



July 11, 2008

Mr. Bill Booth, Chairman
Northwest Power & Conservation Council
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Chairman Booth,

PNUCC supports the use of high level indicators the Council is considering to track the success of fish and wildlife efforts. We believe they can increase confidence in regional investments and improve your Program's coordination with other efforts benefiting fish and wildlife. It is apparent that any indicators could have a multitude of purposes and audiences. The Council must be clear about their purpose and then choose indicators accordingly. We see two purposes with corresponding gauges being discussed. First, there are regional indicators that measure how well the fish and wildlife as a whole is doing. The second piece, Program performance indicators, gauges the direct contributions of projects that are part of the Council's Program. Both of these components have value and should be considered separately.

Regional indicators will be useful to the Council as they continue to coordinate their Program with the other conservation and recovery programs. The Council Program is just one piece of a larger effort and these indicators will provide a measure of progress toward goals above and beyond those of the Council Program. These indicators can provide context to the Council's Program and give decision makers and the public a sense of the progress being made by all efforts to improve survival of fish and wildlife throughout the region. It is important that the region does not confuse the message of regional indicators with success or failure of the Council's Program. While the Council can use regional indicators to offer leadership and direction to the region, they should not be held solely responsible for protection and recovery of the region's fish and wildlife.

Your Program performance indicators aimed at reporting biological benefits achieved by the projects funded through the Council's Program will link spending with results. Tracking the direct improvements achieved by the Program will provide important feedback that the Council could use to alter the Program to get more benefits to fish and wildlife. It is important that these performance indicators focus on the projects funded through the Council's Program.

PNUCC supports including high level indicators as part of your annual report to the Northwest Governors on fish and wildlife expenditures. We don't believe they should be part of the Fish and Wildlife Program. Don't lock yourselves into something through the

Program amendment process that needs significantly more consideration by the region and will likely change over time. Including specific indicators in the Program will potentially create anxiety and false expectations.

Finally, we have asked the independent scientists at BioAnalysts to review your working list of high level biological indicators. When their work is completed we look forward to sharing their thoughts and recommendations with you. We urge you to embrace the concept of high level indicators and we commit to work with you to develop the most appropriate indicators for the use of the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dick". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Dick Adams
Executive Director

cc: Council Members
Tony Grover, NWPPC
PNUCC Board of Directors
Greg Delwiche, BPA
Bob Lohn, NOAA
Brian Lipscomb, CBFWA