

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** bryan@sbirwin.com  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2004 11:23 AM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

View open comment periods on <http://www.bpa.gov/corporate/kc/home/comment.cfm>

Bryan Irwin  
Sportfishing  
bryan@sbirwin.com  
503-819-8185  
15 Locke Raod  
White Salmon WA 98672

My name is Bryan Irwin. I am a ratepayer in both White Salmon and Vancouver, WA. I am also an avid sport fisherman. I am writing in opposition to your proposal to reduce spill for summer migrants in the Columbia River. I applaud the BPA for a number of innovative measures to offset the reduced spill, but do not feel that these measures offset the advantage of increased summertime flows. I would rather see innovative ideas for limiting power consumption than ways to increase megawatts at the expense of salmon. Abundant salmon are very important to the citizens of the Northwest and I for one would rather pay more for my electricity than add one more challenge to the long list of man-made challenges we already introduce to the journey of the salmon.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** jkisom@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 12, 2004 2:10 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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James and Kathleen Isom

jkisom@comcast.net  
541/926-2546  
5329 Ermine St. SE  
Albany OR 97322

Gentlemen, We would like to thank you for your proposal to amend the summer 2004 spill. Your willingness to work with fisheries while saving, us, the taxpayers money is refreshing. Good work and thank you.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** davidjolma@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 12, 2004 9:23 AM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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David Jolma

davidjolma@yahoo.com

1115 N. E. 135th Ave.  
Portland Or 97230-3215

You have already turned the free flowing Columbia into a series of pools, so let's not cut back any of the water that the smolts need for their migration to the ocean. Let's not forget that when the dams were constructed, that part of the agreement was to help mitigate for damage to lost fish runs. This would be in the form of hatcheries and enough water to aid in fish passage.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** AhsetT2@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 13, 2004 7:03 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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Tesha Johnson

Citizen

AhsetT2@yahoo.com

503-558-9329

14674 SE Sunnyside RD

Clackamas OR 97015

Summer spill and the salmon that it helps is a lot more important to me than for BPA to make extra \$\$\$\$. Please keep summer spill, all of it.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** sjohnson@pacificoffice.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2004 4:46 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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scott Johnson

[sjohnson@pacificoffice.com](mailto:sjohnson@pacificoffice.com)

Please continue to spill not kill

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** marykarl@teleport.com  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2004 5:31 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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Karl Johnson

marykarl@teleport.com

63 Elochoman Valley Road  
Cathlamet WA 98612

Please reduce the spills in 2005 & 2006, and beyond. To reduce our power rates. Which have gone up 40% in the last year or so. I think we can have Salmon & lower power rates & irrigation at the same time. There people that say that is so.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** fishermand@aol.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2004 2:31 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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David Johnson  
David Johnson's Guide Service  
fishermand@aol.com  
503-201-4292  
14180 SE Brent AVE  
Boring OR 97009

I am disgusted that the BPA would ignore sound science that summer spill is the very best thing for the salmon and instead offer sub-par fixes that will not work nearly as well. And for a saving of mear pennies for rate payers. Please continue the summers spill, our fish, economy and citizens deserve it.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** johnson@ritzcom.net  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2004 4:03 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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Beverly Johnson

johnson@ritzcom.net

P.O. Box 295  
Ritzville WA 99169

I applaud BPA for their initial step in reducing summer spillage, however, this is not enough. The anticipated cost per fish is still too high! With the State of Washington facing many economic disasters, this is one area that can save the people on their electric charges and help everyone in the State of Washington. From reports that I have read, the fish are doing better than ever. That in fact most species of endangered fish are thriving. Please take the time to review the facts and please reduce more summer spill. Or better yet, eliminate summer spill. Thank you for your time.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** AnonymousComment@somewhere.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2004 2:47 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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John  
teacher  
No E-mail Address Submitted  
503-992-6892  
394 s tyler ts  
Lake Oswego or 97056  
Please don't let our baby salmon DIE by not spilling water. Thank you!

Bonneville Power Administration  
Box 14428  
Portland OR 97923-4428

Dear Sir or Madam:

I have reviewed your amended modified summer spill regime and all appendices. I would like to specifically comment on the proposed Northern Pikeminnow Management Program.

I have worked as a Biologist directly with Northern Pikeminnow Research and Predator Control Programs for the last 12 years. My work has been focused in the mid-Columbia region with local PUD's and focused on Pikeminnow population projects in the immediate tailrace of mid-Columbia hydroelectric projects (Priest Rapids Dam, Wanapum Dam, and Wells Dam).

During the analysis of our research projects we have determined that predation by these fish on migrating juvenile salmonids can be extremely high in the immediate tailrace Boat Restricted Zones (BRZ's) of the hydroelectric projects. We have implemented an effective site specific fishery in the BRZ's that has effectively reduced predation in these areas.

The site specific fishery in the BRZ's has 3 main benefits over our reservoir fisheries.

1. Data from our length/weight comparisons shows that average length/weight of fish captured in the BRZ's was up to 28% greater than average length/weight of fish captured in the reservoirs (see attached Table #1 BRZ vs. Reservoir length comparisons). It is assumed that these larger fish play a greater role in predation activities than smaller fish that are captured throughout the reservoir.
2. Our stomach content analysis data indicates that predation rates are much higher in the immediate tailrace BRZ's than in reservoir areas. We have observed a 16% higher incidence of smolt within pikeminnow stomachs in tailrace areas when compared to reservoir areas (see attached Table # Salmonids recorded during stomach analysis (BRZ vs. Reservoir).
3. As juvenile salmonids pass through turbines and spillways they may become disoriented or stunned. At that point within the migration the fish are particularly susceptible to predation. Large pikeminnow congregate in the turbine outwash and spill areas to intensively feed on the disoriented prey. This may be the point at which outbound smolt are the most vulnerable to predation by northern

pikeminnow. The removal of these large, highly piscivorous pikeminnow from the BRZ's has played a major role in our effort to reduce pikeminnow predation in the mid-Columbia.

Although the 2004 amended spill regime plan does cover predation in the reservoir with the sport reward program, there are no proposals to address the problem of predation within the immediate tailrace BRZ's of the lower Columbia River hydroelectric projects. Anglers from the sport reward program are prohibited from fishing within the BRZ areas and therefore no pikeminnow predator control will take place in the BRZ's under the current proposal.

Conducting pikeminnow removal activities within the tailrace BRZ's of the lower Columbia projects is crucial in increasing survival rates of juvenile salmonids. Especially in the event that BPA implements the 2004 amended modified summer spill regime. If fish are passed through the turbines instead of over the spill gates it is probable that a higher degree of disorientation will result. Therefore predation rates by pikeminnow directly below the turbine outwash areas will increase. An effective pikeminnow predator control program in the immediate tailrace BRZ's would dramatically reduce predation in these areas.

By conducting a BRZ fishery Bonneville Power Administration could obtain benefits in several ways consisting of:

1. Initiating a BRZ fishery in 2004 would help mitigate for the effects of the proposed 2004 amended modified summer spill regime.
2. A BRZ fishery implemented in 2004 could provide data and catch statistics for future fisheries that would provide mitigation for future reduced spill regimes. Ultimately, if the BRZ fishery was implemented BPA could use the fishery to mitigate for reduced spill plans in the future.
3. Conducting the 2004 fishery would help allow BPA justify passing juvenile salmonids through the turbines. By initiating the fishery, salmonids passing through the turbines would now be protected from predators in the direct turbine outwash allowing for the fish safe passage through the tailrace area.
4. From a financial aspect, a tailrace BRZ fishery is a cost effective option (relative to other mitigation measures) and could be implemented with low overhead..

I have tried to make my comments short and as to the point as possible regarding the amended modified summer spill regime plan. It is my belief that initiating a pikeminnow predator control program in the tailrace BRZ's of the lower Columbia hydroelectric projects would benefit both our anadromous fish resources as well as hydroelectric interests. Please feel free to contact me via cell phone at (509) 679-0384 should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Tyson Jerald

**Table #1**  
**BRZ vs Reservoir Length Comparisons**

Year	Location	Average Male Length (mm)	Average Female Length
2003	Wanapum Dam Tailrace BRZ	366	459
2003	Wanapum Reservoir	282	332
2003	Wells Dam Tailrace BRZ	337	439
2003	Wells Reservoir	279	338

In 2003 Wanapum Dam Tailrace BRZ Male Pikeminnow were 85 mm larger than Wanapum Reservoir Fish (23% Larger)

In 2003 Wanapum Dam Tailrace BRZ Female Pikeminnow were 127 mm larger than Wanapum Reservoir fish (28% Larger)

In 2003 Wells Dam Tailrace BRZ Male Pikeminnow were 58 mm larger than Wells Reservoir fish (17% Larger)

In 2003 Wells Dam Tailrace BRZ Female Pikeminnow were 101 mm larger than Wells Reservoir fish (24% Larger)

**Table 2**  
**Salmonids recorded during stomach analysis (BRZ vs. Reservoir)**

Year	Location	% Smolt encountered during stomach content analysis
2003	Wanapum Dam Tailrace BRZ	21%
2003	Wanapum Reservoir	5%
2003	Wells Dam Tailrace BRZ	17%
2003	Wells Reservoir	3%

During pikeminnow stomach content analysis in 2003 salmonids were identified 16% more often in the Wells BRZ than in Wells Reservoir

During stomach content analysis in 2003 salmonids were identified 14% more often in the Wells BRZ than in Wells Reservoir.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** fleedermouse@hotmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2004 10:21 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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Bret Jensen  
Fisheries Biologist  
fleedermouse@hotmail.com  
503-274-1519  
5221 NE 29th Avenue  
Portland OR 97211

I worked with the USGS CRR1 on Bonneville for a year and cannot believe that this is being proposed. Spill is the single-most important factor in smolt survival. I have moved on to a career in health care but will and do continue to keep involved with the fisheries of the PNW. This proposal is wrong and there are certainly no net gains to your friends list if you go through with this. Keep in mind that you are an agency of we the people's government and we can and will unmake you if you continually ignore our will and squander our resources. BPA and the corps are lucky that most fisherman generally support the dams for now but the tide will turn with this continuing disrespect of this bloc's concerns.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** AnonymousComment@somewhere.com  
**Sent:** Friday, June 11, 2004 11:54 AM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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Jeff Jacka

Pikeminnow Fisherman

No E-mail Address Submitted

425 754-4986

17705 64th Drive NW

Stanwood WA 98292

I spend several weeks per month fishing for squawfish for the sport reward program, especially below the dams. We do very well fishing in these areas and catch large squawfish that we have seen eating smolts. However, we can only go to the no fishing zones of the dams but there are much more pikeminnows above the no fishing zones. Could the squawfish fishermen be allowed to fish above the signs? I think that alot of the big pikeminnow are feeding on the smolt and alot of smolts are getting eaten in these areas but we can't get into the no fishing zones to fish. Something needs to be done so that these fish can be caught.

## BPA Public Involvement

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**From:** AnonymousComment@somewhere.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 10, 2004 2:59 PM  
**To:** BPA Public Involvement  
**Subject:** Comment on Summer Spill Proposal

### Comment on **Summer Spill Proposal**

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harold jones

No E-mail Address Submitted

503-472-9182

1722 tamarack st sw

mcminnville or 97128

To whom it may concern, I am supporting a continued spill during the summer for many reasons. The obvious benefit to salmon and steelhead stocks. Please understand the importance of the salmon and steelhead. Due to lack of flows in 2001 the salmon run for 2004 is way down, due not want this to happen again. The BPA has been active in saving our salmon/steelhead, lets keep up the good work and continue with the summer spills Thank you