



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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August 18, 2021

Jay Manning  
Cascadia Law Group  
606 Columbia Street NW, Suite 212  
Olympia, WA 98501  
[jmanning@cascadiaw.com](mailto:jmanning@cascadiaw.com)

Re: Response to nomination to designate Cascade, Green, and Napeequa rivers as Outstanding Resource Waters

Dear Jay Manning:

Thank you for your letter dated June 24, 2021, to nominate the following as Tier III(A) Outstanding Resource Waters under the Surface Water Quality Standards for the State of Washington, Chapter 173-201A of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC):

- Cascade River (Skagit County)
- Green River (Lewis and Skamania counties)
- Napeequa River (Chelan County)

We have reviewed the submitted “Washington Outstanding Resource Water Nominations” and have concluded that the information provided demonstrates that all three waterbodies meet one or more eligibility requirements under WAC 173-201A-330(1)(a)-(e).

Our next step is to schedule a review of the nominated water for designation as an outstanding resource water. The review will include a public process and consultation with tribes.

Ecology is currently conducting a [Triennial Review](#) of our surface water quality standards this year to meet [Clean Water Act requirements](#). As part of the Triennial Review, we included this nomination in our list of suggested projects to gain public feedback on this and other rulemaking priorities. The Water Quality Standards staff will develop a schedule for this review along with other priorities, and will seek the necessary approvals to initiate a rulemaking for these nominations at a future date.

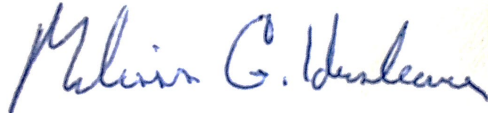
I appreciate the detail provided in the nomination letter, your extensive stakeholder outreach, and continued work with Ecology on this nomination packet. The Water Quality Standards staff look

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forward to working with you on this nomination to designate Outstanding Resource Waters in Washington State.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (360) 407-6461, or Marla Koberstein, at [marla.koberstein@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:marla.koberstein@ecy.wa.gov), or (360) 407-6413.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melissa G. Gildersleeve". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name.

Melissa Gildersleeve  
Watershed Management Section Manager, Water Quality Program

cc: Brett Swift, The Pew Charitable Trusts  
Patrick Lane, The Pew Charitable Trusts  
Wendy McDermott, American Rivers  
Lucy Brookham, Cascade Forest Conservancy  
Jess Helsley, Wild Salmon Center  
Tom O'Keefe, American Whitewater  
Tom Uniack, Washington Wild  
Dean Finnerty, Trout Unlimited  
Louis Russel, Cascadia Law Group  
Thomas Buroker, Northwest Regional Office Director, Washington Department of Ecology  
Rich Doenges, Southwest Regional Office Director, Washington Department of Ecology  
Sage Park, Central Regional Office Director, Washington Department of Ecology  
Marla Koberstein, Washington Department of Ecology