

The time is now to generate key support for Rep. Simpson's proposal for Snake River.

The focus is on Sen. Patty Murray, due to her seniority in the Senate, and her broad influence on the rest of the WA delegation.

The window to act is very short, as noted here:

**Biden's infrastructure bill may be ready for a vote in the House in May, per Peter DeFazio (D. OR).** That is quick and gives little time to waste in asking our Congressional reps to support Simpson's Plan, but with dam breaching starting in 2021 or 2022. <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2021/mar/07/fate-of-republican-mike-simpsons-plan-to-remove-sn/>

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Please ask Senator Murray to support Rep. Mike Simpson's proposal to revitalize the Snake River.

At this moment we have a once in a lifetime opportunity to restore once-bountiful Snake River Chinook and other salmon to abundance. These legendary salmon are needed to provide essential nutrition for Southern Resident orcas.

Idaho Rep. Mike Simpson has announced a bold and comprehensive \$33 Billion proposal to revitalize the Snake River and invest in agriculture, communities, transportation, and clean energy. Congressman Simpson deserves our gratitude for his leadership and dedication for salmon and for meeting the challenges facing regional families and communities.

The urgency is because for Simpson's proposal to be enacted it must be included in the infrastructure bill now in preparation 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 habitat along the Washington coast in winter through early summer.

But breaching faces such entrenched resistance that the plan will need support from Washington State's elected leaders for it to be included in the bill. That's where we come in.

Our elected leaders need to know that we will support them if they support Rep. Simpson's comprehensive plan. They need to hear from supporters like you.

If we miss this incredible opportunity, we won't see another chance for decades to come. We need Senator Murray to help. She is the senior Senator from Washington and is Assistant Senate Majority Leader. With her leadership to restore the Snake River, its salmon, and Southern Resident orcas, many others will follow. Without her help there is little chance we'll see a free-flowing Snake River in time to save the salmon or the orcas.

Senator Murray can be contacted:

By Twitter: @PattyMurray

From her website at <https://www.murray.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/contactme>.

Or by mail: 2988 Jackson Federal Building, 915 2nd Ave, Seattle, WA 98174

Write your own, or borrow from this sample letter:

Dear Senator Murray,

Thank you for your long service to the people of Washington. You fill a special role in the hopes of Tribes, fishers, outdoor lovers, salmon and orca lovers. You hold the key to unlock our hopes by backing Rep. Simpson's plan for Snake River restoration. Please do. The Columbia basin has been in conflict over salmon for decades, but the status quo on the Snake River will result in extinct salmon, expensive energy, and starvation for Southern Resident orcas. Please work with Rep. Simpson and his proposal to resolve the conflict and unite the region.

Or send this sample tweet:

Please @PattyMurray support @CongMikeSimpson 's plan for Snake River restoration. The Columbia basin has been in conflict over salmon for decades, but the status quo on the Snake River will result in extinct salmon, expensive energy, and starvation for Southern Resident orcas.



L84 with a salmon, Sept. 29, 2011.  
Photo by Dave Ellifrit of the Center for Whale Research.

