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To: [Sam Owen](#)
Subject: Eklutna salmon restoration
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I do not want to see a new dam built at Eklutna Lake. I want the current dam removed and the beautiful lake allowed to rejuvenate the Eklutna River and the natural population of salmon.

I am offering another way to look at this project. Reiterating information that has already been established is not my intention. Scientists, conservationists, economists, environmentalists, CEO's and politicians have all weighed in on their view of what the future should hold for the Eklutna River. Some have opinions or suggestions that can be well supported, and others don't.

There is so much information out there (thanks to expensive research) that we lose sight of the first-born objective---SAVE THE SALMON! The most immediate way this can be done is to restore the river from its start at Eklutna Lake to its termination in the Knik Arm. Building a dam is not going to put more water into the lake, it can only manage what flows out.

Our state's early visionaries did an amazing job of setting the stage for massive oil production, mining and development. Each Alaskan should appreciate that foresight but should not ignore the downside of the progress that has been made. The destruction of habitat of nature's residents is a primary example. Another aspect is the willingness by powerful people and companies to intentionally not honor promises and contracts previously agreed upon. These actions would certainly make our early visionaries' frown and possibly even cry.

Do not build a dam that may not be needed by the end of a single decade. Build a river that can exist for centuries.

Respectfully,
Ken Everson