



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Northwest Fisheries Science Center
Fish Ecology Division
2725 Montlake Boulevard East
Seattle, Washington 98112-2097

February 2, 2006

Mr. David Marvin
PIT Tag Operations Center
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
205 SE Spokane Street, Suite 100
Portland, Oregon 97202-6413

FEB 6 2006

Subject: SbyC Request

Dear Mr. Marvin:

The purpose of this letter is to request Separation-by-Code (SbyC) implementation at various hydroelectric projects on the Snake and Columbia Rivers during spring/summer 2006 to support various studies being conducted by our researchers. Each researcher will provide tag codes and actions to you for their study(ies). Brief study descriptions are enclosed.

These research studies have been reviewed through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers AFEP process or through the Bonneville Power Administration's review process and have been funded by the respective agency. Project leaders and contact information are listed for each of the attached studies. The Northwest Fisheries Science Center administrative officer for each study



is Mr. Kurt Gores. Appropriate Federal ESA authorization and state scientific collection permits have been requested and we anticipate receipt of the permits prior to the start of research activities.

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate project leader.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John W. Ferguson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

John W. Ferguson
Director

Enclosures

cc: F/NWC3 - Achord
F/NWC3 - Gilbreath
F/NWC3 - Gores
F/NWC3 - Marsh
F/NWC3 - McIntyre

Separation-by-Code Request

Project Leader: Douglas Marsh

Study: Transportation studies

We will be conducting transportation studies requiring separation-by-code at projects downstream from our release points. The projects and our needs are listed below.

We anticipate that the majority, if not all, of the tag codes can be provided to PTOC prior to the beginning of tagging for each study. If unforeseen problems arise, we will work with PTOC to send the tag codes as soon as possible.

Subyearling Chinook salmon transportation and life history studies

From 2005 marking:

We PIT-tagged hatchery and wild subyearling Chinook salmon for a transportation study in 2005. Because some of these fish may outmigrate during the spring of 2006, we will need separation-by-code at Lower Granite Dam and below for these fish. Our needs will begin as soon as the juvenile facilities open for transportation and continue through the season. We need to divert 100% of the provided tag codes to transportation at Lower Granite, Little Goose, Lower Monumental, and McNary Dams.

Action: At Lower Granite, Little Goose, Lower Monumental, and McNary Dams:
100% to transport

In addition, we want to divert fish from our 2005 marking to the separation-by-code tank at Lower Granite and Bonneville Dams. At Bonneville Dam, all yearlings smolts (released in 2005) will be collected beginning as soon as the separation-by-code is operational in the spring. We are still working on the exact number of fish to be diverted at Lower Granite Dam.

Action: At Lower Granite and Bonneville Dams
Divert fish to the separation-by-code tank (numbers still being determined) as soon as the systems are operational in the spring.