



MAR 24 2000

March 15, 2000

Federal Caucus Comment Record
C/O BPA - PL
707 W.Main Street, Suite 500
Spokane, WA. 99201

Dear Sir or Madam:

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the recent studies regarding Salmon recovery. This issue is extremely important to me because my life and the lives of others that live in the Pacific Northwest are built around our remarkable rivers. The decisions that will be made over the next few months and years will directly affect me, my family and future generations.

This process is, or should be, about finding common sense solutions to our complex resource problems—including salmon. It is not about finding the rationale to do risky, drastic and unproven experiments like breaching dams or requiring massive flow augmentation. I applaud the Federal Caucus for beginning to shift the debate toward a plan that includes addressing all aspects of human impact on the salmon life cycle. For too long, the debate has focused on our hydropower system, ignoring the benefits it brings to the region and also ignoring the fact that salmon mortality is a result of many factors all along the lifecycle of the salmon. Focusing on only one H, in this case hydropower, will not solve the problem. The region must have a comprehensive recovery plan with a clear vision, goals, and priorities that address harvest, habitat, hatcheries, and hydropower, while considering other factors such as climate and ocean conditions.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely yours

Dixon Shaver
Vice President / Shaver Transportation Company

DS/gs