities, have determined that the terms and conditions presented by the American Heritage Rivers Initiative (AHRI) are vague and unclear, and

WHEREAS, we have further determined that specific financial benefits and potential consequences of the American Heritage Rivers Initiative cannot be ascertained without more detailed information, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of Lane County, Oregon, we do hereby request our county be excluded from the first round of designated rivers until such time that this body, or our successors, determines that designation is in the best interest of our residents, and

WHEREAS, we as duly elected officials and representatives of Lane County, Oregon, do declare that we will not submit nor support any petition for federal designation of a river, watershed or portion of a river within our county and within the boundaries of our jurisdiction under the AHRI, **until such time** as the proposed implementation of the program has been fully explained to the satisfaction of the elected officials of this county. Any person or persons submitting a petition to the federal, state or local government to designate a river, a portion of a river, or a watershed as an American Heritage River that falls within the lands under our jurisdiction does so without our approval or consent as the elected representatives of the river community.

NOW THEREFORE it is resolved on this 10th day of December, 1997, that this resolution shall be executed, made public and delivered to the White House Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, D.C.

*Cindy Weeldreyer*  
Cindy Weeldreyer, Chair