

From: [Alan Clark](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Dams are crucial for agriculture
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 5:35:13 PM

Dir. Scott Pugrud:

I feel that we need to keep the dams in place they are vital to agriculture. Especially in transporting grain. There is no other way to effectively get grain to the ports. As a grain farmer this is my livelihood as well as my friends and family. These dams help us so much!

Regards,
Alan Clark
3601 E 800 N
Menan, ID 83434

From: [Paul Fisher](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Don't breach dams
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 5:35:14 PM

Dear Members of the Governor's Salmon Workgroup:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. I write today expressing my desire for the group to work together to develop alternative solutions which will improve salmon returns without breaching crucial dams.

Too much attention has been put on the discussion of dam breaching. More attention should be give to predator control, the use of hatcheries, and harvest limits. I believe that salmon and dams can co-exist.

I support the managed river system with dams, locks, and hydro-turbines that currently exist. I ask the Workgroup to advance possible solutions that the State can pursue to improve salmon returns in Idaho without jeopardizing important water infrastructure for our region.

Regards,
Paul Fisher
11 Masons way
Salmon, ID 83467

From: [THOMAS DANIEL](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Dams are crucial for agriculture
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 5:35:14 PM

Dir. Scott Pugrud:

I, as a Northern Idaho farmer, ship 100% of my grain crops on barges to Portland. Lets find ways to help the salmon with out harming farmers.
As an Idahoan who values agriculture, I am asking the Governor's Salmon Workgroup to protect important dam structures while seeking solutions for salmon recovery.

Regards,
THOMAS DANIEL
1142 Deer Park Rd
Bonners Ferry, ID 83805

From: [Catherine Veselka](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Don't consider dam breaching
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 5:35:14 PM

Dear Director Pugrud,

I write to address the Governor's Salmon Workgroup. I ask that they not consider dam breaching as part of their efforts to address salmon-recovery. We can do better than such harmful, panic-driven ideas for solutions. Predator control, realistic harvest of Salmon - including by the tribes, and intelligent use of hatcheries are among other more realistic ideas. Please put more thought into what Idaho can actually accomplish instead of one shot - fairy tale solutions. We need the energy, we need the shipping, and we need to work out ways that Salmon and people can both flourish

Regards,
Catherine Veselka
714 Indian Valley Rd
Indian Valley, ID 83632

From: [Cody Chandler](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Don't consider dam breaching
Date: Friday, January 31, 2020 5:35:15 PM

Dear Director Pugrud,

My name is Cody Chandler. I am a 5th generation farm and rancher in Weiser. My grandpa used to pitchfork salmon coming over our irrigation dam when he was young. Although that sounds fun I would much rather have reliable power and irrigation. The benefits that dams create for our state economy are huge. Besides the flood control. Living by Weiser that floods often because the Weiser river doesn't have a dam I understand the benefits. So for this reason, I write to address the Governor's Salmon Workgroup. I ask that they not consider dam breaching as part of their efforts to address salmon-recovery.

Regards,
Cody Chandler
1151 Devils Elbow Rd
Weiser, ID 83672

From: [Muriel Roberts](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Bring Back Our Salmon and Steelhead!
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 4:46:55 PM

Dear Governor Little and Salmon Workgroup Members,

I have been concerned about the declining number of redbfish that return to Redfish Lake for many years. I remember taking my kids there when the stream was filled with fish. Now, we are lucky if only a few make it back there.

I am so pleased that collaboration is finally happening among those who want to do something before it is too late, and our salmon and steelhead become extinct.

I wish you well as you look for bold solutions to save our iconic fish.

Thank you.

Muriel R. Roberts
541 South 7th Avenue
Pocatello ID 83201

201 417-0931

From: [Don DeArmond](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Don't breach dams
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 4:55:08 PM

Dear Members of the Governor's Salmon Workgroup:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment. I write today expressing my desire for the group to work together to develop alternative solutions which will improve salmon returns without breaching crucial dams. We are 3rd Generation Farmers & removal of Dams would be a disaster to our livelihood. Removal should not even be considered. thank you Don & Charlotte DsArmond

Regards,
Don DeArmond
72 Shebang Creek Rd.
Grangeville, ID 83530

From: [Patrick Silvers](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Don't consider dam breaching
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 4:56:02 PM

Dear Director Pugrud,

I write to address the Governor's Salmon Workgroup. I ask that they not consider dam breaching as part of their efforts to address salmon-recovery. All we are doing is giving the Indians more female salmon to kill for their eggs. So they can sell them for monetary gains.

Regards,
Patrick Silvers
p.o. box 589
Challis, ID 83226

From: [Summer Bushnell](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Don't consider dam breaching
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 4:57:01 PM

Dear Director Pugrud,

Breaching dams is not a good idea. The negative effects outweighs the benefits.

I ask that they not consider dam breaching as part of their efforts to address salmon-recovery.

Regards,
Summer Bushnell
5006 E Portside Ct
Post Falls, ID 83854

From: [Roger Rankin](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Bring Back Our Salmon and Steelhead!
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 5:24:12 PM

Dear Governor Little and Salmon Workgroup Members,

The only way to build back fish numbers in Idaho is to remove the 4 dams on the Lower Snake River in Washington. Seals, alewives, commercial and sport fishing are damaging but not like the 4 dams. We need 4% of returning fish to make it to Idaho to spawn. 7% reach the first dam and after negotiating all 4 we see less than 1%. Therein lies the biggest problem. Governor Little will not let this group look at the only viable option for saving our fish--the removal of the 4 dams on the Lower Snake River in Washington. Governor Inslee of Washington has earmarked money to address the issue of the 4 dams. There is overwhelming data that shows these dams are the biggest problem our fish face. Smolts heading to the ocean and returning adults suffer huge losses as a result of trying to negotiate the dams. Our fish face many issues, commercial and sport fishing, predators, warm water and more but the removal of these dams would enable Idaho to once again have a substantial fishery. Please contact Governor Little and ask him to allow this group to look at all options.

Governor Little will not let this group look at the only viable option for saving our fish--the removal of the 4 dams on the Lower Snake River in Washington. Governor Inslee of Washington has earmarked money to address the issue of the 4 dams. There is overwhelming data that shows these dams are the biggest problem our fish face. Smolts heading to the ocean and returning adults suffer huge losses as a result of trying to negotiate the dams. Our fish face many issues, commercial and sport fishing, predators, warm water and more but the removal of these dams would enable Idaho to once again have a substantial fishery. Please contact Governor Little and ask him to allow this group to look at all options as the new year begins.

I worry our salmon and steelhead will go extinct if we don't do something now. Losing this important part of Idaho's history and culture would be a huge loss for all Idahoans.

Idahoans are paying many of the costs, but getting few of the benefits. We need to come together to find real solutions to bring back our fish. We've tried the same things over decades and salmon and steelhead are still on the verge of extinction.

We need bold ideas and we need to talk about what we can all do together, including talking about dams and other options. I urge you to come together around bold solutions for salmon/steelhead recovery.

Thank you.

Roger Rankin

From: [Joanne Richter](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Comments related to Idaho's Salmon Work Group
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 6:50:42 PM

To members of Idaho's Salmon Work Group:

First of all I want to thank each and every one of you for your time and commitment to serving on the Idaho Salmon Working Group. You have shared your personal perspectives on salmon recovery, learned about the importance of smelt-to-adult return ratios and the effects of avian and pinniped fish predation, toured fish recovery projects and hatcheries, and learned details about the lower Snake and Columbia hydropower system.

Your group consists of a broad array of businesses, organizations, and Native Americans presenting wide ranging thoughts, opinions, and strongly held beliefs related to your group's mission to "restore abundant, sustainable, and well distributed populations of salmon and steelhead in Idaho...."

I would ask each and every one of you to set aside your inherent ideological differences, and focus on the species of salmon and steelhead that have returned since time immemorial to spawn and rear in the cold, clean water of the Clearwater, Lochsa, and Salmon River watersheds that feed into the lower Snake River. The Snake River basin supports 70% of the habitat available for recovery of spring / summer Chinook and steelhead trout in the entire Columbia River Basin. It's absolutely imperative that four dams don't cause the demise of this incredible natural resource.

The return of these iconic species to the ocean has been impaired by the operations of, and warm pools of water behind, the four lower Snake River Dams since their construction. In fact, the deleterious affects of these dams was recognized as early as 1947 in a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report that stated "any series of dams on lower Snake River would be hazardous and might entirely eliminate the runs of migratory fish in that stream."

In a 2018 letter to Governor Inslee's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force, 33 salmon scientists stated that "Lower Snake dam removal remains the most effective and available action to increase Snake River salmon abundance in the long-term." Another letter written in 2019 by 55 fisheries and natural resources scientists states that "The option of breaching lower Snake River dams, combined with existing or modified cold water releases, has enormous potential to alleviate the very serious problem of elevated summer temperatures in the lower Snake River and increase the survival rate from out-migrating smolts to returning adults for all salmon species."

Experts at the Fish Passage Center stated recently that "increasing spill to the 125% gas cap and/or breaching the lower Snake River dams are the only two options left if Snake River salmon and steelhead are to survive." These options could have some affect on electrical rate payers, wheat farmers in eastern Washington, and barging companies. However, many of the potential affects can, with few exceptions, be mitigated through innovative solutions that I hope have been presented to and discussed by your group. If plausible solutions to potential economic impacts from dam breaching have not been brought to the table, ask for them. We've got to breach the political, economic, and cultural impass that's become quite common these days. I trust that Idaho's Salmon Work Group is up to the challenge. Joanne

Joanne Richter, Co-Leader
Central OR Bitterbrush Broads
60065 River Bluff Trail
Bend, OR 97702
541-420-4861
joanneerichter@gmail.com

"The idea of wilderness needs no defense. It only needs more defenders." Aldo Leopold

From: [Katy anderson](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Bring Back Our Salmon and Steelhead!
Date: Monday, February 3, 2020 10:16:55 PM

Dear Governor Little and Salmon Workgroup Members, I worry our salmon and steelhead will go extinct if we don't do something now. Losing this important part of Idaho's history and culture would be a huge loss for all Idahoans. Idahoans are paying many of the costs, but getting few of the benefits. We need to come together to find real solutions to bring back our fish. We've tried the same things over decades and salmon and steelhead are still on the verge of extinction. We need bold ideas and we need to talk about what we can all do together, including talking about dams and other options. I urge you to come together around bold solutions for salmon/steelhead recovery. Thank you.

From: [charly](#)
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Bring Back Our Salmon and Steelhead!
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 9:33:55 AM

Dear Governor Little and Salmon Workgroup Members,

I worry our salmon and steelhead will go extinct if we don't do something now. Losing this important part of Idaho's history and culture would be a huge loss. The Anadromous fish runs that once filled our rivers and forest streams were an enormous gift. It is past time to show our appreciation and do everything to restore them into abundance. They enrich not just our rivers, but our complete ecosystems and our lives.

Salmon and steelhead are on the verge of extinction. SO lets deal with the Lower Snake River Dams, all the other habitat connectivity issues, and the health of the North Pacific Ocean, and Global Warming right? The Sacred Circle of Life is so powerful exemplified by the Salmon. NOBODY Said it would be easy. Otherwise it would have been done already.

We need bold ideas and bold solutions for salmon/steelhead recovery.

Thank you.
Charles Mabbott

From: daveheep1@aol.com
To: [Species Conservation](#)
Subject: Bring Back Our Salmon and Steelhead!
Date: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 12:21:34 PM

Dear Governor Little and Salmon Workgroup Members, I worry our salmon and steelhead will go extinct if we don't do something now. Losing this important part of Idaho's history and culture would be a huge loss for all Idahoans. Idahoans are paying many of the costs, but getting few of the benefits. We need to come together to find real solutions to bring back our fish. We've tried the same things over decades and salmon and steelhead are still on the verge of extinction. We need bold ideas and we need to talk about what we can all do together, including talking about dams and other options. I urge you to come together around bold solutions for salmon/steelhead recovery. Thank you.