

Larry Van Dyk

I am 75 Years old and I retired to Soap Lake after I was advised to find a warmer, drier climate because of COPD. I use the healing water of Soap Lake many times a year. I am writing in support of Soap Lake's designation as an Outstanding Resource Water - Tier III(B)., Soap Lake has unique, mineral-rich water created by the geology of the region concentrating the minerals in the water and the mud. I would hope that no one doubts the historical significance of this Lake. It has proven over and over that it has a history of having healing properties. It needs every option for protecting it from uncaring opportunists and/or scientific advances to protect it from possible negative consequence from climate or other environmental changes. I understand the ORW designation does not guarantee regulation but the designation does put it in the public eye which does make it more visible to future research.