

## Nicole Martel

I am strongly opposed to this proposed dam. It is irresponsible on many levels, and has conflicts of interests and agendas in the building of this dam. I just spent time looking at the SEPA and EIS for the proposed dam. Pages 35-40 of the following document outline the impacts, most unavoidable, and the proposed mitigation measures. The mitigation measures are extremely inadequate and there will be long-term consequences to the river, habitat, and fish. We have seen first hand the damage and harm that dams cause, and science is showing the need to remove them, not build them.

Therefore, the building of this dam either shows ecological ignorance, or highlights other agendas. Please, be smart about this and find alternative solutions. Human activity, logging, and development are some of the main factors that cause flooding. We have created the problem, so let us not do more harm in finding a solution.

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/separ/Main/SEPA/Record.aspx?SEPANumber=202504854>

There is a NO DAM alternative which comprises local land actions, better forestry practices, and moving people out of the way. Lewis County has been slow to act and instead has allowed filling and building in the floodplain and now supports a dam which will ostensibly allow more filling and building. This is irresponsible and out of integrity. Follow the money. There are other options. We must all educate ourselves on proper ecological stewardship that supports the safety and health of the public and the land, not special interests. I appreciate being able to comment, and thank you for your thoughtful consideration.