Northwest Power and Conservation Council

June 1, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Mark Fritsch, Project Implementation Manager

SUBJECT: UPA plan to renovate the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery, ODFW Oxbow Hatchery - Redfish Lake Sockeye Salmon Captive Broodstock Program, Project #1991-072-00; and Snake River Sockeye Smolt Program at Oxbow Hatchery, Project #2005-012-00.

INTRODUCTION:

On June 1, 2006 the Council received two proposals from the Bonneville Power Administration (see attached letter) addressing the Updated Proposed Action (UPA) in the 2004 Biological Opinion for the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS BiOp) regarding needs for the Snake River Sockeye Salmon Captive Broodstock Program. At your meeting in June the Council staff will provide an overview of the requests and seek a recommendation from both the Committee and the Council.

PROPOSED ACTION:

Council staff recommends that the Council support the requests from Bonneville, as presented in the letter received on June 1, 2006 for the plan to renovate Eagle Fish Hatchery and Oxbow Hatchery for the Redfish Lake Sockeye Salmon Captive Broodstock Program. This recommendation is conditioned on Bonneville's verification that adequate capital funds remain in the Fiscal Year 2006 and a determination if the Oxbow request could also qualify for capital funds.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Total costs associated with the proposed requests for renovations and improvements to the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery and ODFW Oxbow Hatchery to meet the expectations of the FCRPS BiOp and the UPA for the Redfish Lake sockeye salmon is $2,750,000. The modifications are

estimated at Eagle Hatchery to cost $2,500,000[1] and at Oxbow Hatchery $250,000[2]. These costs are $1,000,000 in capital funds above the Fiscal Year 2006 budgets for these projects respectively.

Proposed renovations at Eagle Fish Hatchery will provide facilities to support the safety-net program hatchery production. This includes the redesign and construction of water delivery and drain systems and the construction of a covered hatchery building. Improvements at the Oxbow Fish Hatchery will address the water delivery and drain systems, the pollution abatement pond, and the current avian predation abatement screen structure. Incubation and early rearing systems also will need to be modified to support the planned increase in production.

BACKGROUND:

In 1991, declines of Snake River sockeye salmon led to their federal listing as endangered. In that same year, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) initiated a captive broodstock program (Project #1991-072-00). The program's near-term goal is to slow the loss of critical population genetic diversity and to prevent the extinction of the population. The ultimate program goal is to recover the Snake River sockeye for state, federal, and tribal management goals.

The IDFG has broodstock development and fish culture responsibilities (Eagle Fish Hatchery) as well as monitoring and evaluation responsibilities for the program. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries shares fish culture responsibilities at its seawater (Manchester) and freshwater sites in Washington State. Broodstock holding and spawning stations are duplicated at IDFG and NOAA facilities to minimize the risk associated with catastrophic loss at any one location. Juvenile rearing occurs at the IDFG Sawtooth Fish Hatchery[3] and at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Oxbow Fish Hatchery near Cascade Locks[4]. Sockeye salmon rearing space is limited at both facilities.

Currently, insufficient hatchery spawning, incubation, and juvenile rearing space is available to meet the project's long-term goal. Juvenile sockeye salmon are reared at the IDFG Sawtooth Fish Hatchery and the ODFW's Oxbow Fish Hatchery. As both facilities are focused on higher-priority migitagion mandates, limited rearing space is available for sockeye salmon. In addition, Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus (IHNV) recently was discovered in returning anadromous sockeye salmon. An outbreak of IHNV could have a devastating effect on the existing programs at these facilities. Fish culture programs at IDFG's Eagle and Sawtooth fish hatcheries, NOAA hatcheries in Washington State, and ODFW's Oxbow Fish Hatchery are potentially at risk as eyed-eggs and fish are transferred among these facilities. Actions needed to

[1] FY 2006 capital Budget 0f $1,500,000 and $906,638 in expense.
[2] FY 2006 expense budget of $250,000.
[3] This hatchery is funded through the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan.
[4] Funded through the Mitchell Act hatchery funds.

address this emerging risk include making modifications to anadromous adult holding, spawning, incubation, and rearing systems at the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery.

The actions proposed by IDFG, NOAA Fisheries, and ODFW are designed to meet the expectations of the 2004 FCRPS BiOp and the UPA, as well as project biological needs associated with maintaining population genetic diversity and fitness and avoiding unnecessary fish health risks.

ANALYSIS:

The letter from Bonneville provides extensive detail regarding the requests for renovations and improvements to the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery and ODFW Oxbow Hatchery to meet the expectations of the FCRPS BiOp and the UPA for the Redfish Lake sockeye salmon.

Proposed renovations at Eagle Fish Hatchery will provide facilities to support the safety-net program hatchery production. This includes the redesign and construction of water delivery and drain systems and the construction of a covered hatchery building. The new covered facility will create the space to generate additional broodstock adults and eggs to supply the expanded Oxbow Fish Hatchery program. Additionally, the new facility will provide isolation/segregation capabilities needed to manage risks associated with the transmission of infectious pathogens.

Improvements at the Oxbow Fish Hatchery will address the security of the existing safety-net program as well as facilitate the production of additional smolts to meet the expectations of the UPA[5]. The project includes modifications to existing water delivery and drain systems, the pollution abatement pond, and the current avian predation abatement screen structure. Incubation and early rearing systems also will need to be modified to support the planned increase in production.

As you may recall, the Council's funding recommendations since Fiscal Year 1998 relating to captive propagation projects held these projects to existing funding levels pending a programmatic review to address and resolve the questions associated with prioritization, cost, duration, and scientific soundness of the captive propagation strategy. As part of the provincial review for the Blue Mountain and Mountain Snake provinces the Council, on April 2, 2002, established conditions for future funding of ongoing captive propagation initiatives[6]. After an extensive review by the ISRP and the Council, these conditions were addressed on April 24, 2005.

[5] The May 2005 "2005 – 2007 Implementation Plan for the Federal Columbia River Power System Endangered Species Act Updated Proposed Action (UPA)" document's section on Redfish Lake sockeye states: Near-term targets (2007): Take an important step in increasing production to jumpstart the ESU and to support survival and recovery by producing an additional 150,000 Snake River sockeye smolts annually.
[6] Programmatic Issue 12: *Preservation /Conservation Purpose Artificial Production Proposals.*

Based on this extensive review, the expectations of the FCRPS BiOp, and the UPA, the Council staff does not see a need for an additional review of the proposals by the ISRP[7]. In addition, the emphasis that is inherent in the UPA request for the modifications at the two hatcheries is being pursued for more of a biological need than purely for an increase in production. The focus on the improvements at Oxbow and Eagle hatcheries is addressing the insufficient infrastructure to support the existing production objective for the Snake River sockeye salmon.

The impediments to the current production stem primarily from the need to return more anadromous sockeye to the hatchery program to address loss of fitness and to reduce risks associated with domestication selection[8]. Returning additional anadromous sockeye adults to the conservation/preservation program is the most effective way to address these concerns. In conjunction to this need there are other impediments that are being addressed with these requests through modifications to the existing broodstock and incubating facilities at Eagle hatchery and rearing facilities at the Oxbow Hatchery. This includes actions needed to address risk associated with 1) the recent discovery of IHNV in the returning anadromous sockeye and the implication to the other hatchery programs at the two hatcheries, and 2) the current inability to implement best management practices at the two facilities (e.g., rearing densities, water delivery and drain systems, and covering of rearing areas).

These proposals were expected and are identified in the Fiscal Year 2006 Council-recommended budget. The needs for the Eagle Fish Hatchery proposal were allocated $1,500,000 in capital funds, and the Oxbow Hatchery proposal was allocated $250,000 in expense funds[9]. Since the costs associated with these UPA actions had not been confirmed by an engineering firm, Bonneville requested and has since received an estimate of possible costs for the hatchery modifications. Based on these estimates, the modifications are estimated at Eagle Hatchery to cost $2,500,000 and the Oxbow Hatchery request remains at $250,000. The cost associated with the Oxbow Hatchery, Project #2005-012-00 is $1,000,000 in capital costs above the recommended Fiscal Year 2006 budget.

Based on the extensive review recently completed on the conservation/preservation purposes in the program, and based on the fact that these UPA measures are addressing infrastructure to support the existing production objectives for the Snake River sockeye salmon at Eagle and Oxbow hatcheries, the Council staff recommends that the Council support the requests from Bonneville, as presented in the letter received on June 1, 2006. This recommendation is

[7] On February 16, 2005 Bonneville presented to the Council a review of the anticipated implementation of the Updated Proposed Action (UPA) for the Biological Opinion for the Federal Columbia River Power System by the Action Agencies. A part of the presentation at the meeting was the understanding that the proposed projects would be reviewed by the ISRP. As you may recall, this has been practice with the UPA projects implemented in fiscal years 2005 and 2006.

[8] A typical restoration hatchery (e.g., supplementation) has a sliding-type matrix for broodstock requirements between hatchery and wild-type returns. Conservation/preservation hatcheries do not have this flexibility.

[9] These costs were submitted based on the Council letter of April 22, 2005 requesting budget information for FY 2006, including UPA expectations.

conditioned on Bonneville's verification that adequate capital funds remain in the Fiscal Year 2006 that includes a determination if the Oxbow request could also qualify for capital funds.

Attachment 1: Letter received on June 1, 2006 from Bonneville regarding UPA plan to renovate the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery and ODFW Oxbow Hatchery.

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

June 1, 2006

In reply refer to: KEW-4

Mr. Doug Marker
Fish and Wildlife Division Director
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97204-1348

Re: Eagle and Oxbow Fish Hatcheries

Dear Mr. Marker:

The Eagle Fish Hatchery Improvement (Project #1991-072-00) and the Oxbow Fish Hatchery (Project #2005-012-00) projects are designed to provide captive rearing for Redfish Lake Sockeye salmon. This Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) is listed as Endangered under the Federal Endangered Species Act. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Biological Opinion (BiOp) on the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Updated Proposed Action (UPA) Sockeye salmon objective for 2007 is to increase Snake River Sockeye salmon smolt production by an additional 150,000 annually to jumpstart the ESU production goals and to support survival and recovery as described in the May 2005–2007 Implementation Plan. In response to this UPA, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and NOAA Fisheries developed a plan that included renovation of the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery and the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery. To fully enable modifications to these facilities to support this increased production, within-year requests for renovation work were submitted. The table below depicts the most current start of year and within-year requests for both projects[10]. The Oxbow Fish Hatchery within-year request for additional funding has been withdrawn. The anticipated additional costs will be covered by Mitchell Act funding.

Project	2006 SOY	Within Year	Total Modified

[10] The total costs associated with these UPA measures will be amended to the within-year requests.

			Budget
Eagle	$1,500,000	$1,000,000	$2,500,000
Oxbow	$250,000	$0	$250,000

BPA concurs with this request; however, BPA is requiring that a value engineering exercise be performed to obtain a better estimate of necessary construction. The cost for value engineering is estimated at $45,000 and is included in this within-year modification request.

The attached information summarizes the ongoing Sockeye salmon captive brood program, the role each facility/agency plays, and eighty-five percent construction cost estimate for the renovation of the Eagle and Oxbow hatcheries.

Please feel free to contact either Mark Shaw at 503/230-5239, or Greg Baesler at 503/230-7637 for further information, or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William C. Maslen

William C. Maslen
Director for Fish and Wildlife

cc:
Mr. Mark Fritsch, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Mr. Karl Weist, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Ms. Joann Hunt, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Mr. Brian Lipscomb, Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Authority
Mr. Bob Austin, BPA
Mr. Mark Shaw, BPA
Mr. Peter Lofy, BPA
Mr. Greg Dondlinger, BPA
Ms. Karen Hunt, BPA
Ms. Michael Coffey, BPA
Mr. Greg Baesler, BPA

REDFISH LAKE SOCKEYE CAPTIVE PROPOGATION PROGRAM BACKGROUND – MAY 2006

This narrative describes the coordinated efforts of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to address language contained in NOAA's 2004 Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion (FCRPS BiOp) and the Action Agencies 2004 Updated Proposed Action document (UPA) and 2005-2007 Final Implementation Plan (FIP) to increase the current production of the Snake River Sockeye Salmon Captive Broodstock Program and to make necessary improvements to existing facilities to protect the integrity of the program. The following excerpts (taken from the FCRPS BiOp, UPA, and FIP) provide the foundation of support for this proposed, collaborative effort.

From the FCRPS BiOp (pg 6-135):

- "NOAA Fisheries agrees that a hatchery smolt program has the best potential for rapidly increasing the number of anadromous adults. Risks to all four VSP criteria remain high, and a rapid increase in the number of anadromous adults is needed to address these risks. If smolt-to adult survival ranges from 0.1% to 0.3%, then the number of adult returns from a 150,000 smolt program would be expected to range from 150 to 450 adults returning to the Sawtooth Valley. The Action Agencies have identified a single production facility for the smolt program. There is a risk that the entire smolt production could be lost in any one year from mechanical malfunction or disease if only a single production facility is used."

From the UPA:

- "BPA will continue to fund safety-net programs for Snake River Sockeye… as long as NOAA Fisheries considers these programs to effectively contribute to reducing the risk of extinction."
- "The Action Agencies propose to construct and fund operation of new hatchery facilities to produce smolts that support Snake River Sockeye salmon survival and recovery. New facilities would be located in Oregon at Oxbow Hatchery near Bonneville Dam. This site would be capable of producing up to 150,000 smolts annually…"
- "The annual level of smolt production will depend on adequate number of broodstock for the smolt program."
- "The Action Agencies expect NOAA to support these management actions in the *US v Oregon* process and that the actions will be approved."
- "The Action Agencies intend to complete the improvements to the Oxbow Hatchery by 2006 to allow for this additional smolt production starting with brood year 2006. The Action Agencies anticipate that these additional smolts will be available for release in 2008."

From the FIP:

- "BPA will enhance Snake River Sockeye smolt production in conjunction with the current safety-net program to benefit the Snake River Sockeye ESU."

- Improve the facilities at Oxbow Hatchery near Bonneville Dam to produce 150,000 Snake River Sockeye salmon smolts annually….assuming the availability of adequate broodstock to provide eggs for smolt production and approval of the new production by *US v Oregon* parties.
- Make necessary improvements at existing Snake River Sockeye hatchery facilities in Idaho and Washington to support both the new smolt production and the current safety-net hatchery production.

Currently, the IDFG and NOAA Fisheries address captive broodstock responsibilities through projects 1991-072-00 and 1992-040-00, respectively. The IDFG has broodstock development and fish culture responsibilities (Eagle Fish Hatchery) as well as monitoring and evaluation responsibilities for the program. NOAA Fisheries shares fish culture responsibilities at their seawater (Manchester Research Station) and freshwater (Burley Creek Fish Hatchery) sites in Washington State. Broodstocks are duplicated at IDFG and NOAA facilities to minimize the risk associated with catastrophic loss at any one location. The IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery and the NOAA Burley Creek Hatchery serve as broodstock spawning stations. Juvenile rearing (for reintroduction purposes) occurs at the IDFG Sawtooth Fish Hatchery (a Lower Snake River Compensation Plan hatchery) and at the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery near Cascade Locks (a Mitchell Act hatchery). Sockeye salmon rearing space is limited at both facilities.

The Snake River Sockeye Salmon Captive Broodstock Program's near-term goal is to prevent the extinction of the Evolutionarily Significant Unit as well as to minimize the loss of population genetic diversity and heterozygosity. This goal is being adequately addressed with the program's existing infrastructure of facilities and staffing. The program's ultimate goal is to reestablish Snake River Sockeye salmon and to de-list the population. Currently, Sockeye salmon smolt-to-adult return rates are insufficient to provide sustained, population replacement in the wild. Additionally, adult spawning, incubation, and juvenile rearing space is insufficient (in the hatchery) to adequately address the biological needs of the program as well as the recovery goal.

Increasing the number of natural- and hatchery-produced smolts (and returning anadromous adults) is an action recommended by the program's Technical Oversight Committee. Closed, captive populations of species at risk (such as Snake River Sockeye salmon) lose genetic variability and diversity at predictable rates in spite of the best efforts of biologists and fish culturists to implement novel breeding protocols. Returning more anadromous adults to the program and incorporating them in spawning designs will not improve measurable genetic diversity or variability as the population is presumed to be closed. However, incorporating these adults in spawning designs may improve fitness at the individual fish level as well as at the population level. Fitness characteristics such as reproductive potential (*e.g.,* fecundity) and reproductive success (*e.g.,* egg survival to the eyed stage of development) have been shown to be heritable. As such, incorporating additional anadromous adults in the hatchery spawning program is anticipated to have a positive impact on the fitness of the captive population.

Recently, Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus (IHNV) was discovered in returning anadromous Sockeye salmon (all anadromous adult Sockeye salmon captured in the Sawtooth Valley and retained in the hatchery, for spawning or release back to the habitat, are depoted at the Eagle Fish Hatchery). An outbreak of IHNV could have a devastating effect on the existing

program. Fish culture programs at IDFG's Eagle and Sawtooth fish hatcheries, NOAA hatcheries in Washington State, and ODFW's Oxbow Fish Hatchery are potentially at risk as eyed-eggs and fish are transferred among facilities. Actions needed to address this emerging risk include making modifications to anadromous adult holding, spawning, incubation, and rearing systems at the IDFG Eagle Fish Hatchery.
The actions proposed by IDFG, NOAA Fisheries, and ODFW are designed to meet the expectations of the FCRPS BiOp, the UPA, the FIP, as well as project biological needs associated with maintaining population genetic diversity and fitness and avoiding unnecessary fish health risks.

UPA and FIP ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

Idaho Department of Fish and Game (project no. 1991-072-00)
The IDFG proposed modifications to their Eagle Fish Hatchery to enable the production of additional broodstock adults. Additional adults are needed to generate a portion of the production needed to meet the 150,000 smolt target established for the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery. Proposed Eagle Fish Hatchery modifications include the redesign and construction of water delivery and drain systems and the construction of a covered hatchery building. The new covered facility will create the space to generate additional broodstock adults and eggs to supply the expanded Oxbow Fish Hatchery program. Additionally, the new facility will provide isolation/segregation capabilities needed to manage risks associated with the transmission of infectious pathogens.

Final, NPCC/BPA Fiscal Year 2006 Fish and Wildlife Program budgets included additions of $81,000 to IDFG's expense budget and $1,500,000 in new capital funds to address UPA and FIP expectations.

In November 2005, the IDFG developed a Within-Year Modification Request Form for Fiscal Year 2006. This form described the proposed Eagle Fish Hatchery modification project and can be located through the following link:

http://www.cbfwa.org/mods/components/forms/DisplayWYOngoing.cfm?action=final&ModID=379

On February 15, 2006, BPA initiated Contract #23674 with the IDFG to address the design phase of the proposed Eagle Hatchery modification project. The 60% completion stage of this planning effort will be met in late April, 2006. At that time, reasonably accurate cost estimates for the construction phase of the facility modification project will be available (to compare with the initial placeholder estimate of 1.5 million dollars).

The IDFG provided in-kind cost sharing (planning, design and construction labor) to remove tanks, water systems, equipment, and structures in the footprint of the proposed new hatchery building. Following the demolition of old structures, the IDFG provided excavation labor as well as approximately 600 cubic yards of fill material to stabilize the proposed construction site.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (project no. 1992-040-00)

NOAA Fisheries is currently implementing a modification project at their Burley Creek Fish Hatchery to address UPA and FIP expectations related to the production of 150,000 smolts at the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery. Modifications will improve the security of the existing safety-net program as well as facilitate the production of additional broodstock adults and eggs to meet the 150,000 smolt target established for the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery. The project includes the development of a backup well, additional egg incubation capability, additional chilled water capability, additional rearing space, and the construction of a centralized degassing tower. Fiscal Year 2006 Fish and Wildlife Program dollars are being used to fund the modifications. Because funding for NOAA facility modifications were approved prior to Fiscal Year 2006, it was not necessary to prepare a Within-Year Modification Request Form.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (project no. 2005-012-00)
The ODFW proposed modifications to their Oxbow Fish Hatchery near Bonneville Dam to address expectations of the UPA and FIP. To produce approximately 150,000 Sockeye salmon smolts annually, modifications to existing water delivery and drain systems, the pollution abatement pond, and the current avian predation abatement screen structure need to occur. Incubation and early rearing systems will also need to be modified to support the planned increase in production.

The final, NPCC/BPA Fiscal Year 2006 Fish and Wildlife Program budget identified $250,000 in expense funds for this project. In March 2006, the ODFW developed a Within-Year Modification Request Form to satisfy review requirements and to facilitate access to funds. The dollar amount requested by ODFW for Fiscal Year 2006 is $314,560. The form can be accessed through the following link:

http://www.cbfwa.org/mods/components/forms/DisplayWYOngoing.cfm?action=final&ModID=253

Considerable cost share from non Fish and Wildlife Program funds has been used to maintain other hatchery functions, improve the consistency of the water supply for Sockeye salmon rearing, and provide the design and planning for proposed hatchery modifications described in the Within-Year Modification Request Form referenced above.

CURRENT AND PROPOSED PRODUCTION TARGETS

Current Sockeye salmon production levels for IDFG, NOAA, and ODFW hatcheries are described below.

Current Production Program

Current eyed-egg production:

Annual eyed-egg production (approximate) from IDFG Eagle Hatchery:	145,000
Annual eyed-egg production (approximate) from NOAA hatcheries:	140,000
	280,000

Current eyed-egg distribution:

Approximately 50,000 eyed-eggs transferred to in-lake incubation boxes (from IDFG and NOAA facilities)
Approximately 170,000 eyed-eggs transferred to the IDFG Sawtooth Fish Hatchery (from IDFG and NOAA facilities)
Approximately 60,000 eyed-eggs transferred to the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery (from IDFG and NOAA facilities)

Current reintroduction distribution:

Facility	To in-lake egg boxes (eyed-eggs)	Reared for presmolt release	Reared for smolt release	Reared for prespawn adult release
Eagle	25,000			
NOAA	25,000			300
Sawtooth	0	100,000	50,000	
Oxbow			50,000	
Totals	50,000	100,000	100,000	300

Assumptions: 90% egg to presmolt and 84% egg to smolt survival

Proposed Production Plan:

The proposed production plan meets the expectations of the UPA and FIP. This action calls for the production of 150,000 smolts at Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Oxbow Fish Hatchery. This facility currently rears 50,000 smolts for the program. To reach the new target of 150,000 smolts, an additional 100,000 smolts would need to be produced. The IDFG and NOAA Fisheries will produce an additional 240 broodstock adults and approximately 120,000 eyed eggs (above and beyond current production levels) to meet the 150,000 smolt goal for the Oxbow Fish Hatchery.

Proposed eyed-egg production:

Annual eyed-egg production (approximate) from IDFG Eagle Hatchery:	240,000
Annual eyed-egg production (approximate) from NOAA hatcheries:	160,000
	400,000

Proposed eyed-egg distribution:
Approximately 50,000 eggs transferred to in lake incubation boxes (from IDFG and NOAA facilities)
Approximately 170,000 eggs transferred to the IDFG Sawtooth Fish Hatchery (from IDFG and NOAA facilities)
Approximately 180,000 eggs transferred to the ODFW Oxbow Fish Hatchery (from IDFG and NOAA facilities)

Proposed reintroduction distribution:

Facility	To in-lake egg boxes (eyed-eggs)	Reared for presmolt release	Reared for smolt release	Reared for prespawn adult release
Eagle	25,000			
NOAA	25,000			300
Sawtooth	0	100,000	50,000	
Oxbow			150,000	
Totals	50,000	100,000	200,000	300

Assumptions: 90% egg to presmolt and 84% egg to smolt survival

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Northwest Power and Conservation Council

June 1, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Doug Marker, Director
Fish and Wildlife Division

SUBJECT: Recommendations on within-year requests for the YKFP O&M Upper Yakima Supplementation Complex, Project 1997-013-25; and Umatilla Juvenile Outmigration and Survival, Project 1989-024-01.

INTRODUCTION:

On June 1, 2006 Council staff received a letter from Bonneville addressing two within year budget adjustments (see Attachment 1). These two requests were referred by the BOG to the BOG "Policy Group" for additional review and recommendation. This referral was because the requests need action before the next quarterly review. At your meeting in June the Council staff will provide an overview of the proposed budget actions and seek approval from both the Committee and the Council.

PROPOSED ACTION:

The Council staff concurs with Bonneville's recommendations in the June 1 letter. These are to deny the request for the Umatilla Juvenile Outmigration and Survival Project for $171,100, and approve the request for the Yakima Supplementation Complex for $45,000.

SIGNIFICANCE:

Currently the YKFP O&M Upper Yakima Supplementation Complex, Project 1997-013-25 is operating at the approved FY 2006 expense budget of $2,597,942 and Umatilla Juvenile Outmigration and Survival, Project 1989-024-01 is operating under a FY 2006 expense budget of $306,235. Total costs associated with Bonneville's recommendation would add $45,000 to the FY 2006 budget associated with YKFP request.

851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348
www.nwcouncil.org

Steve Crow
Executive Director

503-222-5161
800-452-5161
Fax: 503-820-2370

BACKGROUND:

Periodically projects are received that are outside the capacity of the current program budget tracking and adjustment process (i.e., BOG). These projects are emergency and time sensitive requests that need to receive a recommendation outside the fiscal year quarterly review meetings.

The letter received from Bonneville provides a summary of the additional review that these projects received through the BOG Policy Group. There were enough questions about these requests that staff recommendations to the Council were delayed beyond last month's meeting.[1] The information on the requests is extensive and based on this and the through review the Council staff supports the recommendation as outlined in the Bonneville letter.

[1] The Umatilla Juvenile Outmigration and Survival, Project 1989-024-01 was reviewed by the BOG on February 13, 2006, and YKFP O&M Upper Yakima Supplementation Complex, Project 1997-013-25 on April 5, 2006.

Attachment 1: Letter received on June 1, 2006 from Bonneville regarding BOG Policy Group funding adjustment recommendations for YKFP O&M Upper Yakima Supplementation Complex, Project 1997-013-25; and Umatilla Juvenile Outmigration and Survival, Project 1989-024-01.

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621
Portland, Oregon 97208-3621

Official File

ENVIRONMENT, FISH AND WILDLIFE

June 1, 2006

In reply refer to: KEW-4

Mr. Doug Marker
Fish and Wildlife Division Director
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97204-1348

Dear Mr. Marker:

In accordance with the Budget Oversight Group (BOG) process, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) submitted a within-year request to install a PIT-tag detection system in the east bank adult fish ladder at Three Mile Falls Dam and the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation are requesting funds to convert existing trailer ports to a single room living quarter. Both requests were reviewed and categorized by the BOG, but timely decisions were needed. For these reasons the BOG Policy Group has met and discussed the requests. The following summarizes our analysis and provides our recommendation for these two requests.

Project Funding Request – Declined

Category 3b3
Project Number: 1989-024-01
Project Name: Umatilla Juvenile Outmigration and Survival
Contractor: ODFW
Budget Amount: $171,100
Funding Category: expense

ODFW is requesting funds for an adult ladder PIT-tag detection system to supplement migration timing and survival estimates of tagged juvenile migrants, support SARs of ESA-listed summer steelhead, track out-of basin straying, monitor run timing and life history characteristics of hatchery-released spring and fall Chinook salmon, and reduce unnecessary handling of adult returns.

This request is for the installation of PIT-tag detection facilities at Threemile Falls Dam on the Umatilla River. It was the Council's staff analysis that the installation of the PIT-tag detector had not been previously approved by the Council for funding by BPA. Though the funding request was originally reviewed by the BOG in February[2] there were questions raised regarding funding responsibility and relationships to other requests that affect the construction schedule. Once these issues had been addressed, the BOG asked the BOG Policy Group to make a recommendation to the Council.

BPA does not support this request because we believe that the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) should be responsible for facilities at its projects, not BPA. BOR requirements for operations and maintenance have already been established. The Draft Biological Opinion for Umatilla River projects (Biological Opinion For the Continued Operation and Maintenance of the Bureau of Reclamation's Umatilla/Umatilla Basin Projects, Umatilla County, Oregon) requires BOR to continue funding operations and maintenance (O&M) for required passage facilities (*e.g.*, this east-side adult ladder at Threemile Falls Dam), and monitor the level of incidental take by evaluating injury and mortality at all BOR diversion structures on the Umatilla (M&E). Thus far, for the requested facility modification, BPA and cost share partners NOAA and (BPA-funded) PSMFC have provided all funds for design of the detection system. After the proposed within-year request had been submitted, ODFW notified BPA that the BOR had offered approximately $25,000 as cost share. However, this proposed cost share seriously falls short of BOR's responsibility for O&M and M&E in the basin and at this facility, especially considering that most of the costs for the proposed detection system are to modify the wingwalls of the BOR-owned Threemile Falls Dam passage facility.

BPA has provided, and may continue to provide, cost share for O&M and M&E at some BOR facilities in the Umatilla basin, contingent on a positive recommendation from the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and a decision by BPA that these activities are high priority among actions in the Columbia River Basin. However, unless and until the BOR provides adequate cost share, BPA recommends not funding this request.

Project Funding Request – Recommended

Category 5
Project Number: 1997-013-25
Project Name: YKFP O&M Upper Yakima Supplementation Complex
Contractor: Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Budget Amount: $45,000

[2] The funding request was reviewed by the BOG on February 15, 2006.

The Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility maintains three acclimation sites each for a seven-month period, beginning in December and concluding at the end of June. While the three acclimation sites are in operation, living quarters at each site consist of a 22-ft travel trailer. The trailers have been in use since 1999 and have accumulated over 56 months or 4.6 years of occupancy time per trailer. Although they have served their purpose, the units have begun to deteriorate at a much faster pace than the average recreational travel trailer user due to weather and extensive use. The request is to enclose the current shelter (*i.e.,* trailer pad) in a manner that will provide a single room living quarter with separate bathroom. The BOG questions were about the costs and permanence of this action; however, the BOG Policy Group discussion concluded that the proposal was cost effective.

The original design for these acclimation sites called for temporary and seasonal use. However, due to security and extended acclimation periods, the current period of use has been extended to six months of the year (*i.e.,* January to June). During this period weather temperatures can range from 80 degrees to 10 degrees below zero that can cause additional operation and maintenance issues with the trailers (*i.e.,* heating, water supply and grey water disposal). Several incidences of freezing pipes have caused damage to the trailer floors. Lastly, the Yakama Nation has proposed a significant cost share in labor if BPA funds materials to build the structures.

The most cost-effective alternative is replacement with structures (expected to last 16–25 years) at a total cost of $45,000 for all three structures, compared to replacement with trailers at $51,000 (*i.e.,* three trailers at $17,000 each, with an expected life span of less than 10 years).This request was reviewed by the BOG on April 5, 2006. The request was referred to the BOG Policy Group because a later decision would be too late to implement before cold weather prevents construction. BPA is recommending that this within-year request be approved.

Please feel free to contact either me at 503/230-5499 for further information or if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

William C. Maslen

William C. Maslen
Director of Fish and Wildlife

cc:
Mr. Mark Fritsch, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Ms. Patty O'Toole, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Mr. Karl Weist, Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Mr. Brian Lipscomb, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
Mr. Tom Iverson, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
Ms. Amy Langston, Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
Mr. Greg Dondlinger, BPA
Mr. Peter Lofy, BPA
Mr. Mark Shaw, BPA
Ms. Michael Coffey, BPA
Mr. Steve Cramer, BPA
Mr. Jonathan McCloud, BPA
Ms. Patty Smith, BPA

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