

Colleen Long

Thank you for providing the opportunity to give public comment. I am writing in support of Soap Lake as an Outstanding Resource Water.

One benefit is from the unique habitat in the lake that is rare and draws a variety of birds that are not seen at the nearby freshwater lakes. We've enjoyed seeing both Wilson and Red-necked Phalaropes, Stilts and Avocets. We've occasionally spotted American White Pelicans too. Besides those that aren't normally found at freshwater lakes, we see Canada Geese, Snow Geese and Tundra Swans, Herons, Common Goldeneye, Hooded Mergansers, Ruddy Ducks, Canvasbacks and Northern Shovelers. The lake is also home to Grebes, American Coots, Common Terns and a variety of sea gulls.

Soap Lake's distinctive water makes an important stopping off place for all these migratory birds. Anything that can be done to preserve this unique, mineral-rich body of water is vital. It also creates a wealth of benefits for the city of Soap Lake, recreation, health and relaxation.

~ Thank you