

From: Jenny Noble <email address removed>
Sent: August 18, 2013 1:16 PM
To: Newprosperityreview [CEAA]
Subject: Re: Fraser River Sockeye Fishery Closed due to very low returns

Greetings:

I would like the Panel to consider the news that conditions in the Fraser River, including low water levels and high temperatures, have DFO extremely concerned. The referenced article includes this statement:

A large portion of the Chilliwack recreational fishing industry has come to an abrupt halt as **the government shut down the Fraser River to salmon fishing.**

Up to 70 per cent of sockeye salmon in the Fraser are expected to die before reaching spawning grounds, according to Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

We heard during the Aquatic Environment session that Pacific salmon face incredible obstacles to survival, and that the Chilko River populations are among the most resilient on the planet. Many presenters expressed concerns that developing New Prosperity would inevitably compromise these populations. That alone should justify -- even require -- rejecting this proposal

Here is the link to the entire article:<http://www.theprogress.com/news/219858711.html>

I hope this helps you understand why so many in our region are deeply worried about this proposal.

I wonder if you are aware how important the salmon are in the diet and economy of BC's First Nations. Protein being the single most expensive component of most diets, a year without salmon can have severe impacts on some of our most impoverished people. For them, salmon is neither a treat nor a delicacy. It is a staple of the diet, not easily replaced at the grocery store. To say that it is central to survival is no metaphor.

Respectfully,
Jenny Noble, Fish Lake Alliance