

PLEASE, PLEASE

REMOVE THE

DAMS

WE DESPARATELY NEED

THE FISH !!!

SWRCB - DWR
 '19 FEB 25 AM 11:16

MS MICHELLE SIEBAZ
 STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
 DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS
 P.O. BOX 2000
 SACRAMENTO, CA. 95812-2000

MS. LISSA ENGLETT
 HC 11 BOX 233
 SOMES BAR, CA. 95568

DEAR MS. SIEBAZ,

I'VE BEEN WRITING A VERSION OF THIS LETTER, NOW, FOR ABOUT TEN YEARS. BUT HERE WE GO AGAIN.

I LIVE AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE CAL SALMON AND KLAMATH RIVERS. I MOVED HERE 20 YEARS AGO FROM THE BAY AREA TO LIVE OUT MY LIFE IN THIS WILDLY BEAUTIFUL PLACE. WHAT I HAVE EXPERIENCED, HOWEVER, IS TO BEAR WITNESS TO THE DEATH OF A RIVER AND THE NEAR EXTINCTION OF AN INCREDIBLY ICONIC SPECIES. THIS ACCELERATED DEGRADATION OF AN ECOSYSTEM IS UNBELIEVABLY SAD.

WHAT HAPPENS HERE AFFECTS THE IMMEDIATE ENVIRONMENT, AN INDIGENOUS PEOPLE AND THEIR CULTURE, A LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND A STATE, NATIONAL, AND EVEN GLOBAL COMMUNITY.

THERE ARE MANY ISSUES AROUND THE PROPOSAL TO REMOVE THE DAMS. FOR ME, THE GREATEST REASON IS THE SALVATION OF THE SALMON. I CAN'T EXPRESS HOW IMPORTANT THE MAGICAL, BLESSED EXISTENCE OF SALMON IS.

IT IS HARD TO FIND A HEALTHIER PROTEIN IN THIS AGE OF OBESITY AND HEART DISEASE.

IMAGE THE SAVINGS IN MEDICAL COSTS IF WE CONSUMED MORE SALMON AND LESS RED MEAT. THIS IS A MAGNIFICENT SPECIES THAT IS DISAPPEARING AND WE MUST DO

- 2 -

EVERYTHING TO PREVENT THIS FROM HAPPENING.
IT'S A NO-BRAINER!!!

I UNDERSTAND THERE ARE MULTIPLE FACTORS
FOR THE DECLINE OF THE SALMON AND DAM
REMOVAL IS ONLY ONE OF MANY FIXES BUT IT'S THE
ONE ON THE TABLE. WE PUT THEM IN. NOW, WE MUST
TAKE THEM OUT

FOR EONS THIS RIVER RAN WILD AND TEAMED WITH
FISH. THE NATIVE PEOPLES TELL US THIS. EARLY
SETTLERS TALK OF CROSSING RIVERS ON THE BACKS
OF THE SALMON. THERE WERE MILLIONS. NOW THERE
ARE NEXT TO NONE. I AM WATCHING EXTINCTION!!!
WE MESS'D WITH THE RIVER. WE MINED IT WE LOGGED
IT. OUR POPULATION GREW AND WE OVERFISHED. AND WE
DAMNED THE RIVER. NOW WE HAVE A CHANCE TO TRY
AND UNDO THE DAMAGE WE HAVE WRECKED UPON THIS
ECOSYSTEM AND BEGIN TO RESTORE WHAT WORKED
PRETTY WELL AT ONE TIME.

I AM FULLY IN FAVOR OF DOING WHATEVER IT
TAKES TO IMPROVE THE LOT OF THESE FISH. REMOVING
THE DAMS IS A START. NO MORE DELAYS. WITH THE
RAPID DECLINE IN NUMBERS OF FISH THAT I'VE
SEEN IN FAR TOO FEW YEARS, I FEEL THE FISH CAN'T
SURVIVE ANY MORE DELAYS.

AND THERE ISN'T ENOUGH TIME OR SPACE TO
GO INTO THE FACT THAT CALIFORNIA'S THIRD LARGEST
RIVER AND ARGUABLY IT'S WILDEST IS SO POLLUTED
I CAN'T EVEN SWIM IN IT AND MY DOGS COULD DIE
IF THEY DID.

I FEEL FOR THE FARMERS. THEY ARE CAUGHT
BETWEEN A ROCK AND A HARD PLACE. BUT, IN THE END,
THE CROPS GROWN AT THE HEADWATERS CAN BE
GROWN ANYWHERE. THESE ~~FISH~~ FISH CAN ONLY LIVE HERE!!!

I IMPLORE YOU TO RECOMMEND DAM REMOVAL.
THE COST OF NOT DOING SO WILL BE FAR GREATER ON
SO MANY LEVELS.

Sincerely
Lissa English
LISSA ENGLISH