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DSC-P

PEPC 191186

Newport RI 02840 21 September 2006

Carla McConnell Olympic National Park National Park Service/Denver Service Center PO Box 252877 Denver CO 80225

Dear Ms. McConnell:

This is to urge you to preserve the traditional use of skinny dipping at Olympic Hot Springs. As a lifelong naturist, I am concerned that established naturist use of that area is not provided for in any of the four alternatives proposed for the site.

Here are three important ammendments that have been advanced to Park Service management by the Naturist Action Committee. I strongly support the adoption of all three and consider them easily manageable, practical and cost-efficient:

- 1. Convert Olympic Hot Springs Road to a trail beyond the Altair site;
- Reduce the number of soaking pools to three or four, located near the main source. This should serve to restore the runoff area, maintain needed cleanliness and reduce the impact of use from its present level.
- Retain an experienced caretaker to maintain the area. This approach has been implemented with much success in other hot spring locations in the Pacific Northwest.

The practice of clothing optional recreation in traditional use areas in the park is both low impact and environmentally friendly. For that and other reasons, rendering such a resource unuseable is the least desireable alternative before you. My naturist friends and I are careful and conscientious stewards of remote and unique sites like Olympic Hot Springs. The public's ability to continue to enjoy this unique clothing-optional site depends on your support.

Thank you for hearing my views. I look forward to reading your reply.

Yours sincerely,