

WA Dept. of Ecology's Draft EIS and Short-Term Modification to Total Dissolved Gas Criteria  
for WAC 173-201A

Oral Testimony from Rob Lothrop, on behalf of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

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My name is Rob Lothrop. I work for the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission. You have my contact information in the back as well as plenty of contact information for CRITFC, which is how our organization's name is pronounced.

It was created in 1977 by the Yakima, Umatilla, Warm Springs and Nez Perce tribes. We have about 100 staff. More than half of them are scientific staff. And I will say that CRITFC and its member tribes support the flex bill agreement and we are all involved in its development.

I am here today to say that CRITFC's scientists will be working with its -- our state and federal partners to develop facets of an aquatic ecology monitoring program that has been -- or that will be part of what we see as implementation of this flex bill program as well as the total dissolved gas waiver.

I want to thank Heather and her team for putting this draft environmental impact statement out in a timely fashion and we hope you can conclude it in a timely fashion. It is a good work product and we hope to make it better. We will be submitting extensive technical comments in support of your action for the record. That concludes my statement.