

Resolution Passed at the EMO Board of Directors meeting on October 4, 2006

Topic: Wilderness Protection in the Mt. Hood National Forest

Submitted by the Environmental Ministries Committee

Whereas,

Mt. Hood National Forest is a treasured place for Oregonians and visitors from throughout our Nation.

Whereas,

The growth of Oregon's population necessitates the increased designation of Wilderness recreation areas. Oregon's urban growth additionally demands the need to protect Wilderness areas with special ecological and spiritual significance from commercial exploitation for the benefit of all.

Whereas,

Oregon now has a special opportunity before it to protect special areas of Mt. Hood National Forest and miles of Wild and Scenic rivers around Mount Hood and in the Columbia Gorge.

Be it therefore resolved that the EMO board: 1) supports the greatest amount of wilderness designation possible, 2) thanks Representatives Blumenauer and Walden for their pioneering work on the initial Mt. Hood Wilderness Bill and Senators Smith and Wyden for developing a bill with increased protections in the U.S. Senate and 3) urges Oregon's Congressional Delegation to work together for a strong bill and encourage Oregon's religious leaders to voice their concerns for wilderness protection in Oregon.

Passed by unanimous vote of the EMO board of directors at its 10-04-06 meeting.