

A SHARED VISION FOR THE DESCHUTES

Working together so that families, farms, and fish can thrive



We the undersigned have a shared vision of:

- *A healthy, restored Deschutes River*
- *Thriving farms and sustainable agriculture*
- *Robust and vibrant communities*

We believe that the Deschutes River is integral to all Central Oregon communities, and it is critical to all facets of our culture and economy. Farmers, recreationists, hunters and anglers, businesses, fish and wildlife, and the Central Oregon community at large all benefit from a healthy river and sustainable agriculture. There is adequate water to meet the needs of fish, farms, and families if it is managed wisely and shared equitably.

We strive to return the Upper Deschutes River to a healthy ecological condition. The need for this has been widely recognized for decades, as evidenced by the 1996 Upper Deschutes Wild and Scenic River Comprehensive Management Plan. While the Management Plan has a variety of specific factors that are undergoing continual updating, we endorse the overarching principles of the Plan. We also seek to ensure healthy flows in the Middle Deschutes.

Modernizing irrigation district operations is key to freeing up water to restore stream-flows to the river. We fully support the work of irrigation districts in Central Oregon to modernize their infrastructure and implement water-conservation practices. These include piping, on-farm irrigation efficiencies, and market tools.

We endorse the attached resolution, approved by the Board of Directors of the Deschutes River Conservancy, that describes how Central Oregon Irrigation District (COID) and North Unit Irrigation District (NUID) will work together as partners for the benefit of irrigated agriculture and the Deschutes River. We endorse COID's goal to put 100% of conserved water from infrastructure projects instream, as described in the attached resolution.

We believe that we will be able to bring our shared vision to fruition in the shortest time practicable by working together as partners in a genuinely collaborative manner for the betterment of all.

