

We have a once in a lifetime opportunity to restore the previously-bountiful but currently threatened of becoming endangered Snake River Chinook and other salmon to abundance. These legendary salmon provide primary nutrition for our critically endangered Southern Resident orcas some of whom have starved to death in the Salish Sea which used to be their main summer feeding territory.

Idaho Rep. Mike Simpson has announced a bold and comprehensive \$33.5 billion proposal to revitalize the Snake River and invest in agriculture, communities, transportation, and clean energy. Congressman Simpson deserves our gratitude and support for his leadership and dedication to salmon as well as for meeting the challenges facing regional families and communities. With appropriate mitigations, restoring the Snake River will not negatively impact power needs, transport, or irrigation.

**This is urgent:** for Simpson's proposal to be enacted, it must be included in the infrastructure bill currently being prepared for passage this summer. Simpson's proposal calls for breaching the four Snake River dams to restore the river, the salmon, and 5,500 miles of wilderness spawning streams. Breaching would also replenish about a million currently missing Chinook salmon to Southern Resident orca habitat along the Washington coast.

Rep. Simpson has provided a comprehensive plan with funding to ensure that Producers/ Farmers/ Shippers will not face increased costs and will have control over the annuities needed to compensate for lost barging services:

[simpson.house.gov/uploadedfiles/alternatives\\_to\\_barging.pdf](http://simpson.house.gov/uploadedfiles/alternatives_to_barging.pdf)

This plan will need support from Washington State's elected leaders to be included in the bill. Please support Rep. Simpson's comprehensive plan. If we miss this incredible opportunity, we may not see another chance for decades. We need your help. With your leadership to restore the Snake River, its salmon and Southern Resident orcas, many will follow. Without your help there is little chance we'll see a free-flowing Snake River in time to save the salmon or our orcas.

Sincerely,