



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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5/24/2007

Mr. Carter Stein,
PTAGIS Program Manager
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
205 SE Spokane Street, Suite 100
Portland, OR 97202,

Dear Carter,

I am requesting to use the separation by code system at Lower Granite Dam. This research has been coordinated with the Fish Passage Advisory Committee, Nez Perce Tribe, WDFW Smolt Monitoring Program, and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The data will be collected primarily under BPA project # 199102900 (Research, monitoring, and evaluation of emerging issues and measures to recover the Snake River fall Chinook salmon ESU. It will be used to evaluate growth and morphology of fall Chinook salmon subyearlings before and after increases in rearing density. Additional details are provided in the attachment.

Thank you kindly,

William P. Connor
Fishery Biologist

Attachment: Connor Request to Use SbyC at Lower Granite Dam in 2007

Fish Collection

- Start operation the first week of June
- End operation late November
- Target 100 wild fall Chinook salmon subyearlings from the Snake River
- Target 100 wild fall Chinook salmon subyearlings from the Clearwater River
- Target 300 hatchery subyearlings from releases made upstream of Lower Granite Reservoir
- Target 200 of the acoustic and radio tagged hatchery subyearlings released into the Clearwater River

Objectives

- 1) Improve the understanding of factors affecting growth of wild and hatchery fall Chinook salmon (BPA project 199102900, USFWS; BPA project 1983350003, NPT; Corp funded life history evaluation, USFWS and NPT).
- 2) Document morphological differences between wild and hatchery fall Chinook salmon subyearlings (BPA project 199102900, USGS and USFWS).
- 3) Document historical changes in morphology of wild fall Chinook salmon subyearlings (BPA project 199102900, USGS and USFWS).
- 4) Evaluate the relative reproductive success of wild and hatchery fall Chinook salmon in the wild (BPA project 200306000, WDFW).
- 5) Document historical changes in riverine and reservoir residence times of wild fall Chinook salmon subyearlings (BPA project 199102900, USGS and USFWS; innovative project proposal, NOAA and UOI).
- 6) Evaluate healing and tag retention by hatchery subyearlings implanted with radio or acoustic tags (BPA project 200203200; USGS, PNNL).

Impacts on other studies

We expect minimal impacts on other studies based on the 2006 incidental catch data presented in Table 1.

Table 1.—Incidental diversion rate for PIT-tagged Chinook salmon juveniles detected at Lower Granite Dam during separation by code operation by the USFWS in 2006. The incidental diversion rates are given by study.

Study	Numbers		Incidental diversion rate
	Detected	Diverted	
M&E fall yearlings	1,132	1	0.09%
M&E fall subyearlings	20,500	6	0.03%
Transport/disease spring yearlings	18,246	22	0.12%
CSS spring yearlings	21,238	10	0.05%
Imnaha SMP spring yearlings	1,656	1	0.06%

Coordination

The subyearlings targeted for recapture will be PIT tagged under the coordinator IDs BDA (a.k.a., Billy D. Arnsberg) and WPC (a.k.a. William P. Connor). We have coordinated hatchery subyearling diversion with Billy D. Arnsberg (a.k.a., BDA) who oversees the NPT M&E of hatchery subyearling fall Chinook salmon released upstream of Lower Granite Reservoir.

Permitting

We are authorized to take the number of fish indicated in this memo under Determination of Take for Research Purposes (27-07-USGS-35).

We have applied for a WDFW fish collection permit to cover sampling at Lower Granite Dam.