

Lys Burden

To Whom It May Concern:

My family and I have been informed about the toxic pollution left by Grays Harbor Paper, LLC, the last industrial business to use two sites on the shores of Grays Harbor. These sites are located on the east side of the Hoquiam River, where it enters the Harbor, and Rennie Island, both places where toxic substances were either stored in or discarded into unlined and lined lagoons. We are anxious to hear that these sites will be completely cleaned up, as this is such a sensitive area for wildlife, human habitation and water quality in Grays Harbor alike.

We are Washington residents, who live on the Olympic Peninsula farther north, but we have friends who live in Grays Harbor City and Aberdeen, so we are quite concerned about the health of their lands and waters. We are taxpayers and voting constituents in the same legislative and congressional districts as Grays Harbor.

We note that Rennie Island has a large stretch of estuary terrain to the west. It must have been a thriving place for wildlife, especially salmon smolts, once upon a time, as they acclimated to the sea. We sincerely hope these lands and waters can and will be restored to environmental health in the next few years. Such a restoration would be another small step to help endangered salmon return to our rivers, bays and ocean waters.

We also note the plethora of beach and bay side state parks and wildlife refuges in this area. It certainly behooves us to clean up these upstream lands and waters that are in such close proximity to so many sites enjoyed by so many people, camping, fishing and recreating in and on the water.

Please do justice to these once healthy and beautiful environments and the salmon, who are struggling to be alive.

Dan and Lys Burden
Mike and Dan Brant