

# Valerie Anderson

Dear Department of Ecology,

I am writing to share my concerns about the proposed FRE dam on the upper Chehalis River. After reviewing the DEIS, I am deeply troubled by the significant and unavoidable harm the project would cause to salmon and steelhead populations, including Spring Chinook, Coho, Fall Chinook, and Steelhead. This stretch of the river is one of the most important spawning areas in the basin, and damage to these habitats would be permanent and irreversible.

I am also concerned about the sheer scale and cost of the project, along with the unresolved safety and geotechnical risks identified in the DEIS. With an estimated cost of \$1.3–\$2.3 billion, the dam appears to offer limited benefits while posing long-term risks to the river's ecological health and to the communities that depend on it.

Given these concerns, I strongly urge Ecology to pursue more effective and less damaging flood-reduction strategies, including the Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative. These approaches would better protect both people and the river without sacrificing irreplaceable habitat.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,  
Valerie Anderson