

Dori Langevin

Greetings,

I recently attended GU's Climate Change presentation on Rights of Nature, Indigenous and Advocacy Perspective with Amelia and Joaquin Marchand and was informed of the current efforts to designate outstanding resource waters and to update rule language in chapter 173-201A WAC, Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington.

I support Soap Lake's Tier III(B) Outstanding Resource Water designation.

Soap Lake, a highly mineralized lake formed following the Ice Age, is renowned for its exceptional healing properties. The lake has always been an essential destination for indigenous culture and gathering. Also attracting people from across the globe for the lake's unique mineral content, which has relieved various ailments.

The mineral content of Soap Lake is diminishing due to environmental challenges, including pollution, climate change, and loss of mineral content. Please help protect the remaining minerals and mud in the lake. I support the Soap Lake Conservancy and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation in taking decisive action to safeguard Soap Lake.

Soap Lake is exceptional because:

1. the unique habitat, which is regionally rare and an exceptional statewide ecological significance
2. value as a recreation destination
3. the distinct mineral content of Soap Lake. One of the highest concentrations of mineral water in the world.

Soap Lake is a remarkable natural treasure, and through collective action and public engagement, we can protect and preserve its unique mineral content and ecological value.

With appreciation for all that you do,
Dori Langevin