

Jen Bowen

I strongly oppose the proposed Chehalis River dam. This \$2 billion project would destroy critical salmon and steelhead habitat, harm water quality, and devastate wildlife. The Chehalis is one of the top salmon-producing rivers in Washington, and most of these fish are wild, not hatchery-raised. Southern Resident orcas, already critically endangered, depend on these fish for survival. Building this dam would take from them what they need to live.

Local Tribes have spoken clearly. This project would destroy their culture, traditions, and livelihoods. Around the country, dams are being removed because of the harm they cause to rivers, fish, and communities. Building a new one now is backwards.

Alternate plans, like the Local Actions Non-Dam proposal, exist and would protect the entire basin, not just some structures some of the time. Please protect the Chehalis, its wild salmon, the orcas, and the people who rely on this river.