



Maxweld Boats, Inc.
Po Box 326
Hebo, OR 97122
Phone: (503) 392-3911, Fax: (503) 392-3969
www.maxweldboats.com

October 31, 2006

Navigability Study Request Group
Oregon Department of State Lands
775 Summer Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301-1279

Subject: Request for navigability study on Three Rivers

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to weigh in on the navigability study for Three Rivers.

We own a large stretch of riverfront property on Three Rivers. Shortly after purchasing our land, we did allow the public access to the river banks for fishing.

While we understand the desire for the public to have access to the privately owned riverbanks of Three Rivers, we do not support it for the following reasons:

1. We own and operate an aluminum catamaran manufacturing facility on our riverfront property. Allowing the public access would jeopardize the overall security to our facility, our products, and our vehicles.
2. During the short period of time that we allowed public access to our property, there were numerous instances of vandalism and theft. We provided a port-a-potty, which was damaged due to vandalism, not to mention, the trash that was discarded in the port-a-potty even though there were clear guidelines posted describing the terms of use.
In spite of the fact that we provided a port-a-potty, people still chose to defecate on the ground, making no attempt to cover it up or dispose of it properly. This in turn prevented us from bringing our toddler children to our own property, because we spent all of our time designated to enjoying our property, cleaning up the mess left by others.

Our picnic table that we provided was thrown into the river and destroyed.

Beer cans, pop bottles, fishing tackle, food wrappers, and other miscellaneous trash was left along the river banks, even though we placed a 55 gallon trash can next to the port-a-potty.

3. If the public is indeed allowed access to the privately owned riverbanks, who will be responsible for the huge mess that will ultimately result from this? Who is going to make sure that our personal property is safe from vandalism and theft? Who is going to be responsible for cleaning up the feces and other human waste?

4. These are different times now. The level of respect shown towards property owners by fisherman is insulting! As children, we literally grew up using Mount Hebo and Three Rivers as our playground. We were allowed access to any and all of the river banks from the fish hatchery to well past the bridge in Cloverdale, as long as we did not make a mess or destroy anyone's property. We were never kicked off of a property, simply because we followed the rules.

Unfortunately, it seems as though the majority of the fishermen that use our rivers today feel they are entitled to have access via our properties and bear no responsibility for the damage that they cause.

In conclusion, we do not support the request to allow the public access to the privately owned riverbanks for all of the reasons listed above.

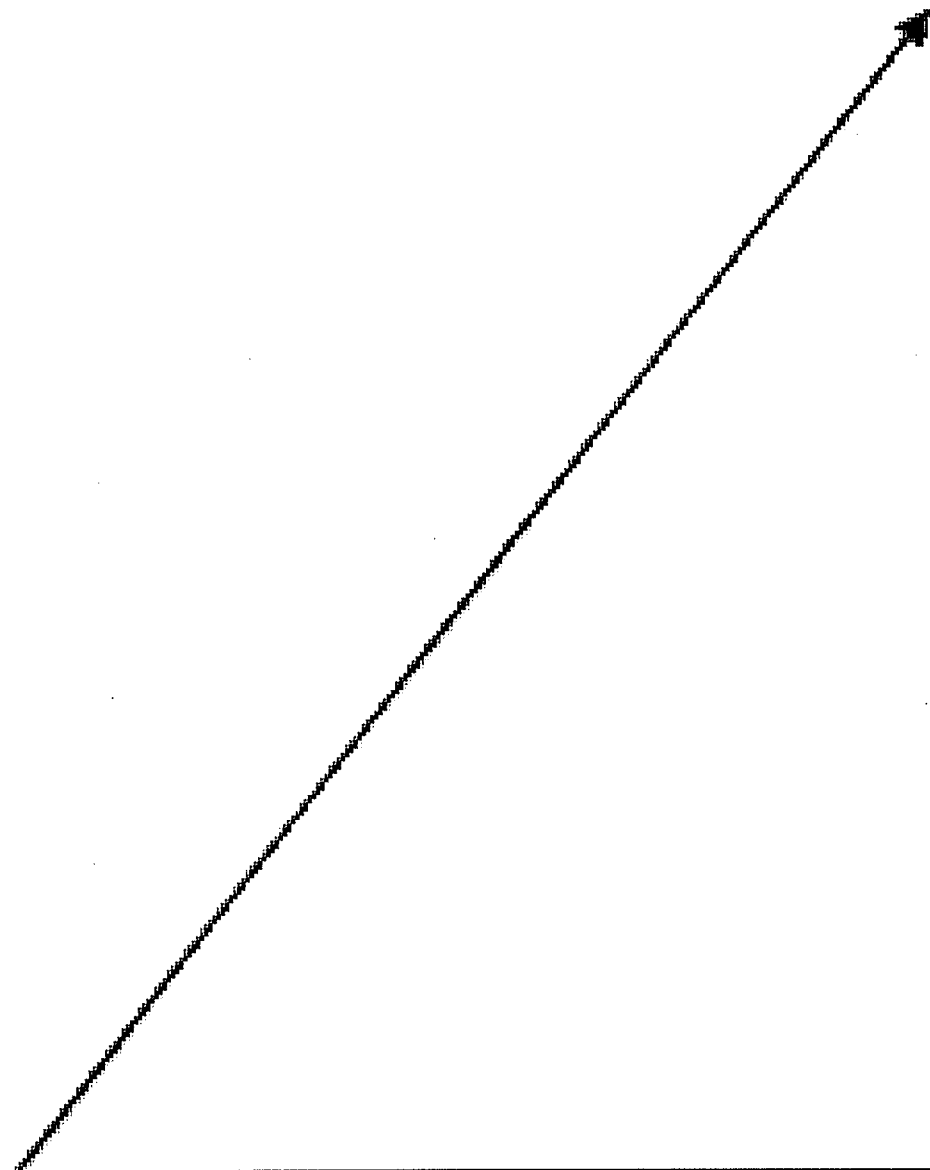
We are not experts on the viability of our fragile salmon ecosystem, but we cannot imagine how opening up more of the river banks to more fishermen would be beneficial.

Thank you again, for the opportunity to offer input in this matter.

Sincerely,

Andy H^eathershaw
President

Debbie Heathershaw
Vice President



Here is land in question.

Twp 16S, Rge 04West Section 23 Tax Lot 1700

71 acres, portions of which are across the river.

My info show State of Oregon is owner.

Could that be so?

