

MAR 07 2000

R. J. Broda  
Board of Directors Member:  
Gold Country Flyfishers  
South Yuba River Citizens League  
Middle Yuba R. Area Citizens League  
P. O. Box 518  
North San Juan, CA 95960  
February 29, 2000

National Marine Fisheries Service  
United States Army Corps Of Engineers  
Federal Agencies Caucus Comment Records  
C/O Bonneville Power Administration - PL  
707 W. Main St. Suite 500  
Spokane, Washington 99201  
RE: Lower Snake River Dams Removal

Dear NMFS/USACE Officers:

The three organizations of which I am a Board of Directors member are local to the Yuba River watershed, but they are supported by over 3000 wild-fish-loving donors. These organizations, by their vision statements and by-laws, and in voluntary deeds, express our combined commitment to reversing the threatened status and destruction of the splendid Yuba River wild anadromous salmonids.

It is out of love, not money, which makes me an active player in this effort. I have educated myself regarding the Salmonid restoration possibilities in their entire former and current Pacific Northwest range, as have you all at NMFS and USACE--- how could you not, you are the experts, and the responsible professionals?

In fact, it is the NMFS draft science paper which has determined that it is only by removal of the four Lower Snake dams that we have any real hope of restoring the most significant populations of these listed ESUs to healthy numbers, and, at the same time making some real reparations for the national dishonor of our violated treaty obligations. Don't you see this as your honorable "Public Trust" duty?

The Lower Snake dams produce 5% of the region's water generated power, and it will obviously cost money to breach or remove the dams. These costs, however pale in comparison with the huge losses which result from dam retention and the rapid and inevitable extinction of the Snake River salmonids.

You know this is a public fact, not an opinion. So why should I bore you with a list of facts and numbers from the numerous studies: your own and numerous others? In fact, I wonder if we are "over-studying" the problem to allow the time to pass which will insure their extirpation. Come On!

Please, no more delays! On behalf of the organizations I represent, I ask that you recommend removal of the four Lower Snake dams to save and restore the endangered anadromous salmonids.

Please include my comments in the administrative record. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Richard Outland*  
Chairman, Middle  
Yuba River Area Citizens'  
League.

*Shawn Gaway*  
Executive Director  
SYRCL  
216 Main St.  
Nevada City CA 95959