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March 21, 2008

Dear Friends of Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail,

I am writing on behalf of the Kinnikinnick Chapter, Idaho Native Plant Society, to support your efforts to create a public nonmotorized trail along the Lake Pend Oreille shoreline linking the communities of Sandpoint and Ponderay.

The proposed Pend d'Oreille Bay Trail, sometimes called the Hazel Hall Trail, would be an asset to our community for many reasons, not least among them the opportunity to enjoy the native plants of North Idaho in a natural environment near our urban centers. The trail will provide a place for school children and others to go to learn about and appreciate the natural wonders in our own backyards.

Our Chapter has been involved in the work of the trail planning committee and has documented the vegetation along the trail, identifying more than 40 varieties of local native plants. The populations of ladyslipper orchids and high-bush cranberries are stunning.

The Kinnikinnick Chapter proudly offers itself as a partner in this community effort to create a two-mile public greenway along this shoreline for the enjoyment and education of current and future generations.

Sincerely,

Carol Jenkins, President Kinnikinnick Chapter Idaho Native Plant Society