Letter to Dept. of Ecology and Corps of Engineers

So there you have it, the word from May Valley. I did what I did because I believed it is the only way to bring life back to that "Little River" down the hill that has been a treasured part of my world for over half a century. I fished the "Little River" as a youngster in the 1950's, and have never been far from it since.

My neighbors and myself welcome your interest but we know you have a hard choice to make. Join the bureaucrats or us; bring back the fish or endorse King County's continuing destruction of this area.

Finally, I will say that I have presented a case here that has, as its essence, a clear example of government gone wrong. Some will be skeptical, especially the environmental "true believer." I will say to any doubters, look at the evidence and be reminded of the so-called "Witch Hunt in Wenatchee" if you think government can do no wrong. Remember how a misguided and self-serving government employee, a police detective in that case, violated peoples' rights, falsified or misstated "evidence", duped others in government (his police superiors, the County Prosecutor and several judges) and caused the destruction of the lives of children and their families who were utterly helpless in his grasp. For far too long, the "system" in Wenatchee ignored the growing evidence that something had gone terribly wrong – needlessly prolonging the grief.

Some might recoil at the comparison of the damage done to May Valley folks and their property with that done in the Wenatchee victims, but in many ways it is a difference only of degree. Visit our valley and see.

Regards, Chuck Pillon

It's Not About Fish

A Plea for Sanity

By Douglas Bandelin

A low-cost alternative plan for cleaning May Creek Ditch

We have a terrible conflict in May Valley. On the one hand we have a citizenry who, through no fault of their own, have been maligned of character and robbed of untold thousands of dollars. This outrage continues in broad daylight, even as I write. On the other hand, we have a known perpetrator—King County—who understands the problem and has publicly stated its desire to help. Yet the government of King County is incapable of action, either through the recalcitrance of certain individuals or due to bureaucratic red tape, that swampy quagmire of rules and regulations that has grown up over the years and has tied the hands of decency and common sense. King County, of course, takes every opportunity to blame it on some higher-level government's red tape.

In contrast, the unregulated action of Chuck Pillon on the Muncy property has done wonders for the health of that property as well as the land above 164th Street. This benefit was even acknowledged by the two young fellows who recently surveyed the creek for the County. Their condensed report from March 26, 2002, states, "This reach is relatively clear of debris or other obstructions, though there is evidence of recent beaver activity along the banks." The only complaint of the denizens of May Valley seems to be that Chuck did not finish the job. Chuck is being fined \$21,000 for his unregulated act by DDES and \$4,000 by the WA State Department of Ecology. That is about \$50 per foot for 500 feet of cleaned ditch. Compare that to all the fol-derol the County is going through spending years and many thousands of dollars obtaining permission from itself and other governments to do the same work.