

**American Rivers • American Whitewater • Earthjustice • Endangered Species Coalition •  
Friends of the Earth • Idaho Rivers United • Idaho Steelhead and Salmon Unlimited •  
National Wildlife Federation • NW Energy Coalition • Northwest Sportfishing Industry  
Association • Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations • Republicans for  
Environmental Protection • Save Our Wild Salmon • Sierra Club •  
Trout Unlimited • Washington Wildlife Federation**

June 1, 2007

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the millions of Americans our organizations collectively represent, we urge you to cosponsor H.R. 1507, the Salmon Economic Analysis and Planning Act (SEAPA). Introduced by Representatives Jim McDermott and Thomas Petri, this bipartisan legislation seeks to restore Pacific Northwest salmon for future generations of Americans, while also protecting local communities and U.S. taxpayers.

The wild salmon and steelhead of the Pacific Northwest's Columbia and Snake River Basin are national treasures and enduring symbols of this country's perseverance and determination. They were also once the economic engine of the Pacific Coast, supporting tens of thousands of jobs from California to Alaska, as well as a billion-dollar salmon fishing industry. Today, however, many runs of salmon and steelhead are at risk of extinction, despite taxpayer and ratepayer expenditures of more than \$7 billion, and communities throughout the Northwest have suffered as a result. In order to move forward with salmon restoration that works – for the region and for the nation – all viable recovery options should be given full and fair consideration.

H.R. 1507 authorizes credible, independent studies from the National Academy of Sciences and the Government Accountability Office to provide Congress with the information it needs to make sound decisions about the future of endangered salmon. Specifically, H.R. 1507 seeks a thorough and objective analysis of lower Snake River dam removal alongside other salmon recovery measures in order to develop a complete picture of what's necessary to protect and restore these magnificent fish and the communities that rely on them – while ensuring the efficient, smart investment of taxpayer dollars.

Our organizations fully support the Salmon Economic Analysis and Planning Act and urge you to cosponsor this bipartisan bill. By doing so, you can help ensure that the federal government is prepared to meet its responsibility to restore Columbia and Snake River salmon in a cost-effective and well-planned manner, and protect the local communities that depend upon this vital resource. To cosponsor, please call Sean Hughes (Rep. McDermott) at 5-3106 or Lindsay Bowers (Rep. Petri) at 5-2476. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

*[Please see following page for signatories.]*

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