



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD., Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

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November 15, 2011



Mr. Kevin Kytola
Sapere Consulting, Inc.
103 E. Main Street, Suite 301
Walla Walla, Washington 99362

Re: NWPPC Fish Tagging Forum - Nov. 16, 2011

Dear Kevin,

Thank you for the invitation, but unfortunate scheduling conflicts mean that I will not be able to attend the Northwest Power and Conservation Council Fish Tagging Forum tomorrow. As I indicated in my phone conversation with you, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife intends to be an active participant in the tagging forum. To address my scheduling issue, I have met with our co-managers at Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to assure they understand our perspective. I have asked them to serve as our proxy representative at the November 17 meeting and you should be assured that the views and recommendations WDFW makes are consistent with ODFW's.

I understand that you will give each of the forum participants an opportunity to provide their perspectives. Below are a few thoughts I had hoped to share with the group:

- The forum should undertake a decision analysis to assess all forms of tagging and marking used to address essential management questions. As a foundation this should consider the key decisions made in fisheries forums that manage, monitor and mitigate the anadromous salmonid production and recovery. To address possible redundancies, and to assure an efficient cost effective monitoring program, the decision analysis should not be limited to the needs of the NPCC.
- The assessment should consider the suite of analyses and tagging data needed to inform those decisions. A cost effective regional strategy will need to build on and adapt existing infrastructure to collect and analyze tagging data needed by decision makers. An optimal program will employ a variety of fish identification technologies to supply cost effective and reliable data.
- The forum should describe an optimal strategy to fund and implement fish marking and provide marking and recovery data to analysts and decision makers in various forums. An appropriate mix of funding should be consistent with information needs of decision forums, and with obligations to monitor the effectiveness of various programs.
- The forum should consider and build on tagging assessments that were completed by the ISRP and PST, and it should seek to broaden regional participation to assure we hear

from key scientists serving on the Pacific Salmon Commission and recovery team experts with NOAA Fisheries.

Thank you Kevin. I apologize for this late notice, but I intend to be a full and active participant at future meetings and I have reserved December 14 and 15 for the next meeting, as you suggested.

Sincerely,



Thomas A. Rien
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cc: Anthony Nigro, Steve Williams,
Guy Norman, Dan Rawding and Pat Frazier (WDFW),
Pete Hassemer (IDFG), and
Tony Grover (NPCC)