

MAR 20 2000



## County of Malheur

251 'B' STREET WEST • VALE, OREGON 97918

(541) 473-5124

March 15, 2000

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
201 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Walla Walla, WA 99362

On behalf of the Malheur County Court, I am sending you a copy of their recently approved Resolution R00-3, In the Matter of Breaching of Dams Along the Lower Portion of the Snake River.

Sincerely,

Kathy Harrod  
Executive Assistant

enc

MAR 20 2000

**FILED**  
1:00 PM

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON  
FOR THE COUNTY OF MALHEUR

FEB 29 2000

DEBORAH R. DELONG County Clerk  
By *Deborah R. DeLong*

In the matter of: )  
Breaching of Dams Along ) R00-3  
The Lower Portion of the Snake )  
River )

**WHEREAS**, Governor Kitzhaber recently announced in a presentation to the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society that he is in favor of breaching four (4) federal dams along the lower portion of the Snake River. These dams (the dams) are the Lower Granite, Little Goose, Lower Monumental and Ice Harbor between Lewiston, Idaho and McNary Dam in Washington.

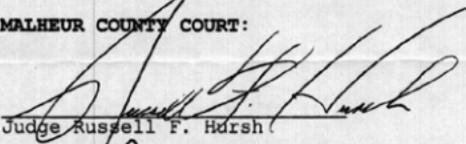
**WHEREAS**, the Malheur County Court acknowledges that restoration of our ecosystem as well as the salmon and steelhead runs is extremely important. However, breaching of the dams would result in: the loss of 400 miles of inland navigable waters, the loss of 5% the electricity in the Northwest (together the four (4) dams produce twice as much electricity as the Hoover Dam), the loss of low cost power, the loss of jobs in Eastern Oregon, a negative economic impact on Eastern Counties such as Umatilla and Morrow and increase costs in agriculture production to farmers, ranchers and cattlemen of Malheur County. In addition, it is estimated that the breaching of the dams would increase truck traffic by 700,000 trucks a year on Pacific Northwest highways. Not one governmental study is dispositive that breaching the dams would indeed save salmon. Accordingly, the Malheur County Court rejects breaching of the dams as the most effective way to restore dwindling salmon and steelhead runs.

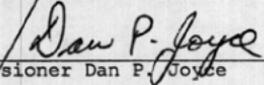
**WHEREAS**, Pacific Northwest Governors Dirk Kempthorne of Idaho, Marc Racicot of Montana and Gary Locke of Washington are opposed to breaching of the dams. Oregon Senator Gordon Smith is also opposed to breaching the dams.

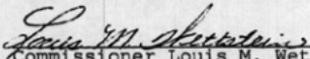
NOW, THEREFORE, the Malheur County Court hereby declares and resolves to support Senator Gordon Smith and Governors Kempthorne, Racicot and Locke, and implore Congress and the Pacific Northwest to seek alternative salmon savings plans besides breaching the dams.

DATED this 28 day of February 2000.

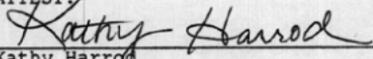
MALHEUR COUNTY COURT:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge Russell F. Hdrsh

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Dan P. Joyce

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Louis M. Wettstein

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathy Harrod  
Recording Secretary