To: Gina McCarthy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

4782

I am a member of the Yakama Nation community and I want a more aggressive cleanup of the Portland Harbor Superfund site. The Willamette and Columbia rivers are the lifeblood of the Yakama people and define our way of life. We harvest fish from these rivers to feed our families, as well as for ceremonial and commercial purposes.

EPA's cleanup proposal tackles less than 8% of a site area that is 100% toxic. This is unacceptable and does nothing to prevent continued harm to human health and the environment. And it completely ignores the EPA's trust responsibility to protect the Yakama Nation's treaty rights.

I ask the EPA to create a plan that leads to healthy fish that are safe to eat.

I am counting on the EPA to uphold its trust responsibility, to honor our treaty and to deliver a plan that sustains the cultural practices of Yakama members and improves the quality of life for my tribe, our neighbors and future generations.

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This is an official submission during the comment period between June 9, 2016 to August 8, 2016 regarding the EPA's Portland Harbor Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan.