

Wild Sky Wilderness: An Inclusive Process

"The Way It Ought To Be Done" *

Senator Patty Murray and Representative Rick Larsen have successfully addressed a number of issues and concerns which were raised by local stakeholders early on about the proposal in public meetings and workshops. They include:



- Ensuring access for civic groups like the boy scouts to continue to use the popular Barclay Lake Trail in large numbers (**Scout, Church & School Groups**)
- Excluding 4,000 Acres of the Windy Ridge Area to Allow Continued Snowmobile Use in the Windy Ridge and Johnson Ridge Areas (**WA State Snowmobile Association**)
- Specifically directing the Forest Service to identify and prioritize new equestrian trails in the new Wilderness (**Backcountry Horsemen**)
- Limiting impacts of the Wilderness to a single limited use mountain bike trail and broadening the trail study in the legislation to consider new mountain bike trails adjacent to the wilderness area (**Mountain Bike Clubs**)
- Working with Longview Fiber to identify certain parcels as “priority acquisition lands” for future federal funding and not including other parcels located adjacent to the proposal (**Timber Industry**)
- Clarifying continued historical use of Lake Isabel by float planes under the 1964 Wilderness Act (**Sea Plane Pilots Association**)
- Providing the potential for a wheelchair accessible trails on part of the Rapid River Road in addition to preserving wheelchair access in wilderness under the Americans with Disability Act (**Disabled Citizens**)
- Including 400 acres of valley bottom forest, including groves of old growth cedar forest up to 700 years old identified by Index citizen Bob Hubbard in a public meeting (**Local Citizens**)
- Addressed a number of agency management concerns including continued use of a fire lookout, a repeater site necessary for rescue operations and technical boundary adjustments to address significant flood damage to a county road (**U.S. Forest Service & Snohomish County**)

* quote from Senator Larry Craig (R-ID) at the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing, September 2002.