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House of Representatives State of Idaho

February 6, 2003

The Honorable Judy Danielson
Chairman
Northwest Power Planning Council
450 W. State Street 3rd Floor
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Chairman Danielson:

I have reviewed the proposed Anston Amendment to the Council's 2000 Fish and Wild life Program.

I believe that your amendment makes much better use of available water fin actual new rather than focusing on NMFS Biological Opinion (BiOp) flow targets that are unattainable.

As the years continue, conservation of water becomes more, and more critical. This is due to the continued need of upstream water for irrigation, recreation and growth and downstream water for energy needs of the entire Northwest.

I am also pleased you recognize the need to protect the resident fisheries that in the past have been the recipients of only minimal attention, for quite, some time many of us in Idaho have had concerns whether extensive flow augmentation is really achieving the stated end result.

Again, thank you for presenting an operations plan that gives recognition to all of the needs for our inland waters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Stevenson".

Representative John A. Stevenson