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06/13/2025

Low Impact Hydropower Institute 329 Massachusetts Avenue, Suite 2 Lexington, MA 02420

Subject: Letter of Support for Douglas PUD's Low Impact Certification of the Wells Hydroelectric Project

To Whom It May Concern,

As the owner and operator of Hurd's Guide Service based in Eastern Washington, I am writing to express my support for the application submitted by Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County (Douglas PUD) for Low Impact Hydropower Institute (LIHI) certification of the Wells Hydroelectric Project.

Our guide service has operated in the Upper Columbia River system for many years, and we have seen firsthand the incredible transformation of the sockeye fishery in the stretch of river above Wells Dam over the last decade. As I understand it, much of this success is directly tied to Douglas PUD's ongoing funding and support of the Fish and Water Management Tool (FWMT) a collaborative, data-driven approach to managing river flows and water temperatures that protect and enhance salmon migration.

Thanks in large part to this investment and stewardship, we've witnessed record-setting returns of sockeye salmon to the Columbia River above Wells Dam in recent years. These historic runs not only support the health of the river, but they also create extraordinary recreational fishing opportunities for both resident and visiting anglers. This means easier limits and happier clients and customers for our business.

For small business owners like myself, this resurgence in these salmon numbers has been very helpful. The July sockeye season in the Brewster Pool is now one of the most anticipated fisheries in the Pacific Northwest. In many years, our boats are now booked months in advance, and anglers from across the state and beyond come here for the chance to experience the fishery.

Importantly, Douglas PUD is not merely meeting the requirements of its license. Their continued support of the FWMT and broader commitment to fish passage, habitat enhancement, and hatchery operations demonstrates a clear willingness to go above and beyond.

Hurd's Guide Service proudly supports Douglas PUD's application for Low Impact Hydropower certification.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely, Stuart Hurd President Hurd's Guide Service stu.hurd@hotmail.com
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