

December 4, 2001

**Peter Donaldson**  
**Watershed Legacy**  
3635 88th Ave. SE  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Re: *Watershed Legacy Proposal to the Bonneville Power Administration*

Dear Peter,

It is with great pleasure, hope and expectation that I offer this letter of support for your proposal for the Watershed Legacy Learning Community. Yours is an excellent proposal that cuts straight to the heart of the ecological restoration challenge. It is sure to yield phenomenal success.

Sadly, it has taken epic failures of civic process to show us that ***ecological restoration is much more a cultural than a technical issue***. My heart goes out to those whose losses have served as our education — as does my commitment to do everything I can to curtail such absurdity.

As a landscape, Walla Walla offers phenomenal potential for a world-class, sustainable community. Where else do you find such an abundance of fertile soil, clean water, excellent growing conditions, striking beauty, and a manageable population of intelligent, well-intentioned people? When we, as a community, come to embrace all that is possible with our available resources, we will undoubtedly be the envy of many.

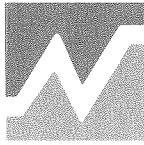
But to tap this potential, we have got to start thinking and behaving very differently. For our *actions* to be right, our *plans* have to be right — and for our *plans* to be right our *process* has to be right. ***Good process is hard work and it will only be led by citizens with a clear understanding of it and passionate commitment to it.***

Fountainhead is proud to step forward as a partner in the Watershed Legacy vision that owes so much to you and your father, Jack — not to mention the courageous citizens of our Pacific Northwest communities who will ultimately become its driving force.

Onward!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Warinner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**John Warinner, PE**  
**President**



Nelson Irrigation Corporation



848 Airport Road, Walla Walla, WA 99362-2271

December 14, 2001

RE: Watershed Legacy proposal to the BPA

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Watershed Legacy proposal to the Bonneville Power Administration.

I have lived in the Walla Walla Watershed for the past 30 years. I am involved in business here, including a farming operation which depends upon irrigation water out of tributaries to the Walla Walla river. I am active in, and committed to restoring the fishery in the Walla Walla, as well as preserving a healthy and sustainable agricultural economy in the basin.

As this letter is being written, a new entity is being formed which will be called the Walla Walla Watershed Alliance. This alliance will bring together the landowners, the Tribes and the environmental community in a proactive program to develop a model for our watershed enhancement. This is a local process, involving all the citizenry, and the Watershed Legacy proposal will fulfill an extremely important component of our plans, i.e. that of focusing on the challenge of nurturing social behavioral change during this process.

I encourage a favorable ruling for funding this proposal.

Sincerely,

Bob Rugar  
Vice President



December 10,2001

Bonneville Power Authority  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, OR 97208-3621

Re: Support for the Watershed Legacy Proposal

The Walla Walla valley is setting a new atmosphere of collaborative problem solving. We refer to it as the "Walla Walla Way" as we wrestle with what could be and has been a highly contentious issue of limited flows for fish and agriculture. The Klamath and the Methow valleys could learn from our example.

Our last Community "Confluence" symposium was a success as we brought together landowners, various interest groups, tribes, states, and federal agencies for two and a half days to informally discuss issues and solutions in a casual non-confrontational setting established through the skilled facilitation of Peter Donaldson.

We need a large percentage of landowners to buy in to conservation practices if we are to see improvements in this watershed with its 80 percent private land ownership. Watershed Legacy will expand the existing Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council's work to the whole watershed, not just Oregon, by providing the outreach, forum for input, and solution development that this valley needs. We are already planning the next two Community Confluences, one in January, and another in the Spring to sustain and build upon the momentum.

The tools of Watershed Legacy have begun to be applied through our confluence symposium and planning partner communications. But we need BPA support to be able to expand the participation, the audience, the face-to-face frequency, the between gathering planning and exchanges, and the overall effectiveness of our collaborative process. The Web Portal will allow us to store what we learn, document progress, and share with interested onlookers from other watersheds. By training local leaders, outside support will become obsolete, like a salmon hatchery that restocks a river to a locally driven, self-sustaining run.

The Walla Walla subbasin, as a bi-state, multi-county watershed, is an ideal test case and will model for other basins how to overcome political and organizational boundaries. With "The Walla Walla Way" we are helping to expand the horizons of different bureaucracies as they learn how to work with new partners and the citizens themselves. Help us on our quest.

Sincerely,

Brian R. Wolcott - Executive Director, Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council



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Phone (509) 529-2218  
Email [jchuesby@bmi.net](mailto:jchuesby@bmi.net)

December 07, 2001

Peter Donaldson  
Watershed Legacy  
3635 88th Ave. SE  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Dear Peter,

This letter is to reiterate my support of the Watershed Legacy Learning Community. As a landowner, farmer, and irrigator, I remain deeply committed to evolving long-term, balanced solutions among the various Walla Walla River water stakeholders -- both people and fish. I believe this Learning Community is precisely what is needed to build partnerships and set appropriate courses of action as "citizen stewards".

Leadership requires Vision -- an idea in the mind's eye of what could be done; Wisdom -- knowledge tempered with experience about what can be done; and Action -- what is being done. As an innovator/farmer, I am actively working toward this balance between the growing needs of fish (Native Americans), agriculture (irrigation districts and landowners), and the general society (domestic water, power, recreation, food) by pursuing the idea of off-stream, off-season, on-farm storage of water.

A series of small on-farm reservoirs filled when there is enough water for everyone could serve multiple uses in addition to irrigation. As demand increases on a finite water supply, I am doing my part through example as well as through my participation in organizations such as the Watershed Legacy.

Good ideas, good communication, and good education about these opportunities can't happen without funding. I encourage the Bonneville Power Administration to provide financial assistance which will enable the Watershed Legacy the ability to pursue these ends.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joel Huesby". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joel Huesby



CleanWater Services  
Our commitment is clear.

April 30, 2002

Peter Donaldson  
Watershed Legacy  
3635 88th Ave. SE  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Dear Peter,

I am writing to offer Clean Water Services' enthusiastic support for the Watershed Legacy proposal. This project complements Clean Water Services' objectives to raise citizen awareness of their watersheds, to actively engage stakeholders in the decision-making process, and to provide the foundation for the belief and behavior changes necessary to build and sustain healthy watersheds.

As the water resource management utility providing sanitary sewer and surface water management services for nearly 450,000 residents of the urban Tualatin River Basin, Clean Water Services shares Watershed Legacy's public awareness and involvement goals. We know that to be effective in achieving our goals, we need partners. The Watershed Legacy proposal will help leverage the strong partnerships that exist in the Tualatin Basin and build upon past success to reach further toward sustainable, healthy watersheds. We believe that clean water and a healthy environment are everyone's right and everyone's responsibility. This proposal will help our community further understand these rights and responsibilities.

Clean Water Services' supports the Watershed Legacy proposal and will provide technical advice and assistance as the project unfolds.

Sincerely,



Mark Jockers  
Public Affairs Manager

FOR THE SAKE



OF THE SALMON

Date: May 10, 2002

To: Northwest Power Planning Council

**RE: "Engaging the Public in Watershed Planning: A Tool Box for Social Change"  
Application by Watershed Legacy Learning Community**

For the Sake of the Salmon (FSOS) has reviewed the proposed "Tool Box for Social Change" project being proposed for funding by the Watershed Legacy Learning Community. The Watershed Legacy project represents a continuation and an expansion on much of the work undertaken by FSOS, including for example our current series of watershed group networking forums and our new Technical Assistance Directory, and our partnership with the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts to provide business skills capacity to soil and water conservation districts. The proposed project speaks directly to the most pressing needs among watershed groups, that being building local capacity to identify effective opportunities and tools, craft their own solutions, and resolve their own problems. FSOS looks forward to being able to support and partner on the important concepts being put forward in the Watershed Legacy Learning Community proposal.

On a personal note, I know from conversations with Peter Donaldson, Watershed Legacy Co-Founder, that the Tualatin River Basin (Oregon) will be one of the target communities for delivering this project. Before joining FSOS, I was a city manager (Sherwood, Oregon) and a private consultant working in the Tualatin Basin. My work focused greatly on watershed resources through involvement in water quality issues, open space and floodplain preservation, and creation of the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge. That being said I can attest from personal local experience as to the degree to which the "Tool Box for Local Change" will benefit the cause of watershed restoration and the groups that move that message forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James H. Rapp'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

James H. Rapp  
Executive Director





A land trust to preserve, protect and restore Oregon's wetlands

PO Box 1195

Tualatin, Oregon 97062

(503) 691-1394

Northwest Power Planning Council

851 SW 6 th Ave

Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Northwest Power Planning Council;

The Wetlands Conservancy (TWC) is excited to partner with the Watershed Legacy Learning Community. TWC and Watershed Legacy have taken different routes and arrived at very similar and complimentary approaches to engaging citizens in watershed and wetland stewardship. Both groups share the common theme of exchanging stories and giving a variety of people a voice. Watershed Legacy brings communication, community building and expressive forms of chronicling success. TWC brings hands on experiences of land conservation and restoration.

The Watershed Legacy approach to citizen involvement and capacity building will provide a bigger picture framework and a new type of dialogue to the work TWC has been doing in the Tualatin Valley. TWC's recent publication, *Heroic Tales of Wetland Restoration*, profiles 12 rural landowners who changed their farming practices to reclaim wetlands, streams and rivers. The stories are of passionate people who have overcome obstacles. We are very excited to bring together the people featured in the book and the farmers that have been involved in Watershed Legacy's Walla Walla Project. We feel the people from both projects have a lot to share. This group can also serve as the technical advisors to farmers and rural landowners in the Tualatin Basin.

The Wetlands Conservancy (TWC) is one of Oregon's first land trusts. Founded in 1981, TWC was the first organization in Oregon to dedicate itself to preserving, protecting and promoting the wildlife, water quality and open space values of these long neglected habitats. TWC began as a dedicated effort by school children, businesses and neighbors to save a 1.2 acre wetland in Hedges Creek Marsh in Tualatin, Oregon. Today our 500 members and staff are working with others to conserve more than 800 acres in 23 preserves stretching from the Portland Metropolitan area to the southern Oregon Coast. The mission of The Wetlands Conservancy is to conserve, protect, and restore the physical and ecological values of wetlands, other aquatic systems and related uplands. We accomplish our goals through education, research, acquisition, and promotion of private and public stewardship.

TWC has served as a catalyst for building a lasting legacy of community stewardship. Working hand-in-hand with citizens, schools, businesses, neighborhoods, TWC has dedicated itself to conserving and enhancing the wildlife, water quality and open space values of healthy wetlands, streams and watersheds.

The Wetlands Conservancy is pleased to be a partner and an active participant in the Watershed Legacy Learning Community. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

*Esther Lev*

Esther Lev

Executive Director

The Wetlands Conservancy





# Institute for Washington's Future

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Mr. Peter Donaldson  
Co-Founder, Watershed Legacy Learning Community  
3635 88<sup>th</sup> Ave S.E.  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Dear Peter:

The Institute for Washington's Future fully supports Watershed Legacy and its Engaging the Public in Watershed Planning proposal. The Institute, as I am personally, is happy to participate in this program.

The Institute was founded as part of an effort on the part of conflicted groups –environmental organizations, community based stakeholders, and labor unions – to resolve the spotted owl/old growth timber controversy. Since our inception, we have seen these environment versus the economy conflicts grown in scope and intensity around the Northwest. We have seen much regulatory enforcement, many court actions, and all too little real change.

Our experience is that positive steps forward invariably involve:

- Building open and respectful relationships among all parties;
- bringing the collective wisdom of the parties closest to the problems to bear on their solutions;
- focusing on constructive, community based projects.

To my mind, this project and Watershed Legacy itself represent these principals in action.

The I.W.F. supports this program because, frankly, it is the first program which integrates these principals and applies them in a comprehensive way. More especially, our experience in the pilot project in Walla Walla demonstrates to us that it works. We see in this application that people who would not have dreamed of being in the same room with one another now see each other as “old” friends. We hear uncommon insights into the challenges we face and common sense approaches to problems articulated. And people have committed to action. This process works. It needs to be implemented region wide.

Thank you for your attention to this.

Sincerely Yours,

Don Hopps  
Consulting Director  
Institute for Washington's Future

# BURNS INVESTMENTS

P.O. BOX 812  
MILTON-FREEWATER, ORE 97862  
Phone 1-541-938-5132 Fax 1-541-938-8923

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December 10, 2001

Peter Donaldson  
3636 88<sup>th</sup> Ave SE.  
Mercer Island, Wash 98040

**Subject: Watershed Legacy proposal to BPA**

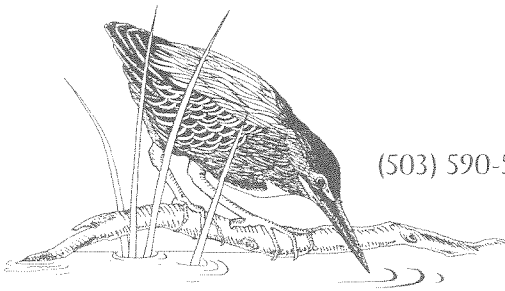
Dear Peter:

I have been an Open Space Practitioner for over five years and in those five years I have become a true believer in Open Space. It is the only vehicle out there today that guarantees people of differing viewpoints a way to communicate when trying to settle those differences.

When dealing with the complex solutions with the ESA, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act and Super Fund Cleanup, Open Space gives participants a place to be heard and to listen to the other sides viewpoints. All other forms of settling these different viewpoints leave out the ability to be heard and to listen. You are either a talker or a listen, but not both. I have seen Open Space work and it would be nice to see Watershed Legacy put it into practice so more people could experience Open Space and be allowed to see how well it works.

Respectfully:

James M. Burns  
Walla Walla River Basin Council  
Landowner/Irrigator/Land Investor/Developer  
Bull Trout Recovery Team, Walla Walla River  
Open Space Practitioner  
Planning Commission: M-F 8yrs, Umatilla Cty 12yrs

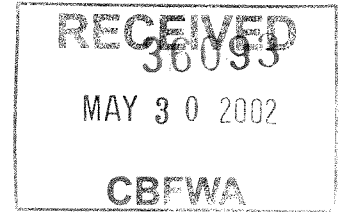


# TUALATIN Riverkeepers

16507 SW Roy Rogers Rd. Sherwood, OR 97140  
(503) 590-5813 • fax: (503) 590-6702 • [www.tualatinriverkeepers.org](http://www.tualatinriverkeepers.org)  
email: [info@tualatinriverkeepers.org](mailto:info@tualatinriverkeepers.org)



May 24, 2002



Northwest Power Planning Council

RE: Letter of Support for Watershed Legacy

Dear Council Members:

The Tualatin Riverkeepers supports the Watershed Legacy Project and their efforts to better involve the community in watershed protection. There are many efforts underway in the Tualatin Basin. Needed is a mechanism to better integrate those efforts within an overall watershed strategy. We see this as the most important role that the Watershed Legacy project can play... to make all the components work together more effectively and strengthen community involvement.

The Tualatin Riverkeepers are delighted with the opportunity to be an active participant in this project and commit both our expertise and resources to help make it a success.

For over 13 years, the Tualatin Riverkeepers has been working to protect and restore the Tualatin River system. With an active membership of 600, we build stewardship through public education, access to nature, citizen involvement and advocacy.

Watershed Legacy complements the Riverkeepers' community building approach towards establishing a culture of stewardship. We look forward to our collaborative partnership with Watershed Legacy and are heartened by the support it will provide. There is great potential in the Tualatin Basin.

Best regards,

Sue Marshall, Executive Director  
Tualatin Riverkeepers