

Joe Moore

I'm a registered voter in Oregon, and so not directly a constituent in the area that will be affected by this project. But I have spent some quality time along the Skookumchuck tributary to the Chehalis, and I've spent lots of time canoeing and hiking in various areas across Washington and the United States.

I'm against building this dam. Other stakeholders can comment on various specific reasons this dam is a bad idea, and better ways to address the flooding issue. I agree with those comments.

Years ago I commented against a dam project on the Saline River in Arkansas. Some folks wanted to build a "water supply lake." They said no boats of any kind would be allowed. But their logo said "I'd Love A Lake", with a drawing of a sailboat on top. It came out soon after, that the folks pushing for the "water reservoir" had been buying up all the property on top of the mountains that would become the shoreline of this lake, with the intent to sell at a profit when the dam was built. The dam was never built.

Dams throughout the Pacific Northwest, from the northern Olympics to northern California, have been removed in the last several years. More dams are, hopefully, slated to be removed. This is not the time to be building a new one.

This is not the time to be destroying prime salmon spawning habitat.

We, as a society, as human beings, are at a point in our history that we should be working towards being stewards of protecting our natural world, and allowing it to regenerate and restore itself. Humans have been taking for tens of thousands of years. It's time to stop taking. It's time to start figuring out how to give back.

Not building this dam would be a small step in that direction.

Thank you for your consideration.