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To: [Sam Owen](#)
Subject: New Message From Eklutna Hydro - CONTACT US
Date: Friday, January 26, 2024 4:28:32 PM

I recommend the governor adopt the recommended option put forth in the Eklutna Fish and Wildlife program.

i attendeD THE PRESENTATION ON JAN. 18 IN EAGLE rIVER ONTHE EVALUATION OF THE eKlutna HYDRO FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAM. tHE PRESENTATION ON THE ALTERNATIVES AND THEIR ASSOCIATED COSTS WAS WELL DONE AND EASY TO UNDERSTAND. aS A BIOLOGIST AND AND ENGINEER HAVING BEEN INVOLVED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDIES (eis) AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS (EA) on the north slope and in cook inlet, i was impressed with the depth and breathe of the studies conducted over five years for the project. I also thought the efforts by the power associations to include the signatories to the 1991 agreement and the native village of eklutna was well done.

If we read the Anchorage daily news, we would be led to believe it was only about removing the earthin dam. They want to make this the politics of salmon. Some believe they can have salmon in eklutna lake just like the kenai lake. wrong. it is not just about that. not just a single solution. it is a well thought out engineering and biological solution.

The idea of turning the lenght of the eklutna river into viable spawning and rearing habitat by controlling the flow of water in the river year round is brilliant. The detractors to the preferred option complain about the one mile of the river that will not have controled water flow but that is of little consequence in the overall benefit scheme. removing the dam make the river a wild uninhabitable location for fish through the summer months. Not a good idea. It will also damage the water intake piping to the water treatment plant by scouring the pipe that cross under the river. Additionally, the large water flows in summer months will damage the bridges crossing the river. Removing the Dam is a damn bad idea.

lastly, it is important to understand that the eklutna lake is not good salmon habitat. The lake is glacier fed and brings consideral silt into the lake. The silt covers the gravels good for attaching the salmon eggs and rearing young fish. The several fish species in the lake today are undersized and malnurished due to the silt. creating and expectation that removal of the dam will allow sockey salmon to be raised in the lake is bad science.

We need to continue to have the cheapest and most reliable power in southcentral AK. we cannot put our families and communities at risk over the politics of salmon. Please support the comprehensive proposal by the power companies and their experts on the eklutna fish and wildlife program.