

From: Dick French [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 07, 2012 10:29 AM
To: Wessel, Ann (ECY)
Subject: Water Rights

Ms. Wessel

In the 1940's, there were 949 working dairy farms cows, in the Sequim-Dungeness Valley. Irrigation was flood irrigation, with high withdrawals off the Dungeness River. Yet, there were plenty of fish. Even with the increase in population, the amount of water pulled from the Dungeness River now is FAR less than what was used in previous times.

Now the wild fish in the Dungeness River are few, caused not by lack of spawning water, but by nylon pollution. i.e. gill nets stretched across the river by commercial and tribal fisherman. Getting the wild fish back in the river, which was once a goal of fisherman and ecologists, is now a never ending occupation which we all pour money into, trying a different method every few years without success. Get rid of the nylon pollution and the fish will come back.

Richard French
Sequim

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