



Columbia Riverkeeper
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August 12, 2022

Senator Maria Cantwell
1313 Officers Row
Vancouver, WA 981313
Via email to: Tommy_Bauer@Cantwell.senate.gov; Megan_Thompson@cantwell.senate.gov

RE: Remove Snake River Dams. Prevent Extinction.

Dear Senator Cantwell,

Since June 1, 2022, another 571 people from Washington and around the country have signed the following letter:

“Pacific Northwest Salmon and Southern Resident Orcas are facing extinction, and we are calling on you to act with the urgency this moment demands. We are counting on your leadership to save these iconic species from extinction.

It’s time to remove the four Lower Snake River dams and replace the services they provide.

The science is clear: the four Lower Snake River dams make the river too hot for salmon, and dam removal is our last best chance to prevent the extinction of salmon and orcas while honoring Tribal rights and leadership.

I appreciate your promises and leadership so far. But, as salmon and orca populations sink towards extinction, we need swift, effective action before it is too late. **Please enact a plan for Lower Snake River Dam removal before the end of 2022.**”

Many signers added heartfelt comments about the importance and urgency of removing Snake River dams; their comments are attached. As Diana from Seattle wrote: “How can someone who lives in the PNW not personally care about this issue? Wake up and do something before the SRKWs are literally extinct.” We urge you to give Senator Murray’s forthcoming report on Snake River dam replacement a warm welcome and help enact a plan for Lower Snake River Dam removal before the end of 2022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Miles Johnson", is written over a horizontal line.

Miles Johnson, Senior Attorney for Columbia Riverkeeper
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