

memorandum

DATE: November 1, 2006

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-08)

TO: Kenneth Kirkman – KEWU-4
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

Proposed Action: Continuation of the Grande Ronde Basin Chinook Hatchery Program O&M and M&E and Continuation of Planning of the Northeast Oregon Hatchery Project

Project No: 1998-007-04

Location: Union and Wallowa counties, Oregon

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and 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, primarily involving continuance of operations of the Lookingglass Hatchery and planning for the Northeast Oregon Hatchery Project implementation.

Analysis: This project is part of a joint programmatic undertaking involving a partnership among the ODFW, CTUIR, USFWS-Lower Snake River Compensation Plan, 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 and steelhead in northeast Oregon. 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, operation and maintenance of the collection and rearing facilities, operation and maintenance of Lookingglass Hatchery in support of the program, and research monitoring and evaluation of the original program. The work associated with planning and coordination for Northeast Oregon Hatchery (NEOH) Project implementation is part of this project, although implementation of NEOH has been evaluated separately under Environmental Impact Statement DOE/EIS 0340. A ROD is anticipated spring of 2007.

No ground disturbance or additional instream work would occur for this project in FY 07. All work will take place using existing facilities and previously approved sites and techniques.

Therefore, no cultural resources, hazardous or toxic wastes, or instream work permits are involved.

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 Protection Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ James M. Kehoe for _____

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

DATE: October 30, 2006

cc:

Mr. Scott Patterson, ODFW, 107 20th Street, La Grande, OR 97850