

FEB 07 2000

Mettler, Lonnie E NWW

From: Julie Pittmann [jcpittmann@colfax.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 03, 2000 7:35 AM
To: Mettler, Lonnie E
Subject: Dam breaching

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

We oppose dam breaching on several accounts. First, the cost of building the dams, buying the land, building the parks and recreation sites have not been recovered and now that would be forever lost. second, the lives that were changed from buying their homes, would cause harm to the people who thought they sold to a good cause, third: the soil erosion from the breaching has not been addressed sufficiently, fourth; the lost profit margins for farmers trying to get crops to ocean markets will eat away profits that are barely helping to keep the farmer alive even during a time when congress is working toward helping the farmer and fifth; there are no guarantees that dam breaching will cause the salmon to return when indian fishing remains the same as in the present time.

Life moves forward, not backwards. This is not the time to look back in nostalgia, thinking the past was perfect. Salmon runs are in a constant state of evolution, just as we are. Are we as a nation, willing to take everything back to the past, including days of horse and buggy, woodstoves-not microwaves, no computers, no medical advances? When we return only selected items to the past, who really benefits? Is it fair to single out certain parts of society to be forced to return to yesterday?

Continue studying the dams. There are alternatives and methods that are not so drastic to the public in transportation, economics and recreation if we will find them.

Thank you,
Charles Pittmann
President Chaju Land Company
Rosalia, WA 99170