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**RE: LOWER 4 SNAKE RIVER DAMNS---DO NOT BREACH**

I agree that the native salmon runs have changed over the past 75 years.

I **DO NOT** agree that the dams are the primary cause.

As the different studies have looked at the issue of the salmon recovery there have been some contradictions.

Domestic as well as foreign fishers are harvesting with greater technology and leaving less behind. Yet the dams are the reason for decreased numbers.

Gill nets stretch for miles along the Columbia. Yet the proponents blame only the dams.

The Ocean streams, temperatures, and currents have changed. Yet the argument states that removing the dams will bring back the Salmon.

In Idaho after the dams were established; some spawning grounds were blasted to promote a "better sport fish." Removing the dams will NOT fix the problems. Nor did building the dams create all the problems.

There are rivers with no dams that have similar declines and fluctuations in Salmon runs.

**THERE ARE EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVES.  
BOTH BARGING AND HATCHERIES SHOULD BE INCREASED.**

Barging has been proven to have a great influence on promoting increased Salmon.

Hatchery fish should not be "discounted or destroyed" in the research. They are viable just as the renewed Whooping Crane and Bald Eagle.

**COSTS AND BENEFITS ARE GROSSLY EXAGGERATED IN FAVOR  
OF BREACHING.**

The costs to our local, state, and national economy by the loss of the dams is underestimated. The loss of jobs is understated significantly. Retrofitting the farms or the total loss of the farms is also underestimated.

The benefits are over estimated. Recreation on a mud flat?!

The Snake River will not be "as it was" will not be as one proponent said, "like Lewis and Clark saw it."

The mud and silt will, according to the proponents themselves, put the Salmon at drastically increased risk for at least 2 to 3 years.

#### **INCREASED DANGER ON LOCAL ROADS**

The additional trucking required to haul the grain out of the western states to market (mostly international which helps our trade deficit) would put an additional semi with trailer on the road every 15-20 seconds. That is adding a convoy to an already taxed road system. Families with children, school buses, and senior citizens all use those same roads.

#### **NOT ONE STUDY CAN GUARANTEE THAT REMOVAL OF THE DAMNS WILL BRING THE SALMON BACK.**

What other "endangered species" can I buy in cans or in the meat case at the grocery store?

**HOW MUCH ARE WE WILLING TO SPEND IN COST AS WELL AS LOST REVENUE FOR EACH FISH?**

**IF THESE FOUR DAMNS ARE TAKEN OUT, WHAT IS NEXT?**