NAME: _____ DATE: _____ CLASS PERIOD: _____

A LETTER TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVE

Hellbender Education

THE SCENARIO: A development and entertainment company has proposed the construction of a large mountain resort close to where you live. The resort will include accommodations for thousands of guests, a small casino, a large indoor water park, and several restaurants, spas, a movie theater, and other spaces for entertainment. Many farmers have already agreed to sell their farmland to the company, and the plans seem to be moving forward, but a group of people from around town are starting to realize it may not be such a good idea, as the headwaters of several streams and rivers flow from the proposed construction site. Write a letter to your local representative that discourages them from approving the proposal for the resort's construction. Use your knowledge of stream order, watershed connectivity, human impacts, and bioindicator species to justify your position.

CHALLENGE: Propose a solution that might satisfy as many stakeholders as possible (company executives, construction workers, farmers, community members, environmentalists, vacationers, etc.).