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Chair
Oregon

Joan M. Dukes
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Frank L. Cassidy Jr.
"Larry"
Washington

Tom Karier
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Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Jim Kempton
Vice-Chair
Idaho

Judi Danielson
Idaho

Bruce A. Measure
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

November 3, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lynn Palensky

SUBJECT: Critical Habitat Designations - Bull Trout

Scott McCarthy from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Portland will be at the Council meeting to discuss the recently released ESA Critical Habitat Designation for Bull Trout. The designation was published on September 23, 2005 and covers approximately 3,828 miles of streams and 143,218 acres of lakes and reservoirs in the four states as critical habitat for bull trout.

By state, the final designation covers approximately:
- **Idaho:** 294 stream miles and 50,627acres of lakes or reservoirs
- **Montana:** 1,058 stream miles and 31,916 acres of lakes or reservoirs
- **Oregon:** 939 stream miles and 27,322 acres of lakes or reservoirs
- **Washington:** 1,519 stream miles, 33,353 acres of lakes or reservoirs, and 985 miles of marine shoreline

Points of Interest:
- About 95% of these designated stream miles are on privately owned property. Private landowners are not affected by the designations unless there is a federal activity that would require a permit or federal funding.
- One question asked of the NOAA Critical Habitat Designation was the changes in total miles/area from the initial draft designations. Page 7 of the FAQ's on the website list the changes from the 2004 to 2005 designations.
- To be included as critical habitat, the area had to be occupied and provide one or more life history functions such as spawning, rearing, forage, over wintering.

State-by-state descriptions of the critical habitat units, maps and photographs relating to the designations may be found on the Pacific Region's Bull Trout Website at http://www.fws.gov/pacific/bulltrout/.

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