

## Maria Spiess

I am of German descent and really appreciate the unusual saline lakes on this planet. This lake has a very high concentration of minerals. It has a unique ecosystem with species found nowhere else on earth. I even heard that scientific discoveries have been made by the NSF Microbial Observatory. Altering the lake is like destroying a very unique gift that we have in the United States.

Please designate Soap Lake as an Outstanding Resource Water. The lake with its rare mineral water and ecosystem need to be preserved, not be damaged, degraded or mined for financial profit. I have heard of many soaking in the mineral water helped by alleviation of issues such as arthritis and even MRSA.