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Please read this instead regarding the development of West Hayden Island by the Port of Portland.

I live on Hayden island and have given you my perspective on development of West Hayden Island at least twice. I do not have the time now to go into a time consuming restatement of all the many faceted reasons why the west part of the island should not be developed into permanent facilities by the Port of Portland as it would affect the lives of residents of the island. All you need to do is read the environmental impact studies on this topic to be informed on those issues. I will just make one comment and it should be enough: study climate projections and how the island will be affected by higher water levels in the Columbia within a decade or so. The snow now falling on the Cascade range during the winter months will mostly be rain which will immediately rush down the streams and rivers to the Pacific. The area where the Port wants to build their new facility will probably be under water every winter. In fact, the future of the island as a place were humans can live and do business may be short-lived. In the summer, with no snow pack to slowly supply the Columbia with steady water flow at current levels, depths will recede...will big ships even be able to navigate up this far?? Don't you think it is time to stop the 20th Century mode of thinking about "progress" and switch gears toward anticipating what the reality of climate change is going to bring to this region and what areas can withstand development? I say, let the public and wildlife enjoy this unique open space as nature allows - now and in the future. Throwing tax-payer dollars into this project is shortsighted, and a waste. Please get your thinking caps on and do the smart, and right thing.

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