

JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER  
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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-1602

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND  
WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES  
U.S. JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for dredging the mouth of Lake River in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Northwest Division United States Army Corps located at 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd Ste 400 Portland, OR 97232-1257.

Lake River is recognized as navigable waters of the Columbia River system. A survey of the Lake River between Ridgefield and the Columbia River was conducted in 2014. The survey indicated the channel depth mouth of Lake River needs immediate attention. It has been 35 years since the river was last dredged. Dredging is not an annual project or need, but one that does require periodic maintenance.

The mouth of Lake River, where it enters the Columbia approximately two (2) miles northwest of Ridgefield Washington, is unsafe. Sand moving along the Columbia is narrowing and shallowing the navigation channel of Lake River. Flood control measures on the Columbia no longer allow spring run-off to regularly flush the channel at the mouth of Lake River. As a result, access from the Columbia into Lake River by commercial and recreational boating is becoming increasingly difficult and will eventually be lost. Water quality, fish and wildlife habitat are also negatively impacted. Funding would be used for dredging to ensure all season access would be preserved for marine traffic entering or exiting Lake River from the Columbia River.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Jaime Herrera Beutler  
Member of Congress