

Kathleen Allen

Chehalis Basin residents need modern, proven flood solutions that protect people, the land, and salmon—not a massive, untested dam that could cost \$2 billion, harm salmon and steelhead runs, hurt our fishing economies, and siphon funding from bigger-picture solutions. Restoring floodplains, strengthening local infrastructure, and investing in resilience are smarter, safer, science-backed options.

Beyond all that, is it useless to suggest that wee people could open hearts and minds to become aware and embrace the natural living environment with love and respect - learn to live in harmony with the greater body of life - as a higher priority than the relentless drive to satisfy unbound appetites for more and ever more fulfillment of our consuming desires and rampant ambitions?

Humans were created to care for this garden planet - not to pollute and destroy it as WE THE PEOPLE have done from day one.

For the moment, we have a choice.

That moment will pass.

Will we pass with it, or will we choose to heal the wounds and stop the decimation of these treasured grounds?

