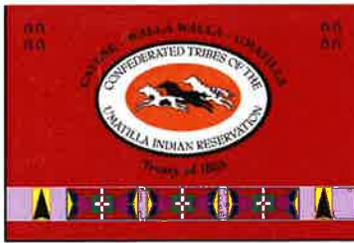


**Confederated Tribes of the
Umatilla Indian Reservation**

Board of Trustees



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Phone 541-276-3165 Fax: 541-276-3095

June 29, 2012

Mr. Skip Novakovich, President
Port of Kennewick Board of Commissioners
350 Clover Island Drive, Suite 200
Kennewick, WA 99336

Dear Mr. Novakovich:

On behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), I would like to express our support for the Port of Kennewick's continued improvement of the Clover Island through the north shoreline improvements which will follow the same standard set in the Clover Island Shoreline Improvement and Urban Renewal project. We feel this project will be a catalyst for job growth and economic diversification, as well as enhancing the quality of life regionally.

One of the intended results of this project is restoration of habitat for salmon runs. The removal of the sterile concrete shoreline will improve habitat for fish through placement of bioengineered banks, boulders, cobbles, large woody debris, and native plantings to create a more natural shoreline, similar to work on the West Causeway. The juvenile fall Chinook in the Hanford reach we seine annually move by this area and would benefit from more natural stream banks with vegetative cover. The water temperature may also be reduced by the addition of larger shade trees and by the removal of concrete on the banks that impede plant growth and act as a heat sink.

The island now known as Clover Island is within the lands ceded by the CTUIR to the United States government in the Treaty of 1855. We continue to pursue restoration of the resources and rights the CTUIR reserved in the Treaty through habitat restoration and other land management actions. Since the construction of the McNary Dam, a wide variety of actions have been taken on the reservoir which has further degraded salmon habitat.

The CTUIR supports the Port of Kennewick's plans for Clover Island. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Audie Huber, Intergovernmental Affairs Manager, Department of Natural Resources, at 541-966-2334.

Sincerely,

Les Minthorn, Chairman
Board of Trustees