

## Becky Crockett

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**From:** Steve Mazur <Steve.J.Mazur@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 20, 2020 9:26 AM  
**To:** Becky Crockett  
**Cc:** TAYLOR Jacob; Josh Hopkins  
**Subject:** AD-1925 Curry County Parks

Becky,

RE: AD-1925 Curry County Parks

I wanted to provide some comments from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) concerning Curry County Park's proposal to develop dry camping on Social Security Bar. Social Security Bar is very popular with all types of users. It may be one of the most heavily utilized gravel bars on the south coast. ODFW spends quite a bit of time on the bar collecting fall chinook and winter steelhead broodstock, surveying anglers, conducting angling pressure counts, and releasing juvenile hatchery steelhead and fall chinook. ODFW understands all the issues associated with this gravel bar and supports the County's position of trying to develop a campground and host facility to help reduce the misuse of the gravel bar and provide a needed resource for the community.

If this proposal moves forward, ODFW would ask that the following conditions be added to any dry camping allowed on the gravel bar.

1. All camping should be limited to the willow edges of the gravel bar. This would allow for maximum set back from the river bank.
2. Seasonal dry camping should be limited to the summer months as to reduce impacts to angler using the bar in the fall and winter. ODFW is also concerned by increased use during the time period (Oct/Nov) when fall chinook are holding in the Social Security area during low flow periods.
3. The application asks for up to 50 RVs/camping spots. ODFW would ask that the number of RVs/camping spots allowed be reduced in the first few years to see what the impacts are to the gravel bar and users.
4. Area 2 is designated as dry camping. ODFW would ask the county to create a buffer on the upstream end of the gravel bar. The upstream end of the gravel bar is an area of increased habitat complexity.

Although this application is for a single dry gravel bar campground, the county should understand that there are cumulative impacts to the natural resources of the Chetco River from dry camping allowed by this application, but also by the US Forest Service, and other landowners along the Chetco River. ODFW would be in full support of the county in development of the Social Security campground and slowly moving camping from the gravel bar to a campground outside of the river corridor.

If you have any question feel free to contact me. Steve

**Steven Mazur**

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