

# memorandum

DATE: September 20, 2004

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Grande Ronde Basin Endemic Spring Chinook Salmon  
Supplementation Program EA (DOE/EA-1173/SA-02)

TO: Greg Baesler – KEWU-4  
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

**Proposed Action:** Continuation of the Grande Ronde Basin Captive Broodstock Program O&M  
and M&E

**Project No:** 1998-001-01

**Location:** Union and Wallowa counties, Oregon

**Proposed by:** Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Oregon Department of Fish and  
Wildlife (ODFW).

**Description of the Proposed Action:** The ODFW proposes to continue operations,  
maintenance, monitoring and evaluation of the Grande Ronde Basin Captive Broodstock Program  
on the upper Grande Ronde River, Catherine Creek, and the Lostine River. This supplement  
analysis covers two minor expansions of the program: 1) to evaluate whether some of the 2000  
cohort of upper Grande Ronde River fish that have developed tumors are genetically related, or  
if the tumors are transmitted or caused by other means (toxicology and breeding/genetic study);  
2) to evaluate the effectiveness of vaccines for bacterial kidney disease.

**Analysis:** This program has been in operation since 1995, and is covered by ESA Section 10  
permit 1011 issued by NOAA Fisheries and permit TE844468-4 issued by USFWS. In addition,  
Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation on this work is in process with NOAA Fisheries  
under a Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan submitted to them on November 21, 2002. The  
program was analyzed for environmental effects within the Grande Ronde Basin Endemic  
Spring Chinook Salmon Supplementation Program EA (DOE/EA-1173, February 1998). The  
EA covered the installation of the collection and rearing facilities, operation and maintenance,  
and research monitoring and evaluation of the original program.

The proposed changes involve only a minor extension of the existing research operations  
relative to spring chinook health monitoring and evaluation. This work does not involve  
collecting additional spring chinook, which are listed as threatened under the Endangered  
Species Act. But, it does involve additional handling of certain individual chinook. While this  
work will result in increased impacts to those individual fish, it will result in the collection of  
important data on diseases affecting the population and effectiveness of treatments.

No ground disturbance or additional instream work would occur for this new work. All work will take place using existing facilities. Therefore, no cultural resources, hazardous or toxic wastes, or instream work permits are involved.

This project is part of a joint programmatic undertaking involving a partnership among the ODFW, CTUIR, USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, Nez Perce Tribe, and BPA. All of these agencies participate in the planning and management of the program and support the recovery of the spring chinook.

**Findings:** The project is generally consistent with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, as well as the Grande Ronde Basin Endemic Spring Chinook Salmon Supplementation Program EA (DOE/EA-1173) and Finding of No Significant Impact. This Supplement Analysis finds that: 1) implementing the proposed action will not result in any substantial changes to the Grande Ronde Supplementation Program that are relevant to environmental concerns; and 2) there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the Grande Ronde Supplementation Program or its impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Mickey A Carter

Mickey A. Carter  
Environmental Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ Thomas C McKinney

Thomas C. McKinney  
NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

DATE: 09/20/2004

cc:

Mr. Tim Hoffnagle, ODFW, 211 Inlow Hall, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, OR 97850