

RESOLUTION R1516-16

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE SOUTHWESTERN OREGON WATERSHED AND SALMON PROTECTION ACT OF 2015—MINERAL MINING WITHDRAWAL FROM CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS IN CURRY & JOSEPHINE COUNTY

WHEREAS, Federal Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley introduced Senate Bill 346, and Federal Representative Peter DeFazio introduced House Bill 682, both known as the Southwestern Oregon Watershed and Salmon Protection Act of 2015; and

WHEREAS, those federal bills were introduced to protect the Hunter Creek and Pistol River watersheds from the catastrophic effects of nickel mining at Red Flats; and

WHEREAS, the proposed nickel mining at Red Flats is by a foreign owned company and their venture will bring no economic benefit to Curry County; and

WHEREAS, it appears that special interest lobbyists are attempting to persuade federal senate and house members from other regions and states that the mining proposal is an economic benefit to our region and our region supports the mining; and

WHEREAS, the Wild Rivers Coast which starts at Klamath, California and extends north to Bandon, Oregon has the highest concentration of federally designated Wild & Scenic Rivers in the United States: the Klamath, the Smith, the Chetco, the Rogue, the Illinois, and the Elk—the area encompassed by the act as introduced in the S346 & HR682 federal bills; and

WHEREAS, in the past 4 years, Travel Oregon and the Wild Rivers Coast Regional Tourism Collaborative (comprised of city, county, state, and local tourism and economic development professionals) have invested a significant amount of time and resources in developing an experiential outdoor recreation economy on the southcoast because of the region's superlative natural resources and scenic wonders; and

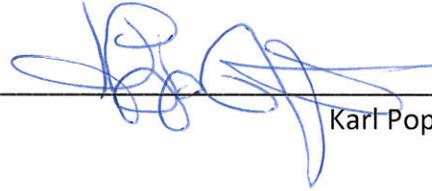
WHEREAS, any large scale mining, but specifically nickel mining at Red Flats, will have a detrimental and devastating impact on habitat, fish and wildlife, the environment, and our fragile tourism economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT resolved the City Council of the City of Gold Beach formally opposes any mining in the national forest surrounding our community, but specifically the Red Flats nickel mining proposal, and **fervently supports** the efforts of Senators Wyden & Merkley, and Representative DeFazio to have the areas designated in S346 and HR682 *PERMANENTLY WITHDRAWN* from any possible or future mining.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLD BEACH, COUNTY OF CURRY, STATE OF OREGON, and EFFECTIVE THIS 13th DAY OF JUNE, 2016.



Jodi Fritts, City Administrator/City Recorder



Karl Popoff, Mayor