

**PORT OF MORROW****MORROW COUNTY OREGON**
P.O. Box 200, Boardman, OR 97818
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February 17, 2000

Department of the Army,
Walla Walla Dist., Corp of Engineers
Attn: Lower Snake River Study
201 North Third Ave.
Walla Walla, WA. 99362-1876

RE: Lower Snake River Study

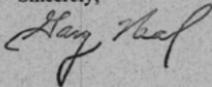
The Port of Morrow, located in Morrow County Oregon in the John Day Reservoir is opposed to dam breaching, dam removal, or river drawdowns that disrupt the multiple uses of the river system. You need to focus on recovery strategies that promote both the economy and fish. Fish recovery measures need to move forward to keep the multiple uses of our river. Recent survival studies of fish migration indicate that they are moving through the river system in numbers that are equal to or greater than pre-Snake River dam numbers. Barging and other transportation options are working. There is more we can do and we need to work together to continue to improve and increase fish passage and survival. Ocean conditions need to be further understood and the effects need to be considered in any overall recovery plans.

1 | The Corps of Engineers should recommend a preferred alternative for the final Environmental Impact Statement that eliminates any further review of river drawdown or dam breaching proposals. It also needs to provide for the continual improvement to dam passage measures, including bypass facilities, turbine upgrades, and fish transport improvements and elevations. They also need to include a directive to the Corps to prepare a full review of the benefits and costs surrounding the N.M.F.S. flow augmentation program within the Columbia/Snake River System, including a review of the potential benefits and costs of the proposal new Water Management Alternative.

We want the Corps of Engineers to adopt alternatives 1 or 2. These alternatives do accomplish the approval of having fish recovery and an economy that can be maintained in our region. We adamantly oppose alternative 4 because it is economically harmful and does not help recover salmon.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Gary Neal
General Manager

GDN/mcv

c: Honorable Senator Gordon Smith
Honorable Senator Ron Wyden
Honorable Congressman Greg Walden
Governor John Kitzhaber
Honorable State Senator David Nelson
Honorable State Senator Ted Ferrioli
Honorable State Representative Bob Jenson
Honorable State Representative Lynn Lundquist
Port of Morrow Commissioners