

March 27, 2000

Department of the Army
Walla Walla District Corps of Engineers
Attention: Lower Snake River Study
201 North Third Ave.
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

To Whom It May Concern:

The Port of Woodland would like to oppose Alternative 4, the dam breaching alternative.

The EIS shows that there are uncertain biological benefits from breaching the lower four Snake River dams. Although the Port believes the negative economic impacts are seriously under estimated; the EIS shows that there is certain economic harm.

The region needs a recovery plan that rebuilds healthy fish runs while maintaining a healthy economy.

There are recent studies that show the survival rate is as high as it was in the 1960's and 1970's, before the dams were built. If survival through the reservoirs is as high now as it was before the dams were built, breaching them is not the answer.

Dam breaching will increase truck traffic and rail traffic, which at this time neither road or rail are able to handle the increased numbers if barging no longer existed.

Dam removal is not the answer. The negative economic impacts more than outweigh the unproven possible fish impacts. The issues that need to be addressed are harvest, habitat, hatcheries and hydropower while considering other factors such as climate and ocean conditions. With these issues in mind, the Port feels the region must have a comprehensive recovery plan -- with a clear vision, goals and priorities.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

David R. Ripp
Executive Director

APR 10 2000

Chatman, Cheryl A NWW

From: David Ripp [portwood@worldaccessnet.com]
Sent: Monday, March 27, 2000 3:45 PM
To: Salmonstudy
Cc: PNWAMAIL@aol.com
Subject: RE: COE Snake River EIS



Salmon Study.doc

Please accept this attachment as comments from the Port of Woodland.