

## Tara Easter

I am writing to urge Ecology to designate the Cascade, Green, and Napeequa river systems as the state's first Outstanding Resource Waters. In a time of unprecedented environmental degradation and change, it is more important than ever to use every tool we have to protect our pristine waters. These ecosystems are crucial to the wellbeing of so many communities and wild species. As a Washingtonian, and an extreme cold water swimming enthusiast, I strongly support protecting these waters for future generations to enjoy. The Green River, in particular, is the site of many happy memories where I have dunked in the refreshingly cold water after a long day hiking or backpacking. I am also passionate about protecting the wildlife that depend on these waters, like steelhead and northern spotted owls. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.