From: Jason Reimer
To: DNR ESTABROOK
Subject: Estabrook Dam consideration
Date: Tuesday, April 05, 2016 2:34:20 PM

Hi Kristina,

So, the dam… A topic that you well know has been debated for way too long—but with much passion from all sides.

While I've been a member of the River Keeper marketing committee for a year or so, I can empathize with all the different stories and underlying motivations.

Our memories are extremely important—and we'd like to share those same happy times we experienced with our friends and families for years to come. But as much as I consider myself a romantic, I'm also a realist. And, there are things in play that I believe are bigger than we humans. The fact that we're the top of the food chain shouldn't mean that our needs are the only needs. Forget the monetary figures being thrown back and forth for/against removal or repair. What we're talking about is a living (for now) body of water that feeds a lot of different life forms. We call it an "urban river". That seems like a convenient branding of something we have never owned. It became an urban (dirty and less appealing) body of water due to our actions.

I feel for those who remember a certain lifestyle on the river and no longer enjoy it in the same way. But repairing the dam to try and recapture something that is no longer possible seems like just another example of human want and short-term thinking.

I'm hoping that this time human action equates to doing something that will have more of a positive long-term effect. Whether or not it directly benefits our near-term entertainment or not.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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