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To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the protection and restoration of salmon habitat in the headwaters of West Creek in the Township of Langley. West Creek is a prolific producer of Lower Fraser Coho Salmon, which in my opinion is a stock in serious decline, primarily due to water quality degradation and habitat loss.

In 2018, I collaborated with the Langley Environmental Partners Society to build an off channel rearing habitat with funding from the federal Habitat Stewardship Program. I was very impressed with a the high numbers of Coho that we recovered in a fish salvage of a short 10 m section of creek at our tie in point. We caught over 50 – an impressively high density.

The headwater area is threatened by proposed development in the Gloucester Estates area. It contains wetlands that are likely important overwintering habitats for Coho. Habitat protection and restoration in this area is especially important within the watershed, and has my full support.

Sincerely,

Mike Pearson, PhD, RPBio