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February 24 , 2000

Mr. Greg Graham
U.S. Corps of Engineers
Walla Walla District
201 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 98367

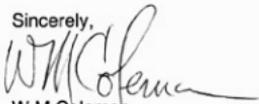
Dear Mr. Graham;

I am responding to your call for comments on the proposal to tear out the lower Snake River Dams. While I support efforts to restore salmon runs, I am opposed to the proposal to tear out the dams.

The lower Snake River Dams are important for power generation, irrigation, transportation, flood control and recreation. Their removal would have a wide spread, negative impact on the Pacific Northwest. These dams have been in place for a long time and until recently were not considered a threat to salmon runs. Harvesting increases have been more damaging to salmon runs than the dams have been.

There are less costly alternatives than dam removal to help restore the salmon. Harvest restrictions, more hatcheries, fish ladder improvements and even barging are possibilities.

Sincerely,



W M Coleman