



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Area Manager
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Subject: Transmittal of Fish and Wildlife Service's Willamette Project Biological Opinion

Dear Gentlemen:

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Fish and Wildlife Service's biological opinion on the continued operation and maintenance of the Willamette Project, and effects to listed species and designated critical habitat. Your supplemental biological assessment and request for formal consultation were received in our office on June 5, 2007. An addendum that provided additional information was received in our office on August 20, 2007, thereby completing the consultation request package.

The proposed action under consultation includes a Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in cooperation with the Action Agencies (Army Corps of Engineers, Bonneville Power Administration, and Bureau of Reclamation). This approach (Proposed Action + NMFS RPA) was supported by the Action Agencies in a January 30, 2008, letter to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

In our biological opinion we conclude that the action as proposed, and as modified by the NMFS RPA, is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of the coterminous United States

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population of bull trout, or Oregon chub, and will not adversely modify designated critical habitat for bull trout.

We look forward to working with you and your staff on the implementation of this biological opinion. If you have questions regarding this transmittal, please feel free to contact me, Rollie White, or Chris Allen of my staff at 503.231.6179.

Sincerely,

Acting 
State Supervisor

Enclosure

Cc: Tanya Sommer (BOR)
Robert Willis (USACE)
Dan Spear (BPA)
Stephanie Birchfield (NMFS)
Bruce Suzumoto (NMFS)