

**WA Dept. of Ecology's Public Hearing on
Multiple Revisions to WAC 173-201A
Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington**

**Oral Testimony from Rudy Salakory, Individual
Received 9-16-2019 in Vancouver, WA**

Transcription was provided by PostCAP LLC in Olympia, WA.

Okay. Rudy is our next person.

>> I really feel strongly that I should have prepared remarks because those are hard acts to follow.

>> We will take them any time you want to send them. We've still got time so just state your name clearly for the record.

>> My name is Rudy Salakory. I went to high school within site of this hearing. I've raised children and they are raising their own children now in this area. I'm the manager of the Habitat Restoration and Conservation Program for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. I'm the president of the Board of Directors Columbia Riverkeeper. I'm a Chairman of the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Technical Advisory Committee. I'm a Board Member of Columbia Land Trust. I don't speak for any of those organizations in particular today. I'm speaking as a grandfather of a granddaughter who I hope to be able to enjoy the resources that I have, to be able to enjoy the ecosystem services that I have and that she would be able to pass these down to her children.

I'm here to support the proposed revisions to total dissolved gas criteria in the Snake and Columbia Rivers so that the flexible spill agreement can be moved forward as part of the longer timeline here.

The work that I do that I spend most of my time doing is to conserve and restore habitats in the lower Columbia River main stem that amounts to long protracting land negotiations of landowners, multiple landowners sometimes. Wrangling funding sources together to try to complete transactions and then to restore food webs in the main stem Columbia. The lag time between completed successful restoration and conservation endeavors and increases in fish population can be years to decades and is poorly understood at the moment.

We have an opportunity here to move through in a quick time fashion of a way to increase juvenile smolt survival on the Columbia River that's not going to take years to decades. While concurrently I keep doing the work that I'm doing. These proposed rule changes will give us a chance to increase smolt survival on a much shorter timeframe. And I hardly suggest we move forward with methods to increase survival of salmon through the FCRPS. That's it, short and sweet.