

RESOLUTION 99-032

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION THAT ALL REFERENCE TO CLASS 1 AIRSHED BE REMOVED FROM THE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, SMA Policy #12 (page 1-123) of the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, states "Existing levels of air visibility shall not be degraded. The Scenic Area shall be studied for designation as a Class 1 airshed." and,

WHEREAS, GMA/SMA Objective #3 (page III-60) of the Scenic Resources Enhancement Strategies, included in Part III - Action Program of the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, states "Encourage federal and state agencies to monitor air quality and visibility in the Scenic Area and to study the Scenic Area for designation as a Class 1 airshed." and,

WHEREAS, the Columbia River Gorge region, including the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, is designated as, and within the tolerances of, a Class 2 Airshed; and,

WHEREAS, studies to date indicate that industry within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is not a significant source of air pollution or visibility impairment within the Columbia River Gorge Region. These same studies indicate that the sources of pollution affecting the Columbia River Gorge region originate from the areas to the west and to the southeast of the Gorge; and,

WHEREAS, there is no stated definition of air visibility degradation (i.e., source, type, degree, etc.), or description of how, when and by whom visibility will be measured; and,

WHEREAS, no long-term funding mechanism for air visibility monitoring and/or analysis has been identified; and

WHEREAS, there are no stated means of enforcing the '...air visibility shall not be degraded' clause; and,

WHEREAS, it has been stated by Gorge Commission staff that there has been no activity toward, or planning for, studying the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area for designation as a Class 1 Airshed; and,

WHEREAS, one of the two stated purposes of the Scenic Area Act is, "To protect and support the economy of the Columbia River Gorge area by encouraging growth to occur in existing urban areas and by allowing future economic development in a manner that is consistent with paragraph 1. ("Note: Paragraph 1 states, "To establish a national scenic area to protect and provide for the enhancement of the scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge"); and,

WHEREAS, there is evidence that the aforementioned references to studying and/or designating the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area a Class 1 Airshed have negative impacts on economic development in the region. This being due to the perception and concern that potential extreme regulation pertaining to air quality in the Gorge will be prohibitive for businesses; and,

WHEREAS, existing state and federal regulations, and management of the same, pertaining to air quality and visibility are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Washington State Department of Ecology. The Columbia River Gorge region benefits from regulations designed to protect neighboring Class 1 areas .. Mt. Adams in Washington, and Mt. Hood in Oregon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the *City of The Dalles* respectfully requests that the Columbia River Gorge Commission amend the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area by deleting any reference to studying the Scenic Area for, or seeking designation of the Scenic Area as a Class 1 Airshed. Further, the *City of The Dalles* requests that this action be taken as soon as practical, and no later than 12/31/99.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 8TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1999.

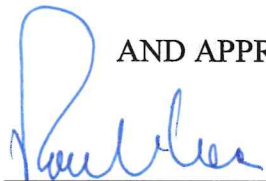
Voting Yes, Councilor: Gosiak, Davis, Broehl, Wasser

Voting No, Councilor: None

Absent, Councilor: Davison

Abstaining, Councilor: None

AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR THIS 8TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1999.



Robb Van Cleave, Mayor

Attest:



Julie Krueger, CMC/AAE, City Clerk



Port of The Dalles

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RESOLUTION 99-06

A RESOLUTION REQUESTING OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION THAT ALL REFERENCE TO CLASS 1 AIRSHED BE REMOVED FROM THE NATIONAL SCENIC AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, SMA Policy #12 (page I-123) of the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, states "Existing levels of air visibility shall not be degraded. The Scenic Area shall be studied for designation as a Class 1 airshed." and,

WHEREAS, GMA/SMA Objective #3 (page III-60) of the Scenic Resources Enhancement Strategies, included in Part III - Action Program of the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, states "Encourage federal and state agencies to monitor air quality and visibility in the Scenic Area and to study the Scenic Area for designation as a Class 1 airshed." and,

WHEREAS, the Columbia River Gorge region, including the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, is designated as, and within the tolerances of, a Class 2 Air Shed; and,

WHEREAS, studies to-date indicate that industry within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area is not a significant source of air pollution or visibility impairment within the Columbia River Gorge Region. These same studies indicate that the sources of pollution affecting the Columbia River Gorge region originate from the areas to the west and to the southeast of the Gorge; and,

WHEREAS, there is no stated definition of air visibility degradation (i.e., source, type, degree, etc.), or description of how, when and by-whom visibility will be measured; and,

WHEREAS, no long-term funding mechanism for air visibility monitoring and/or analysis has been identified; and,

WHEREAS, there are no stated means of enforcing the '... air visibility shall not be degraded' clause; and,

WHEREAS, it has been stated by Gorge Commission staff that there has been no activity toward, or planning for, studying the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area for designation as a Class 1 Air Shed; and,

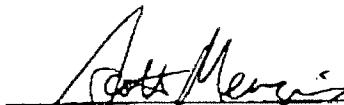
WHEREAS, one of the two stated purposes of the Scenic Area Act is, "To protect and support the economy of the Columbia River Gorge area by encouraging growth to occur in existing urban areas and by allowing future economic development in a manner that is consistent with paragraph 1." [Note: Paragraph 1 states, "To establish a national scenic area to protect and provide for the enhancement of the scenic, cultural, recreational, and natural resources of the Columbia River Gorge"]

WHEREAS, there is evidence that the aforementioned references to studying for and/or designating the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area a Class 1 Air Shed have negative impacts on economic development in the region. This being due to the perception and concern that potential extreme regulation pertaining to air quality in the Gorge will be prohibitive for businesses; and,

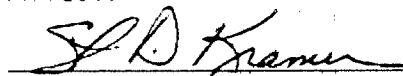
WHEREAS, existing state and federal regulations, and management of the same, pertaining to air quality and visibility are under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and the Washington State Department of Ecology. The Columbia River Gorge region benefits from regulations designed to protect neighboring Class 1 areas -- Mt. Adams in Washington, and Mt. Hood in Oregon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the *Port of The Dalles* respectfully requests that the Columbia River Gorge Commission amend the Management Plan for the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area by deleting any reference to studying the Scenic Area for, or seeking designation of the Scenic Area as a Class 1 Air Shed. Further, the *Port of The Dalles* requests that this action be taken as soon as practical, and no later than 12/31/99.

ADOPTED by the *PORT OF THE DALLES COMMISSION* this 6th day of October 1999.



Scott Mengis, President
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:


Steven D. Kramer, Vice-President
Board of Commissioners

Voting Yes: Steve Kramer, Ken Farner, Scott Mengis
Voting No: none
Abstaining: none
Absent: Mike Courtney, Michael Maier