

# Bridget Moran

To the Washington Department of Ecology,

I fully support the proposed changes to chapter 173-201A of the WAC. Adding thresholds for IGDO is essential for the maintenance, restoration, and monitoring of suitable juvenile salmonid habitat.

A general suggestion that I'd like to make is the inclusion of native lamprey in this chapter. Pacific lamprey, western brook lamprey, and western river lamprey are all native to Washington rivers. Their presence in these rivers benefit salmonids in numerous ways, including their ability to oxygenate fine sediment, decrease sediment hardness, and increase nutrient cycling, and their contributions to bioturbation. Pacific lamprey and western river lamprey are both state priority species and federal species of concern. While I recognize that there is language stating that "It is required that all indigenous fish and nonfish aquatic species be protected in waters of the state..." I believe that because of their priority and status as native fish, and the benefits that they provide to juvenile salmonid habitat, native lamprey warrant an explicit call out in this chapter. I suggest adding them to the key species listed on page 6 and in the tables thereafter.

Additionally, on page 6, under (1)(a)(v), O.mykiss is spelled incorrectly.

Thank you for your time in reading my comments. Thank you for your work in improving our native fish habitat.

Bridget Moran

Washington resident and volunteer at North Sound Trout Unlimited