

Casey Lay

Dear Department of Ecology,

After seeing the destructive legacy of the Kalamath dams on the salmon populations, ecological degradation due to this keystone species near depletion in that river, and the cultural and nutritional impact on native communities who have depended on those sources of food and nourishment for thousands of years, I think it is clear that we need to take the salmon, the communities, and the ecological health into deep consideration before erecting this dam. I urge you to look at alternative solutions and bring native communities to the decision-making table. There are non-dam solutions that have the backing of science - so let us be leaders in this work and showcase the innovative solutions of the Pacific Northwest, where we cherish our wild and scenic rivers for recreation, food, and culture. I urge you to stop the Chehalis River Dam.