

Trant Lindsay

From: Treothe Bullock <treothe@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 15, 2015 1:11 PM
To: Rep Helm; Trant Lindsay
Subject: Fw: :Testimony for HJM 15 Celilo Falls feasibility study

April 15, 2015

From: Celilo Falls Education Fund

To:

State Representative Brian Clem, Committee Chair
House Committee on Rural Communities, Land Use and Water
Oregon State Capitol
By email

RE: HJM 15 Celilo Falls feasibility study

Dear Chair Clem and Members of the Committee:

Celilo Falls Education Fund (CFEF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to advocating for the natural rights of NChi'Wana (the Columbia River) and its indigenous cultures and ecosystems, beginning with Celilo Falls. CFEF advances evolution of the region's dominant economy and culture away from conquest and exploitation of NChi'Wana toward cooperation and ecological integrity. CFEF is committed to promoting restoration of Celilo Falls as an essential step toward recognizing NChi'Wana's natural rights and transforming the region's dominant economy and culture. Key points in this vision include: the revitalization of her waters, recovery of native fisheries and the full restoration of indigenous harvest sites of the Mid-Columbia.

We welcome and support HJM 15, in its call for a feasibility study on the lowering of Lake Celilo to reveal Celilo Falls. Out of respect for Tribal Statements regarding a temporary lowering, which have likened temporary lowering to opening a grave for tourists, we will likely oppose a temporary lowering. It is our hope that we all realize the ongoing genocidal tragedy of the flooding of the Ancient Indigenous NChi'Wana Fishery and commit to a full restoration.

We have become aware that with minor modifications the Dalles and John Day Dam could operate with a restored Celilo Falls. It is our understanding that the primary purpose in flooding the falls is to enable barge traffic. This barge traffic is tax payer subsidized by as much as \$24,000 a barge load and that already functioning transportation alternatives exist and are in place.

As you know Celilo Falls is historically the largest volume waterfall in North America and has served as the central ecological, cultural, spiritual and economic center of the Columbia Watershed for the last 12,000 plus years. The recovery of the Ancient Celilo Falls Fishery under the guidance of the Columbia River Indians and associated Treaty Tribes - symbolizes and will motivate a turning from the ongoing extractive genocidal colonialism of our past and move us forward toward environmental justice and a sustainable future we can all be proud of.

We are confident that the enhanced fishery, ecotourism and good will that a restored Celilo Falls will bring to our region will far outpay any losses in losing the subsidized barge traffic on the River. It is our hope that this feasibility study will help to clarify and move forward such vision.

As you know we are currently in the 2014 – 2024 Columbia River Treaty Review process. We would encourage the Legislative Assembly to support, in a formal statement – The Final Recommendation of the Northwest Entity to the U.S. State Department to add “ecosystem function” as a third fundamental purpose of the treaty between the United States and Canada. We would also encourage adding the “cultural functions” of the River with respect to Indigenous Law & Traditions connected with the River. At this time every single traditional fishing location, guaranteed protection by treaty, is actively being flooded in order to enable subsidized barge traffic. It is our belief that we share common treaty responsibilities and have a need for repair of these ongoing transgressions.

In the long run we will need to allow salmon smolts more wetlands and faster moving waters if they are to survive warming conditions. For generations dams have been thought of as benign in relation to climate change. Emerging science has now shown that because of methane gas generated in anaerobic decomposition of dam sediment build ups – dams are contributing to climate change on par with the entire planet's transportation systems. Meaningful action towards stopping and reversing anthropogenic sources of climate change must include eventual dam removals.

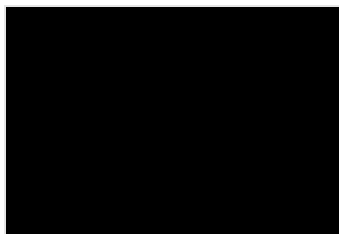
It is our hope that you will pursue the feasibility study and participate in formally advocating for a reprioritization of human and ecological values connected with the Columbia River and for a full restoration of the Ancient Tribal NChi'Wana Fishery - beginning with Celilo Falls.

Thank you for your efforts!

Sincerely,

Treoth Joseph Bullock
2823 SE 87th Ave
Portland OR 97266
Celilo Falls Education Fund

[Celilo Falls Education Fund](#)



Celilo Falls Education Fund

We are a 501(c)(3) non profit organization
dedicated to a vision of a free & revitalized
NChi'Wana

[View on celilofef.wordpress.com](#)

Preview by Yahoo

treeoathe.wordpress.com