
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8055

State of Washington 58th Legislature 2004 Regular Session

By Senators Roach, Kastama, Rasmussen, Franklin, Oke, Winsley and Stevens

Read first time 02/16/2004. Referred to Committee on Parks, Fish & Wildlife.

1 TO THE HONORABLE GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
4 UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

5 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
6 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
7 represent and petition as follows:

8 WHEREAS, The Lake Tapps reservoir supports many public benefits for
9 the citizens of Pierce County as well as the greater Puget Sound
10 region; and

11 WHEREAS, Over the past four years, community members, public
12 officials, and the private sector have worked tirelessly as part of the
13 Lake Tapps Task Force to save the Lake Tapps reservoir in Pierce
14 County; and

15 WHEREAS, The Puget Sound Chinook salmon have been making great
16 strides on the White River; and

17 WHEREAS, The White River diversion dam is an essential component of
18 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' trap and haul facilities that provide
19 passage for threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon above the Corps' Mud
20 Mountain Dam; and

1 WHEREAS, Puget Sound Energy ceased operation of the White River
2 diversion dam and hydroelectric project on January 15, 2004; and

3 WHEREAS, Without the ongoing operation of the White River diversion
4 dam, and the facilities required to pass water through the reservoir,
5 these fish passage facilities will no longer function properly and the
6 Mud Mountain Dam will become an impassible barrier to salmon and other
7 anadromous species; and

8 WHEREAS, Catastrophic harm to threatened salmon and other species
9 would occur if the fish passage facilities were not continued in
10 operation; and

11 WHEREAS, In order to avoid such harm to threatened fish species,
12 the Corps has entered into an interim contract with Puget Sound Energy
13 to keep the diversion dam and related facilities in operation for fish
14 passage purposes; and

15 WHEREAS, Interim funding is required to continue operation of the
16 fish passage facilities until the Corps can put a long-term solution in
17 place;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that you
19 support insertion of language into the FY 2005 U.S. Army Corps of
20 Engineers' budget that will designate funding for fish passage needs on
21 the White River, including payment of costs incurred in FY 2004.

22 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
23 transmitted to the Honorable George W. Bush, President of the United
24 States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
25 House of Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
26 Washington.

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