

FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS

Established in 1932 for the Promotion of the Proper Use, Enjoyment and Protection of
America's Scenic Wilderness and Outdoor Recreation Resources

**Testimony of the Federation of Western Outdoors Clubs for
Washington State Legislature
House Committee on the Capitol Budget
Olympia, Washington
Friday, February 22, 2013
Regarding HB 1414**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Raelene Gold, I
testifying on behalf of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, of which I am the Past
President. The Federation was established in 1932 and includes about 50 outdoor
recreation and conservation organizations in 8 western states including Washington.

The Federation opposes HB 1414, the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan, as it is now
written, based on its inclusion of the replacement and enlargement of the Bumping Lake
Dam, which we have opposed since 1978. We do support a fish passage at the current
dam, as being added to the other Yakima Basin dams.

The Bumping Lake area is a treasured recreation area that is utilized by campers,
hikers, backpackers, boaters including kayaks and canoes, sport fisherman, botanists and
birders. In the winter it is available for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Many
recreation groups, as well as local families, utilize it.

On the southern shoreline, there are two developed public campgrounds providing
57 tent and RV campsites situated in lovely pine and larch forests as well as a public
large developed boat launch area and a road leading to two horse camps and the trail
system. On the northern shore there is a road leading to a private marina, store, boat
launch and campground, and 15 summer homes on leased USFS land. The road continues
to the Trailhead of the Bumping Lake trail that connects with a system of trails in the
neighboring Wilderness areas, as well as the Pacific Crest Trail. Besides the inlet and
outlet of the Bumping River, there are six creeks flowing into the lake that provide now
unutilized fish habitat.

The current plan would cut down and submerge about 1000 acres of uniquely
diverse old growth forest that contributes to reduction in green house gasses. It would
also inundate portions of the upper and lower Bumping River and tributary creeks of
Bumping Lake reducing fish habitat.

I urge you to give more scrutiny to the inclusion of the Bumping Lake component
of the Plan, as to the lost ecological benefits, and to the costs of the lost structures and
infrastructure, and the losses to the local economy.

Thank you,

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