



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

SEP 30 2011

Northwestern Division
Regional Integration Team

Honorable Christine Gregoire
Governor of Washington
P.O. Box 40002
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Dear Governor Gregoire:

Thank you for your August 26, 2011 letter regarding levee vegetation management and policy decisions under consideration by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. I would also like to express my appreciation for your telephone call on September 28, 2011 reaffirming your personal interest in this important matter. Please rest assured, as I depart my position here as Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations, the Corps remains committed to develop a long-term stewardship program for our Nation's levees.

Our intent is to reduce overall flood risk by transitioning levee systems to appropriate engineering standards, over time, while balancing life safety, environmental, endangered species, and Native American concerns. These are tough issues and we need federal, state, and local support to accomplish our complex goals.

Thank you again for supporting this critical program. We look forward to continuing to partner with you as we address both levee reliability and habitat concerns.

Sincerely,

William T. Grisoli
Major General, US Army
Deputy Commanding General
for Civil and Emergency Operations