



April 13, 2009

Dam Breaching is not the answer

Breaching four Snake River dams ("Dr. Lubchenco and the Salmon", April 10) has been studied many times. The outcomes have always been conclusive: dam breaching is not the answer for Northwest fish.

The new Biological Opinion provides more funding, certainty and collaboration than all previous plans. It is already reaping significant fish benefits.

Juvenile fish survival through the Columbia Snake River System has tripled since the 1970s. Adult returns are the highest since the 1930s.

Judge James Redden is supervising a collaboration that led to unprecedented agreements between the federal agencies, six Native American Tribes, and three states. These Fish Accords will deliver even more benefits for fish. Still, dam breach advocates refuse to acknowledge improvements that have led to record fish returns.

Take salmon recovery where it belongs: out of the debate halls and into the field to actually help the salmon we all cherish.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Glenn Vanselow".

Glenn Vanselow
Executive Director
Pacific Northwest Waterways Association

About PNWA: PNWA is the voice of navigation, trade and economic development interests from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and northern California. Members include public ports, navigation, international trade, tourism, agriculture, forest products, energy and state and local government interests. PNWA also represents the Inland Ports and Navigation Group, comprised of ports from Oregon, Washington and Idaho, towboat companies, and shippers of maritime cargo from agriculture and the forest products industry. IPNG is an intervenor in the BiOp lawsuit. You can learn more about PNWA at www.pnwa.net.

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ph. 503-234-8550 • f. 503-234-8555 • 9115 SW Oleson Road • Suite 101 • Portland, OR 97223