

June 7, 2018

The Honorable Derek Kilmer
U.S. House of Representatives
950 Pacific Ave
Suite 1230
Tacoma, WA 98402

Dear Congressman Kilmer,

We are writing to highlight the urgency of breaching the four lower Snake River dams to save Snake River wild salmon from extinction and request your support. Specifically, we are requesting a meeting with you to present our concerns. Your office was invited to attend the Gig Harbor Rotary Meeting last Friday to hear of these concerns first hand. We were disappointed that no one from your office was able to attend and hear Jim Waddell, CE/PE, retired after 35 years with the Army Corp of Engineers; who gave an informative and compelling presentation.

It is becoming increasingly evident that if the threatened and endangered Snake River wild salmon and steelhead runs are to survive, cooler free flowing rivers are needed now. We realize that you have many matters to tackle, yet this seems to be a non-partisan issue that would benefit Washington's tax payers. We cannot afford to waste more time if the Pacific Northwest is to retain its iconic salmon and the species that depend on them, including the critically endangered Southern Resident Orca Whales.

Federal agencies had decided by 2002 that dam breaching by itself would likely recover steelhead and fall Chinook, and that breaching presented the greatest biological potential for recovering the endangered and threatened wild runs. Nonetheless the agencies decided to put dam breaching off for ten years to determine if expensive technical fixes to the dams would permit wild salmon to recover. To date wild salmon runs are not meeting survival goals, much less recovering. Technical fixes have not worked. Thirteen years have been wasted. Dam breaching must be accomplished now for wild salmon to survive.

Moreover, the Snake River dams are not needed. The hydropower produced by the dams is surplus and has been replaced three times over by greener solar and wind energy. Unlike hydropower, these energy sources do not destroy entire river ecosystems. The highly subsidized

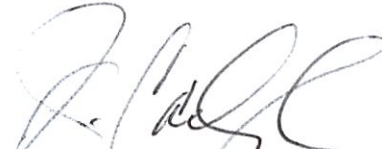
Snake River barge traffic is being replaced by rail transport at a lower overall cost and a similar carbon footprint. And with a free-flowing Snake River, recreation benefits will skyrocket in many Washington counties. Recovering the wild salmon runs will strengthen the Pacific Northwest economy and save tax/rate payers money.

We respectfully request the opportunity to present this information to you personally.

Sincerely,



Marti Anderson



Juanita Carbaugh



Dick Vanberg



Peter Stanley



Randy Spitzer



Annmarie E. Huppert



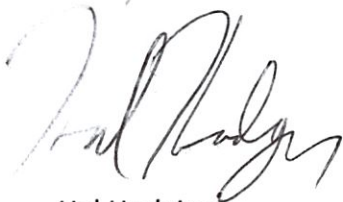
David Morris



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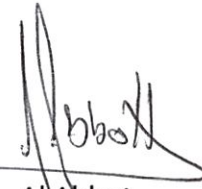
Cory Coryell



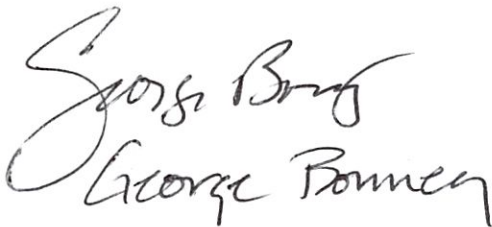
Hal Hodgins



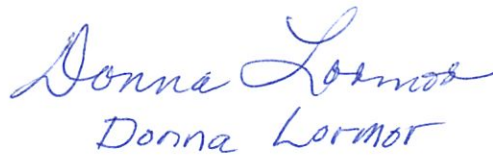
Susan Jensen



Al Abbot



George Bonney



Donna Lormor