

Dear Ms. Ann Wessel,

Last month, Ecology published a proposed instream flow rule for the Dungeness River. Instream flows are the minimum amount of water that people need to leave in the river to sustain fish.

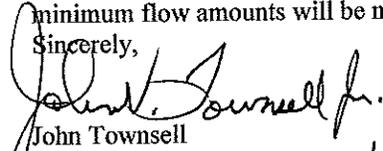
I support adoption of the proposed instream flow rule for the Dungeness River.

However, I am concerned that the rule fails to adequately protect the Dungeness basin from the further over-appropriation of its water resources.

The proposed rule allows for withdrawals of water, in the form of reservations for future use. Allowing those future uses, even if partially mitigated, will keep the river from achieving the 180 cfs minimum flow in late summer the rule sets to sustain fish and the river itself.

I urge Ecology to adopt the rule but not the proposed reservations for future use until we know the minimum flow amounts will be met.

Sincerely,


John Townsell


THANK YOU!

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DEPT OF ECOLOGY
BELLINGHAM FIELD OFFICE