

March 13, 2013

Re: **S.B. 602 - Waldo Lake, Lane County, Oregon**

Greetings Committee Members and interested parties:

My name is Joni Mogstad and I live in Eugene, Oregon at 4797 Old Dillard Road, 97405.

I've been following Waldo Lake issues for many years and in fact served on a Forest Service constituted committee to study and make recommendations for the management of the Waldo Basin several years ago. The committee was never able to reach consensus because the Marine Board member on the committee and the Snowmobilers (me) would never capitulate to the desires of the environmental extremists who wanted a total ban of internal combustion motors on the lake. These groups have become expert at demonizing the internal combustion engine despite the dramatic improvements that have been made under EPA mandates over the recent years.

My family (3 children, 6 grandchildren and now great grandchildren) have been visiting Waldo Lake since the 1970s before the road was constructed in to the lake from highway 58. We most recently rode snowmobiles into the lake weekend before last. For two great granddaughters, this was their first Waldo Lake experience.

Two Oregon Snowmobile Clubs hosted rides to Waldo Lake last weekend.

I've watched the environmental extremists gradually close access to the lake over time and I have no doubt the ultimate goal is to eventually make the surface of the lake "Wilderness" with the big "W". Their next step will then be to go after the surrounding land area. It is through this incremental movement they are able to eventually create "new Wilderness" and I don't want more Wilderness in this area.

By the way, this really isn't potential Wilderness. There is an old dam built for generating electricity at the head of the lake and contrary to what you may hear, there is a fishery in the lake that results from the planting of fish for just that purpose years ago.

This effort to close the lake is not the result of "damage" from exhaust or spills as tests have proved the lake water more pure now, after years of motors on the lake, than ever before. When the "damage" claim didn't work, the closure advocates switched to "sound" as the demon. I was a proponent of 4-stroke engines several years ago and I still believe this is a realistic option if sound is really the concern.

There continues to be improvement in the efficiency of the internal combustion engine and who knows what might be on the horizon. Please leave room for the opportunity to take advantage of future advances.

There are currently many lakes inside Wilderness areas in the Cascade Range and if people want complete solitude, they should be directed to where the places are that will meet their needs. I'm urging you not to follow this path that will ultimately lead to the gradual closure of the Waldo Basin to all who use internal combustion as their means of transportation.

The Oregon State Snowmobile Association and I want to encourage you to consider options other than a total ban on motors on Waldo Lake.

Thank you for considering my comments,

Joni Mogstad

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