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The Dept of Ecology has withdrawn junior water rights on the Chehalis river from May through October every summer for the past 10+ years. The reason is that the flowrate at the Doty gauge routinely goes below the legislative-mandated flowrate of 31 cfs. Experts have determined that flowrates below 31cfs are associated with low flowrates creating temperatures above the survival level of young fish.

These important facts need to be clearly stated in the draft EIS. These facts lay the groundwork for discussing the environmental impact of withdrawing water from the dam site for construction purposes.

The decision makers need to clearly understand that the Dept of Ecology has a legal obligation to maintain proper flowrates through controlling water withdrawals during summer months.

The EIS must clearly state: The Dept of Ecology cannot issue any new water rights in the Chehalis basin, and no new water rights can be given for dam construction.

The FCZD contractors are trying to find wiggle room to obtain water rights one way or another. The Dept of Ecology needs to clearly state that protection of the fish and maintaining a 31 cfs at the Doty Gauge are the top priority....and that requires the elimination of as many of senior water rights as possible to achieve the 31cfs level at the Doty gauge.

The environmental impact of summertime water removal must be clearly stated in this EIS. And the environmental impact of hauling water from another river basin must be clearly documented. This is an urgent task because there is no following steps future FCZD and OCB documents can be reviewed for comment and environmental impact. This is the public's last chance to make comments.

The FCZD and EIS authors appear to want to avoid addressing this issue of the environmental impacts of summertime water withdrawals. They delay mitigation and the environmental impacts of mitigation. Thus preventing the public from having any further comments on the matter. This is contrary to the EIS process.

This EIS must acknowledge that Ecology will not permit any additional summertime water withdrawal from the Chehalis river.

This EIS must acknowledge that summertime water for dam construction must come from another river basin.

This EIS must contain the environmental impacts of the entire process of hauling summertime water, including the impacts of 100 tanker trucks a day hauling water through Pe Ell to the dam site.

This FCZD and OCB must show these additional costs in future cost/benefit analysis.

The FCZD and OCB have known about this problem for several years and have failed to achieve a solution complete with environmental impacts. Therefore, this draft EIS cannot be finalized until all

the above environmental impacts and their mitigation impacts are documented.

Decision makers cannot be left in the dark with promises by the FCZD and OCB of some future unknown action. The FCZD and the OCB need to accept the responsibility to document environmental impacts in this first-draft EIS and re-issue a second-draft EIS for public comment after all of the mitigation actions have been determined and impacts determined.

You cannot leave the public guessing as to what your future actions will be. Those future actions are also subject to EIS requirements which require public comment.