

# Virgene Link-New

To Whom It Concerns:

Resource waters have a high water quality for the environment, wildlife, and recreation, and safeguard freshwater from future degradation. Protection of these waters is a huge step forward to ensure that these streams retain their high quality and preserve their exceptional ecological and recreational values.

Outdoor recreation supports \$26.5 billion in annual expenditures and 264,000 jobs throughout Washington State and clean water is critical to this economic sector.

The Cascade, Green, and Napeequa rivers in Washington State all meet multiple regulatory criteria for Outstanding Resource Waters designation and are deserving of protection as Outstanding Resource Waters. All three of the river systems are pristine and located in protected areas; have both excellent water quality and regionally unique recreational value; and have statewide ecological significance.

Thank you.