

Frank Corbin

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Subject: Public Testimony on the Draft EIS on the Flood Retention Facility Project

The Corbin family in the Chehalis Basin has been here for nearly 20 years. WE have also been impacted by the catastrophic flooding of 2007 and by ongoing less catastrophic flooding as recently as this Winter. Fishing in the nearby Newaukum river is a dream for us.

The main points I wish to leave with you are:

1. Doing nothing is not an option. The salmon population is quickly disappearing. The proposed projects are sound, scientific, and thoroughly studied. It's time to move forward because climate change will finish killing off the salmon if we fail.
2. By focusing on scientific study for nearly 20 years, we have earned the right to self-determination on this issue and not to be dictated to by those who do not even live and work in the basin.
3. The economic cost of past catastrophic flooding events exceeds \$1B and future economic impacts will quickly surpass that amount time after time due to climate change. The price-tag of the flood retention facility and the levies once built will save Billions in future costs.
4. The proposal to move us all out of the fertile and highly productive basin is inconsistent with other flood prone areas in the State where business and homeowners are not forced to move to higher ground. Significant flood mitigation projects are funded with relative ease. Why the inconsistency?
5. The EIS fails to adequately address the fact that the flow through dam will reduce the negative environmental effects of catastrophic flooding. Reducing catastrophic flooding while continuing to allow for more normal seasonal flooding are all healthy for the basin ecosystem.

Please incorporate my testimony into the record. Thank you!

Regards,



Frank L. Corbin  
Chehalis Basin Resident and Property Owner/Taxpayer