

1/7/11

DEAR GOV. ATIYEH,

ENJOYED OUR CHANCE MEETING  
CONVERSATION OUTSIDE MACY'S  
AT WASHINGTON SQUARE ON  
1/23. WE DISCUSSED THE  
WONDERFUL LEADERSHIP  
YOU GAVE IN KEEPING THE  
LOWER 15 MILES OF THE DESCHUTES  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - AFTER  
YOU HAD BEEN ALERTED TO  
THE PROBLEM BY FRANK AMATO,  
AND CHUCK VOSS, THE EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR OF THE NORTHWEST  
STEELHEADERS.

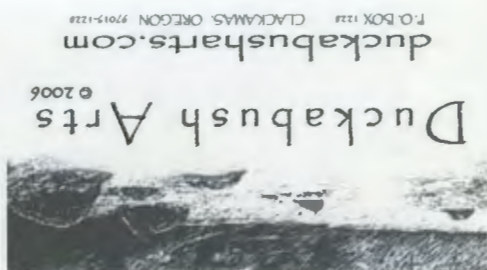
AS PART OF THE PRIVATE  
MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR  
CHUCK, I REFERRED TO  
THE ENCLOSED ARTICLE  
BY BILL MONROE,

2

FRANK AND I HAVE ARRANGED  
FOR A COMPLIMENTARY SUBSCRIPTION  
TO STS FOR YOU BEING  
SENT TO YOUR PARK OFFICE.

TIGHT LINES,  
SHARP HOOKS  
GOOD HEALTH IN 2011  
WALT MCGOVERN

~~WALTER T. MCGOVERN~~  
WALTER T. MCGOVERN  
HAVE ROD, WILL TRAVEL  
3340 S.W. VISTA DRIVE  
PORTLAND, OR 97225



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# Deschutes purchase role will bring honor to Atiyeh

6/22/88

**W**hen the summer wind whistles up the mouth of the Deschutes River Canyon this summer, it will whisper the name of Victor George Atiyeh.

The former governor will be on hand at Heritage Landing at the river's mouth at 4 p.m. Thursday for an appropriately unsung, albeit public, ceremony in which the lower 18 miles of Oregon's queen of waterways will be officially named the Victor G. Atiyeh Deschutes River Recreation Area.

It was during Atiyeh's term as governor that the riverbanks of the lower Deschutes were purchased from private landowners and turned over to the public for posterity.

And, at his own insistence, most people were unaware at the time of the vital role Atiyeh played in creating the reality of the purchase.

Never an environmental activist with the intensity of another of his angling predecessors, the late Gov. Tom McCall, Atiyeh nevertheless was quietly instrumental in twisting the arms of several of the big-ticket spenders who formed the financial base for the popular Deschutes purchase, which eventually totaled more than \$1.5 million and involved thousands of individuals.

Ask Allan Kelly, the busy director of the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, which established itself as a force for Oregon wildlife by tackling the heady and incredibly ambitious Deschutes drives in the mid-1980s.

"It wasn't so much how many calls the governor (Atiyeh) made for us but rather who he called," Kelly said. "He gave the whole thing a head of steam and some leadership when we needed it."

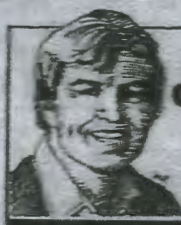
Atiyeh now serves on the foundation's board of directors.

Naming parks and state lands after governors is not a new concept. There is a Gov. Isaac Patterson State Park south of Waldport, the Bob Straub State Park at Pacific City (formerly Nestucca Spit) and the Oswald West State Park on the coast south of Cannon Beach, to name a few.

Gov. McCall's name is immortalized with the Tom McCall Waterfront Park in downtown Portland along the Willamette River, which McCall is generally credited with leading efforts to clean up.

A bittersweet memory never publicly told during the Deschutes purchase is McCall's plea with the Heritage Foundation to involve him, too, in that project.

Knowing that his death was



## OUTDOORS

Bill  
Monroe

imminent, a cancer-weakened McCall begged the foundation to take advantage of his popularity and the drama of his well-publicized illness. "My power will never be greater," he is reported to have said during the height of the Deschutes drive a short time before his death.

The foundation, however, briefly considered the offer and quietly, respectfully turned him down. None of the board members wanted to take advantage of McCall or further focus on his plight by drawing it into the Deschutes purchase.

And out of due (and heartfelt) respect for McCall, it is just as well.

The Deschutes has been Atiyeh's playground and favorite fishing hole for many years, and it is fitting that his name be associated with the purchase.

I have my own personal memory of a sunset spent sitting with the quiet, sincere governor of Oregon on the bank of the Deschutes after a day spent fishing fly rods to rising trout to the background serenade of tumbling rapids and gurgling eddies.

We talked about no heady affairs of state or quirky political decisions, but rather the peace of the river and whether his upright parachute Adams fly would out-coax my royal coachman bucktail as a trout-getter.

Losing himself in the insistent path of the current, he said, was his means of escape from the rigors of office.

The insistent path he spoke of at that very moment carried a steady stream of rafters and bathers on their way to evening camp. One who appeared to be very drunk stood up as his raft passed and flung an obscene gesture at Oregon's chief of state.

There was a long moment of silence before an unflustered Atiyeh spoke quietly.

"There sure are a lot people enjoying this river, aren't there?"

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07 JAN 2011 5M 4 L



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Thank you !!  
APR 19 2011  
Governor Atiyeh

97205+3203

