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Sent via overnight mail and email to [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

President Donald Trump  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Happy New Year and congratulations on your recent signing of the tax bill before the holidays. I understand one of your priorities in 2018 will be the passage of a new infrastructure bill, and that is why I am writing to you.

As a consulting water resources engineer, I have dedicated my 30-year career to the reduction of flood risks to the public. Due to your campaign promise to invest \$1 trillion in infrastructure projects, on the day following your presidential election win I began writing an editorial titled *Make America's Swamps Great Again*, and it is attached for your review. In the editorial I advocate for the consideration of our nation's natural infrastructure--the forests, floodplains...and swamps--that when coupled with traditional infrastructure can lead to infrastructure investments that are more resilient to flooding and better protect people and property in the United States from flood risks.

I hope you read my editorial, I cite several passages from your book *The Art of the Deal* and I provide an estimate of sea level rise in the vicinity of your Mar-a-Lago estate.

As I understand, you will soon submit an infrastructure memo to Congress that is intended to provide a framework for lawmakers to write legislation addressing infrastructure. Therefore, I have sent copies of this letter and editorial to my political representatives, with hopes that they will also consider my opinions regarding the value and benefit of natural infrastructure for flood risk reduction and develop legislation accordingly.

I have also copied this to my mentor Mr. Larson, Director Emeritus of the Association of State Floodplain Managers, and to Ms. Christie who, after I exhausted efforts to have my editorial published in the mainstream media, graciously offered to publish it in their Association of State Wetland Managers March/April 2017 member newsletter. Both individuals are leaders of associations dedicated to reducing our nation's flood-related losses while recognizing the benefits of natural infrastructure.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of my opinions, which I hope will in some small way contribute to decisions on pending investments that result in more resilient infrastructure in the United States and reduced flood risk to our citizens.

Sincerely,



Kevin G. Coulton, P.E., CFM

- Via overnight mail
  - Senator Ron Wyden, 221 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
  - Senator Jeff Merkley, 313 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510
  - Representative Suzanne Bonamici, 439 Cannon House Office Building, Washington DC 20515
  - Representative Greg Walden, 2185 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington DC 20515
  - Representative Earl Blumenauer, 1111 Longworth House Office Building, Washington DC 20515
  - Representative Peter A. DeFazio, 2134 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington DC 20515
  - Representative Kurt Schrader, 2431 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington DC 20515
- Via email
  - Mr. Larry Larson, Association of State Floodplain Managers
  - Ms. Jeanne Christie, Executive Director, Association of State Wetland Managers, Inc.