



Department of the Army  
Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division  
P.O. Box 2870  
Portland, OR 97208-2870

June 23, 2004



Department of Energy  
Bonneville Power Administration  
P.O. Box 3621  
Portland, OR 97208-3621

Mr. Bob Lohn  
Regional Administrator  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
7600 Sand Point Way NE  
Seattle, WA 98115

Dear Mr. Lohn:

Enclosed on behalf of the Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Bureau of Reclamation (Action Agencies) is an Amendment to our 2004/2004-2008 Implementation Plan regarding summer spill reductions and offsets in 2004. It also includes our response to NOAA Fisheries' Implementation Progress Evaluation Report. We request that you review the spill proposal for consistency with the 2000 Biological Opinion (BiOp) for Operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS). We believe that the proposal provides equal or better benefits for listed salmon as in the 2000 BiOp. We also believe the proposal provides equal or better benefits to non-listed salmon as occur under the 2000 BiOp summer spill regime.

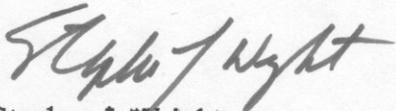
We also wish to clarify the current status of the proposed action for the FCRPS for your use as you develop a new Biological Opinion as the result of the judicial remand process. Our current proposed hydro system operation, taking into account adaptive management, is reflected in our 2004/2004-2008 Implementation Plan. However, we request that you initially analyze the proposed FCRPS action based on hydro operations alone, along with an assessment of habitat and hatchery potential for ESUs where a gap is identified. Based on this assessment of the net effects of the proposed hydro action, we will develop a supplemental proposal, as necessary, for targeted habitat and hatchery actions as offsite mitigation for the FCRPS. The supplemental proposal may also include further modification to the proposed hydro operation.

As a further point of clarification, we understand that you will be considering existing operations of Montana reservoirs in your ESA analysis. We also understand that operations consistent with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Mainstem Amendments will be considered annually as part of in-season management.

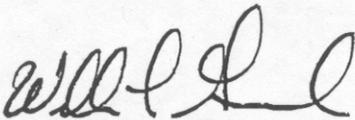
Finally, we request that, pursuant to Section 7(a)(4) of the ESA, you conference with us on the effects of FCRPS operations on lower Columbia River coho, since these fish were recently proposed for listing.

Thank you very much for your consideration. Please call either of us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Stephen J. Wright  
Administrator and Chief Executive Officer  
Bonneville Power Administration



William T. Grisoli  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Division Engineer