

## Helen Ost

I support the Chehalis salmon and steelhead. But a poorly planned and designed dam costing too much money is being planned that will harm the Chehalis salmon and steelhead. Fifteen percent of Chehalis Basin steelhead are produced within a couple of miles of Chehalis Basin, and the area is also of critical importance to spring Chinook. Even as wild salmon runs are in rapid decline across the Northwest, the Chehalis remains one of Washington's most important salmon rivers.

The dam costs too much, does too little, and has too many negative impacts on people and fish. The dam wouldn't generate hydropower, provide agricultural water supplies, or create new fishing opportunities for residents. But it would pose a serious risk to the river's vulnerable fish populations.

The money would be better spent on long-term flood solutions that account for both climate change and human development—solutions such as culvert removal, dechannelization, and the restoration of natural floodplain function in the Chehalis Basin.