



WE CALL ON PRESIDENT BIDEN TO HONOR COMMITMENTS AND PROTECT OUR FUTURE

President Biden,

The Native American youth in our country need your help. When you were elected we had hope that things in this country might change and that fish, animals, waters, and forests would be protected. Now we have something to ask you.

Our salmon are disappearing too quickly, and we can't wait for many more years to help them.

Our elders tell us about a time when there was more salmon than our people could even eat. There was a time when no one in our tribe had to worry about whether we had enough fish to feed everyone. But today, there is less salmon and even their size is so much smaller than before. This is important.

Salmon aren't just a food, they are part of our way of life. In our language we are "*Wy-Kan-Ush-Pum*" (salmon people). "*Wy-kan-ish*" (salmon) are important for our sacred life renewal ceremonies, our daily food, and for our economy. The salmon that swim from the "*Naxiyam Wana*" (Snake River) and "*Nchi'-Wana*" (Columbia River), into the Pacific Ocean, are family to us "*Wy-kan-ush naymuma*" (our salmon relatives). They're our relatives and losing them hurts. Climate change is making it hard for them to survive, the rivers are too warm and polluted. And dams are blocking them from migrating. For our tribes, there is one way that you and your friends in Congress can help. Remove the lower dams on the Snake River and let our river flow free, our sacred river "*Naxiyam Wana*" (the Snake River). It's the best way to make sure we have salmon and someday, our kids have salmon. In the Northwest, we are all salmon people and we must honor "*Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi Wa-Kish-Wit*" (the Spirit of the Salmon).

America made a deal and promised that we would be able to fish forever. We can't fish if there aren't any salmon left.

Something must be done to save our salmon and we are counting on you to help us. We are asking for a moment of your time and want to speak to you about our future. **Please let us know by July 30th when you are free to talk with us on a video call.**

We need our leaders to step up and protect the future for Native youth.

Latis Nowland, Age 17

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Bryson Spino, Age 16

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Gorgie Jones Hoisington, Age 15

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Nizhoni Toledo, Age 17

Confederated tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Muriel Hones Hoisington, Age 16
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Chris Minthorn, Age 15
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Lindsey Pasena-Littlesky, Age 16
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Izabelle Sigo, Age 15
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Keyen Singer, Age 17
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Summer Wildbill, Age 16
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Alyric Redcrane, Age 15
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

JaeDean Looney, Age 16
Yakama Nation

Lillian Watchman, Age 13
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Ella Stewart, Age 14
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Siddalee Baker, Age 14
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Bryson Redcrane, Age 14
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Waptas Brockie, Age 13
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Sunhawk Thomas, Age 14
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Sky Smith, Age 15
Yakama Nation

Alayna Bevis, Age 15
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Elsie McKay, Age 16
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Sennia Pacheco, Age 16
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Joelle “Laxyx” Jones, Age 15
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Ivan Everybodytalksabout, Age 15
Blackfeet Nation

Cissē Trawally, Age 13
Suquamish Tribe

Ibrahim Trawally, Age 15
Suquamish Tribe

Koebyn Purser, Age 14
Suquamish Tribe

Clinton Bain, Age 18
Makah Tribe