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From: Marty Rosback [mailto: [REDACTED]]
Sent: Tuesday, December 03, 2002 7:46 AM
To: comments@nwppc.org
Subject: A Stand For Salmon

For Mark Walker:

Northwest Power Planning Council Public Hearing
January 14, 2003

By Capt. Marty Rosback

Hello, my name is Marty Rosback and I am the president of the Portland Chapter of the North West Rafter's Association, an organization of over 200 self-outfitted whitewater boaters. Tonight I am representing myself and the plan of recovery outlined by the Save Our Salmon coalition in speaking against the implementation of the Draft Mainstream Amendments.

I do not pretend to have a total knowledge of, or belittle the complex factors that make up the Northwest Power Planning Council's decision-making process in matters such as determining the most effective method of wildlife preservation when pitted against the mighty forces of industrial needs.

Every individual's expectations for what should be done with public lands is based upon their values, which causes the decision-making process to be a political process of the most difficult and complex order. What you care deeply about may not be what I care deeply about and so on.

I do know that when it comes to wildlife, whatever man's hand attempts can never equal the repair that the earth can do to itself when left alone.

The recent example of the massive salmon die-off in the Lower Klamath River is a tragic example of how man's often-shortsighted politics can quickly damage wildlife.

I want to emphasize that history will not remember as a tragedy that 30 agribusinesses on the Lower Snake River had to get their irrigation water in another fashion or that the businesses of Lewiston, Idaho switched from shipping goods by rail instead of barge. But history will certainly remember the tragedy of shortsighted generations that did not do everything they could to save and protect the wildlife around them from extinction that was not theirs to begin with.

I urge you to look at this situation anew, without past prejudice, with an awakened intelligence, and do the right thing. The thing that preserves our wildlife.

Thank you for listening.