

Mark DeLaurier

Dear Department of Ecology,

I would like to urge you not to approve the proposed FRE dam on the upper Chehalis River.

As someone who grew up in Oakville and currently lives there, I am very concerned about the harm the dam would do to the river and its salmon and steelhead populations. The area of the proposed dam is critical spawning habitat for these fish, so damaging it would have far-reaching impacts on the river's ecosystem.

I have experienced the river's major floods over the last 30 to 40 years, and while I understand the need to address the impacts of flooding, I think better and less costly options are available than the building of this dam. The Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative is a good example of the kinds of alternatives Ecology should implement instead of the dam.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mark DeLaurier