

RD-0226

Sent: Thursday, October 03, 2002 2:32 PM
To: Steve Wright
Subject: Salmon Habitat

Dear Steve,

I am a native Portlander. When I was 7 years old, the Army Corp. of Engineers shut the floodgates at The Dalles and drowned Celilo Falls. My dad drove our family up there to watch, and I was too young to appreciate the significance of the choice my society had made.

Now I have a deeper understanding of the nature of how human choices can affect the environment over the long-term, and I am hopeful that you will help make choices that restore the water quality of the Columbia River, thereby increasing the chances that salmon can continue their existence.

I believe that energy-conservation as public policy, combined with a clear goal of habitat improvement, can renew our region's most valuable natural resource: wild salmon and steelhead. The direct and collateral economic gains which would result would surpass the benefits of electricity derived from the four lower Snake River dams, and the long-term commitment to responsible environmental stewardship would advertise the Pacific Northwest as a most-desirable place to live and work.

I know we cannot recapture an idealized, idyllic past, but we can restore a vibrant river which was healthier and full of fish.

Best regards,

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