



PAUL R. HOLVEY
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 8
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 7, 2013

Chair Bailey and Members of the Energy and Environment Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of SB 602A. This bill would ban the use of all internal combustion motors on Waldo Lake including floatplanes, ending a long standing disagreement over their status on the lake.

Largely untouched until the 1970s, when maintained roads finally allowed easy access to vacationers and outdoor enthusiasts, Waldo Lake represents an unusually well preserved peace of natural history. It is an oligotrophic lake, meaning it has a low nutrient content, resulting in reduced algal activity and, as a result, extremely pure water. This fact, coupled with its largely untouched beauty, has been behind the push to see Waldo Lake protected to an even greater degree than other lakes and rivers in Oregon.

Waldo Lake has been singled out as one of the cleanest lakes in the world, and its serene beauty offers a perfect example of the value we Oregonians place on preserving the natural world. Every year, the lake attracts numerous visitors from all walks of life and they all come to enjoy this unique monument in its pristine state. Motorized boats and planes not only pose a real risk of pollution from fuels, but their growling engines also shatter the silence and peace that draw so many to its shores each year. Such an important part of Oregon's natural legacy deserves the greatest of protections, and SB 602A takes the precautionary steps to do just that.

With so few places on Earth untouched by the modern world, we must respect those few sacred spaces we have left. Motors have no place on Waldo Lake, and I encourage you to move SB 602A forward with a do-pass recommendation. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Paul Holvey
Oregon State Representative
District 8

