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First name: James Last name: Rice Organization:

Title:

Comments: As an aquatic ecologist and fisheries biologist with more than 40 years of professional experience, I strongly endorse the Thompson Divide Withdrawal and the finding of no significant impact for this project. This project will bring significant, diverse environmental benefits, whereas NOT approving the project is highly likely to result in significant and irreversible environmental degradation over the next 20 years. This project should be approved.