

Chatman, Cheryl A NWW

From: Aroza Simpson [graypanthersfaction@juno.com]
 Sent: Thursday, March 09, 2000 12:20 PM
 To: Salmonstudy
 Subject: Save Pacific Salmon from Extinction

>
 >Dear federal salmon managers:
 >
 >We San Francisco Gray Panthers wish to go on record as supporting the
 >removal of the four Lower Snake River Dams
 >(Alternative 4) as described in the Draft Lower Snake River Salmon
 >migration Feasibility Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 >by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We also urge the Federal Caucus
 >to support dam removal in its Fish and Wildlife Recovery Plan for the
 >Columbia Basin. Removing the Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Lower
 >Granite and Little Goose Dams would be an important first
 >step towards preventing extinction and encouraging recovery of the
 >salmon and steelhead species on the Snake River. We current custodians
 >of the planet MUST see that these wonderful fish are protected for all
 >future generations.

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 >Please consider the following points:
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 > * Dams Block Salmon Migration - Snake River dams kill salmon by
 >delaying the migration of young salmon to the sea by increasing
 >their exposure to predation and disease and creating obstacles to
 >adult salmon returning to spawn.
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 > * Science Supports Dam Removal - Studies by the National Marine
 >Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, State and Tribal
 >fisheries agencies and independent scientific committees have all
 >reached the same conclusion -- dam removal must be the cornerstone
 >of the salmon recovery strategy.
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 > * Dam Removal is Less Costly Than Other Options - Removing the four
 >dams is far less costly than other salmon recovery options, including
 >new restrictions on farmers, loggers and commercial fishermen.
 >Diverting water from farmer's irrigation systems in order to rush
 >young salmon to the sea could cost more than \$1 billion and eliminate
 >more than 6,000 farming jobs.
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 > * Dam Removal Will Create New Jobs - Experts say that restoring 140
 >miles of the Lower Snake River to pre-dam conditions would create
 >more than 3,100 recreation-related jobs and generate more than \$200
 >million in annual economic benefits. Dam removal will also protect
 >farmers, loggers and commercial fisherman.
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 > * The Benefits Provided by the Dams Can be Replaced - By investing
 >in highways and rail upgrading, reforming irrigation equipment and
 >building new sources of clean power, we can replace the benefits now
 >provided by the dams.
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 >We can not delay any longer! Delay significantly increases the risk
 >of extinction for endangered Snake River salmon, according to the
 >National Marine Fisheries Service. I urge you to recommend dam
 >removal (Alternative 4). The survival of Snake River salmon is of
 >local, regional and national importance and breaching the dams is
 >the most effective solution.

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 >Thank you for consideration of my comments.

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 >Sincerely,

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Aroza Simpson
San Francisco CA

APR 27 2000

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