



Jeanie Townsend

Your staff is proposing taking water that irrigates our crops. We sell those crops for money that in turn feeds our families and pays our employees. We buy from local merchants, and they employ people. We pay state, federal, and property taxes that pays your wages. These taxes also fund schools and local governments. This irrigation cycle has benefited this state, country and the world for 120 years. It has fed millions if not billions of people.

Your staff report on the impact of this proposal is enough to wonder why this people were ever hired. That our own government would even consider such a thing is almost unbelievable.

There is no evidence that increased water flow will help the salmon and plenty evidence to suggest that it has already hurt. There is no study that has been done, just the assumption that an increased water flow will solve the problem. There are good programs that can help, but this one is untested. The water release for fish has been doubled in the last three years with no benefit and we need that water back. Every time you designate water for other uses it makes the dam smaller.

We have been adding people to the state until recent years, but no new dams have been built in 40 years.

But even though this makes absolutely no sense there maybe a reasonable explanation. The extra water that has been released for fish out of the dam is

being picked up down river and being sold, and the state is doing nothing about it.

Is it about fish or water to sell? If it was about fish farmers take care of animals, that's what we do. But if it's about **GREED HOW TO YOU FIX THAT?**

Yours truly,

Norman J Bettencourt.