Resolution Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

SUPPORT OREGON CAVES NATIONAL MONUMENT BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2009

Submitted by: Indian Creek Botanical Mission

Background: The 480-acre Oregon Caves National Monument located in the botanically rich Siskiyou Mountains is under consideration for boundary adjustment in S. 1270, the Oregon Caves National Monument Boundary Adjustment Act of 2009.

This Act would expand the size of the monument from 480 acres to over 4,000 acres. It would grant wild and scenic river status to Cave Creek, its sources and tributaries, a total of 7.6 miles. It would also allow for the retirement of grazing allotments in the forests surrounding the monument. Also, there would be a significant increase in recreational opportunities.

Livestock grazing on national forest lands surrounding the monument threatens water quality for the monument and at the Oregon Caves Chateau. Changes in the availability and the quality of surface and ground water around the monument directly affect the health of the Oregon Caves ecosystem.

Increased recreational opportunities provided by the expansion of the national monument will provide a much needed boost to the struggling local economy. Nature tourism will provide a long term sustainable source of income for the region.

Resolution: The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs supports the passage of S. 1270, the expansion of the Oregon Caves National Monument.

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