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**Press Release** | Contact: Danielle Langone (202) 225-6416

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WASHINGTON, DC—Congressman Peter DeFazio's (D-Ore.) bill to designate a Forest Service trail in the Willamette National Forest in Lane County, Oregon, as the "Jim Weaver Loop Trail," named after former Oregon Congressman Jim Weaver, passed the House today. The trail goes around the world-renowned Waldo Lake, ranked one of the purest bodies of water on Earth and one of Oregon's largest natural lakes. The legislation, H.R. 247, would also designate this 22-mile trail as a national recreational trail under the National Trails System Act.

"Naming this trail for Congressman Jim Weaver is a fitting tribute to his legacy as an advocate for outdoor recreation and as a protector of some of Oregon's most treasured natural features," DeFazio said.

"During his time in Congress, one of Jim's top priorities was natural resource conservation, including a strong commitment to protecting Waldo Lake and the surrounding area. Generations of Oregonians will benefit from Jim's efforts to keep Waldo Lake pristine and pure.

"Congressman Weaver was not only my predecessor as representative of Oregon's Fourth Congressional District, but he was also my boss—both here in Washington, DC, and back home in the district—and is a friend. I am pleased to honor someone who's done so much to protect Oregon's natural resources and wilderness, and to forever associate his name with an area he loves and has worked hard to protect."

Congressman Weaver represented Oregon's Fourth District from 1975 to 1987. During his time in Congress, Weaver was a tireless advocate for stronger environmental protections on land and water.

The bill is cosponsored by all five members of Oregon's congressional delegation, and is supported by the U.S. Forest Service and a number of local interest groups. In addition to naming the trail, DeFazio's legislation includes the installation and maintenance of a sign at the trailhead to provide information about the life and work of Congressman Weaver.