

Statement for the Record
U.S. Department of the Interior
Before the
United States Senate
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on
S.2020, the Deschutes River Conservancy Reauthorization Act

July 12, 2023

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this statement for the record on S. 2020, the Deschutes River Conservancy Reauthorization Act of 2023.

S. 2020 would reauthorize the Deschutes River Conservancy Working Group through 2032, allowing the Department of the Interior, through the United States Bureau of Reclamation, to again provide funding to the Deschutes River Conservancy. This includes funding for up to 50 percent of the cost of performing any project proposed by the Working Group and approved by the Secretary of the Interior up to \$1,000,000 per year.

The Deschutes River Conservancy is dedicated to restoring streamflow and improving water quality in the Deschutes River Basin. Founded in 1996 as a collaborative, multi-stakeholder organization, the Conservancy's Board of Directors makes decisions by consensus and comprises key public and private interests including farming, ranching, timber, development, hydropower, recreation, tribes, and the environment. Reclamation is currently a non-voting member of the board and fully supports the ongoing work of the Deschutes River Conservancy.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this statement for the record.