

March 2, 2005

Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, Oregon 97045

Commissioner Martha Schrader
Commissioner Bill Kennemer
Commissioner Larry Sowa

Subject: Madrone (Hardscrabble) Wall

Dear Board of Commissioners,

At the February 24th meeting of the South Clackamas CPO, we discussed at length the possible reopening of the Madrone Wall or "Hardscrabble" site for public access and permanent protective status. We decided to submit our support for re-opening access to this 44-acre site and for permanently protecting it as a park or open space for all Clackamas County citizens to enjoy for this and future generations.

We feel that a natural park would be of great overall benefit to the people of Clackamas County. We would like to see this site reopened rather than closed off from the public or destroyed by rock mining or other development. We would further encourage the expanded vision of a large natural park along the National Wild and Scenic Clackamas River, modeled after Forest Park in Portland, which would include the Madrone Wall.

Many residents of our South Clackamas CPO have partnered with the BLM during the past decade to develop the Molalla River Corridor recreation area. Hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, kayak paddlers, campers, and photographers visit the corridor area, once closed to the public by private timber owners.

Additionally, Molalla River Watch has been working to provide educational opportunities for local school children at the Aquila Vista Center and these educational and recreational opportunities are also available at the public-owned Madrone Wall. If you have not visited this site, I would recommend the Board of County Commissioners set up a tour.

Sincerely,



Joan Zuber
Vice Chair, South Clackamas CPO