



**FRIENDS OF  
MALHEUR**  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The Office of Senator Wyden  
The Jamison Building  
131 NW Hawthorne Ave., Suite 107  
Bend, OR, 97701

2 December, 2022

Dear Senator Wyden,

Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge is a regional non-profit group, focusing on support of this important Refuge. We are committed to conserving, enhancing, and restoring fish and wildlife habitat and cultural history in the Harney Basin of southeast Oregon through the support of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge staff and programs.

We are writing to request that you modify your proposed Wild and Scenic River bill regarding Bridge Creek in Harney County to include the entire creek from its headwaters to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) boundary. This lower reach which was somehow left out of the draft bill is important to maintaining water quality entering Malheur NWR. This lower reach of Bridge Creek also supports trophy fishing for native redband trout and nesting golden eagles as well as providing habitat for other native fishes and terrestrial wildlife. Although the NWR portion of the creek is well protected, the entire creek upstream from the NWR should be included to safeguard its recreational and fish and wildlife values.

Thanks for considering our request.

Sincerely,

*William Tweed*

William Tweed, President  
Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge