

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
Western District of Washington
United States Courthouse
700 Stewart Street, Suite 15229
Seattle, Washington 98101

Thomas S. Zilly
Senior Judge



November 18, 2022

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Re: United States & Lummi Indian Nation v. Washington Dep't of Ecology, et al.,
C01-47 TSZ

Dear Mr. Thorson and Counsel:

I write to you as we approach the fifteenth (15th) anniversary of the entry of the Order and Judgment, docket no. 1273, approving the Settlement Agreement, docket no. 1264, in this matter. When the Order and Judgment was entered on November 20, 2007, I did not

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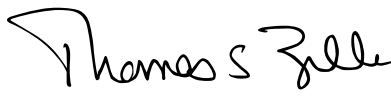
know what to expect. The Settlement Agreement was novel in its scope, approach, and design, and I, along with probably everyone involved, had doubts about how it would operate.

As was apparent when it was proposed, the Settlement Agreement was the product of skilled and creative lawyering and a willingness on the part of the parties to experiment and cooperate for their mutual benefit. I admired those efforts and traits then, and I applaud them even more now, after we have witnessed a decade-and-a-half of smooth and steady oversight by our Water Master.

I commend all of you (and your predecessors, with special mention of Eugene H. Knapp, who passed away in 2015) on the work performed to get us to this juncture and on your continuing collaboration in effectuating the terms and spirit of the Settlement Agreement.

I also wish to express my thanks to Mr. Thorson for lending us his considerable expertise and for so capably guiding us through the launch of the Water Master system. His thoughtfulness in navigating around the various issues that have arisen, including the recent pandemic, are much appreciated. My hope is that he will remain at the helm for many years.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas S. Zilly". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Thomas S. Zilly