

December 14, 2009

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capital Way N.
1111 Washington St, S.E.
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Re: Entiat River Steelhead Fishery

Dear Mr. Phil Anderson,

Landowners and visitors to the Entiat River watershed are very excited to have the opportunity of the hatchery Steelhead season this fall. We are aware that opening the season took the efforts of many individuals at the state and local level to make this happen and those efforts are very much appreciated.

While you may often hear from people when they are not happy with a decision made by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, it is important that you also hear from people when a decision by your department is well received. On behalf of the Entiat Landowner Steering Committee we want to express our gratitude for the Steelhead fishing season currently open on the Entiat River. This season, coupled with the last two hatchery Chinook seasons, provide quantifiable justification for local support by area landowners for the extensive salmon restoration work conducted in the Entiat River over the last several years and will help to provide support for continued momentum for future projects. In fact as of December 2009 it was estimated that a total of 1022 fishery hours had taken place on just the lower 6 miles of the Entiat River. In addition, the economic benefits to local businesses are being recognized. Several local business people have noticed increased sales, some of whom are wearing waders!

Thank you,

Entiat Landowner Steering Committee members

CC: Art Viola,
Dennis Beich
Jeff Korth
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
Kristine Petersen

Jon Z. Smith

Keith Bradbury

Karin Whitehall

Ray Sandidge

Hal Hawley

Donald W. Allen

Robert Whitehall

Philip Arapipald

Mal C. Alford

Amos Darlington

Ben Dargatz

Ted Whitehall

Michael Wyant, Superintendent

Clyde Frisk

Stacey Barker

Vickie Jacobs Stanton

Russell H. Hylleberg

Cheryl Griffith

Carol Ledbetter

W. J. [Signature]

[Signature]

William [Signature]

Douglas Wilson

Therese R. Larson

Carol Toney

Linda Olin

Randy [Signature]

Randy R. Tall

DRN Radenburg

Maggie Ledbetter

Alan Kren

Charles [Signature]

Tim [Signature]

Jerry [Signature]

Dan L. Wood

John Cox

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