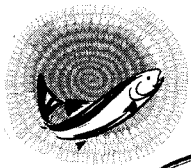
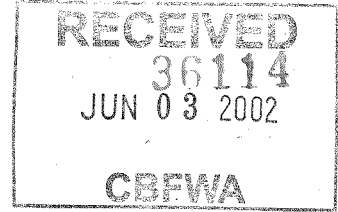


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KOOSKOOSKIE COMMONS



May 29, 2002

Northwest Power Planning Council:

Support Letter for Watershed Legacy

Three years ago, Kooskooskie Commons partnered with Jack and Peter Donaldson to introduce Open Space Technology to the Walla Walla Basin. Three years hence this meeting format has been adopted by the watershed community as part of what we call "the Walla Walla Way." Entitled "Confluences," we have scheduled these to occur on a seasonal basis, just having completed the Spring Confluence session, our third of the past nine months.

Thus, the pattern envisioned by Watershed Legacy is just commencing in the Walla Walla Basin. Our Spring session included visitors from Whatcom County, Washington, and from Port Townsend on the Olympic Peninsula. They came to see for themselves what is this so-called Walla Walla Way.

Kooskooskie Commons enthusiastically supports the Watershed Legacy project, and strongly encourages the Council to fund it. When this project is able to companion the citizen-accessible scientific biometrics with this hope-instilling citizen meeting format of Open Space, well, our experience in the Walla Walla Basin is that this will be an incredible boost to the restoration and long-term sustenance of culture, ecology, and economics which must be at the core of any successful salmon recovery program.

Let me close with a quote from Congressman George Nethercutt, who attended our January Confluence. After 40 citizens spoke one by one, around a circle, each offering his or her interpretation of the pride and possibility this kind of meeting represents for the Walla Walla Basin, Mr. Nethercutt reported: "I've never been to a meeting like this."

We encourage you to support Watershed Legacy fully in its goal of making its gifts available to each watershed in the Columbia River Basin.

Sincerely yours,

-Kevin Scribner