



STOP THE PROPOSED GOLDENDALE PUMPED STORAGE DEVELOPMENT

ColumbiaRiverkeeper.org/Pushpum



MOTHER OF ALL ROOTS

**The sacred land, medicines,
and traditions of Pushpum
are in danger of destruction.**

In the name of “clean energy,” the proposed Goldendale Pumped Storage development in Washington could create “unique significant and unavoidable adverse impacts” to Pushpum, **a Yakama Nation sacred site.**

We believe it’s not clean energy if it exploits and destroys irreplaceable Tribal cultural resources.



Pushpum has nurtured life in this region since time immemorial.

Known to the Yakama Nation as **“mother of all roots,”** Pushpum is a sacred site for Yakama Nation ceremonies, legends, and gathering of traditional roots and medicines. As a **natural seed bank**, this site contains **rich biodiversity** in plant and animal life that once removed can never be fully restored. The loss of this resource would have devastating ecological impacts across Klickitat County and beyond.

The Washington Department of Ecology’s Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) confirmed what Yakama Nation already knows to be true—the proposed development would have **“unique significant and unavoidable adverse impacts on Tribal communities and members.”** The EIS also found that the developers’ proposed mitigation efforts effectively do nothing to reduce the level of impact.

The Environmental Review conducted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)—released without adequate tribal consultation—also concluded that the development would have unavoidable adverse effects on cultural resources.

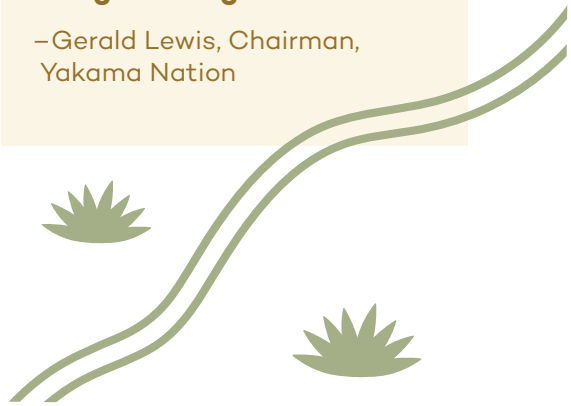
“If it harms Tribes, then it’s not clean energy. In fact, it’s environmental racism.”

—Alyssa Macy (citizen of Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Oregon), CEO of Washington Conservation Action

“It is the responsibility of the Yakama Nation to protect these resources now and in the future for the benefit of those not yet born. The state’s environmental review validates warnings from the Yakama people about the destruction of sacred sites that are passed down through our traditional songs and legends.”

—Gerald Lewis, Chairman, Yakama Nation

Flickr: Peter Stevens



THIS DEVELOPMENT DOESN'T ADD UP.

The ill-conceived location racks up development costs.

Pressing ahead while Yakama Nation, surrounding Tribes, and environmental groups oppose development is pushing costs past the \$2.5 billion price tag—resources that would be better spent finding another possible location.

It will slow down our green energy transition. Putting new energy development on land that is known to be culturally significant erodes Tribal and Non-Governmental Organizations' trust in the state and federal governments' ability to consider and protect cultural resources.

The development is not necessary to meet our decarbonization goals. Clean energy resources in the region that are available or under development are more than sufficient to provide the energy services provided by the proposed development.

The environmental and cultural value of Pushpum is incalculable. Destroying these lands would be an irrecoverable blow to the biodiversity that benefits everyone. For the Yakama Nation, it threatens food sources and the ways of life that have sustained families since time immemorial.

“For too long, these sacred places where we gather our foods and hold our ceremonies have been threatened by development without consultation with, or consult from, our sovereign tribes.”

– Former Yakama Tribal Council Chairman Delano Saluskin

We must invest in a truly sustainable clean energy future.

Clean, renewable energy is essential to protecting our planet for ourselves and future generations. But in meeting our clean energy goals, we cannot repeat the mistakes of past energy development.

The state and federal governments must follow the lead of tribal governments and peoples, green-lighting projects that are:

- ✓ **Supported by Tribal Nations and Native peoples**
- ✓ **Appropriately sited**
- ✓ **Economically sound**

“We must advance real solutions that don’t perpetuate environmental injustices and disproportionately impact Indigenous communities. Rubber stamping this development will only stall our progress in achieving our decarbonization goals.”

–Sarah Dyrdaahl, Northwest Region Director at American Rivers

Tribal treaty rights cannot be ignored.

The lack of comprehensive consultation with Yakama Nation violates their Treaty-reserved rights.

Pushpum is part of Yakama Nation's ancestral homelands. Yakama Nation's Treaty-reserved rights to fish and gather traditional foods and medicines in the area proposed for development have been practiced since time immemorial. Throughout the licensing process for the proposed development, Yakama Nation's sovereignty has been ignored and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has wholly failed in its consultation duties.

"We stand united with the Yakama Nation to protect their sacred sites. All tribes in Washington State must stand together to protect our resources."

—Tulalip Tribe's Chairwoman
Teri Gobin



TAKE ACTION

ColumbiaRiverkeeper.org/Pushpum

Tell regulators it's not clean energy if it destroys Tribal cultural resources. Learn more, follow, and share [@ColumbiaRiverkeeper](#).



Join the scores of Tribal Nations and conservation organizations in the movement to stop the proposed Goldendale Pump Storage development.

Supporting Tribes

Suquamish Tribe
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Puyallup Tribe of Indians
Squaxin Island Tribe
Tulalip Tribes
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
Makah Tribe
Quileute Tribe
Skokomish Indian Tribe
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Quinault Indian Tribe
Lummi Nation
Nooksack Tribe
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Nisqually Indian Tribe
Supporting Organizations

350 PDX

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians
American Rivers
American Whitewater
Audubon Society of Washington
BARK
Bird Alliance of Oregon
Center for Environmental Law & Policy
Central Oregon Land Watch
Columbia Riverkeeper
Earth Ministry
Families for Climate
Food and Water Watch
Friends of the White Salmon River
Friends of Toppenish Creek
Idaho Rivers United
Latino Community Fund
The Mosquito Fleet
National Congress of American Indians

Neighbors for Clean Air

Northwest Environmental Advocates
Northwest Environmental Defense Center
NW Energy Coalition
OR Ecumenical Ministries
OR Interfaith Power and Light
OR/WA Indivisible Groups, including the Consolidated OR Indivisible Network
Oregon Just Transition Alliance
Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility
Portland State University
Rogue Climate
Save our Wild Salmon
Seattle Aquarium
Sierra Club
Sound Action
WA Interfaith Power and Light