

MARIE GLUESENKAMP PEREZ
3RD DISTRICT, WASHINGTON

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG
ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4703

DC OFFICE
1431 LONGWORTH HOUSE
OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-4703
(202) 225-3536

VANCOUVER DISTRICT OFFICE
1053 OFFICERS ROW
VANCOUVER, WA 98661
(360) 695-6292

KELSO DISTRICT OFFICE
308 S PACIFIC AVE, SUITE B
KELSO, WA 98626

WWW.GLUESENKAMPPEPEREZ.HOUSE.GOV

July 7, 2026

Travis Kavulla
Administrator and CEO
Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, OR 97208

Dear Administrator Kavulla:

I write with deep concern regarding the June 18, 2026, decision by Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to withdraw funding for the Select Area Fisheries Enhancement (SAFE) program. I respectfully request additional information on the basis of this decision and BPA's plans to fulfill its statutory mandate to support native fish recovery while sustaining the fishing communities that have long relied on the program.

As a rural Washingtonian, I understand the importance of responsible stewardship of our lands and waters, and the critical role healthy fisheries play in preserving our state's way of life. Since 1993, the SAFE program has created commercial and sport fishing opportunities in off-stem areas of the Columbia River, alleviating harvest pressures on wild salmon populations in the main stem while supporting regional economies.

I am hearing from fishermen across Southwest Washington who are deeply concerned about the economic consequences of this decision. Estimates show BPA's termination of funding will affect hatchery operations in Washington state and put 7 million hatchery fish currently in production at risk. This threatens jobs and businesses already navigating devastating budget cuts to Mitchell Act hatcheries and their operations.

It is critical that we continue to meet our shared responsibility to recover native salmon populations and sustain the communities whose livelihoods depend on them while ensuring the Pacific Northwest remains a national leader in hydropower.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'MGP', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Marie Gluesenkamp Perez
Member of Congress