

Rita Ireland

To caring colleagues:

Perhaps it was because I was raised on a fertile Iowa farm where my mom and dad took good care of our soil -- their culture and wisdom was, "Just get it done, but do it right. Get help from other neighbors if you need to and do the same to help them. If need be, invest extra money now -- you'll get your rewards later and feel great about it." I can still hear my dad.

A collective pride swells.

In this case, opening the Edmonds Marsh for salmon to return to spawn upstream from the Puget shores through the a revitalized estuary, is going to take innovation and scientific /community support to have an open channel and keep contamination to a minimum.

I can picture the salmon weaving up through seaweed and eel grass, fresh and sea water and sun, creating a fertile, balanced ecological soup, as in the years of the Coast Salish.

It makes no sense to cover the channel.

We live in startlingly dismal ecological times in our world, so it seems to be a great time to re-spark our local shore environment. We can provide our future generations with a pride that this project was finally completed and done right.