



REC: 6/15/07
CJH-004

June 11, 2007

Bonneville Power Administration
Public Affairs Office – DKC-7
PO Box 14428
Portland, OR 97293-4428

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Study for Chief Joseph Hatchery Program (DOE/EIS-0384)

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft EIS for Bonneville Power Administration's Chief Joseph Hatchery Program located on the Okanogan River between Chief Joseph Dam and State Highway 17 at River Mile 543 near Bridgeport, Washington, Okanogan County.

The Department of Natural Resources is steward of Washington's aquatic lands and their resources. Aquatic lands are managed for current and future citizens of the state to sustain long-term ecosystem and economic viability; and to ensure access to the aquatic lands and the benefits derived from them.

Washington DNR's management authority derives from the State's Constitution (Articles XV, XVII, XXVII), Revised Code (RCW 79.02 and 79.105) and Administrative Code (WAC 332-30). As proprietary manager of state-owned aquatic lands Washington State Department of Natural Resources has been directed to manage the lands "...for the benefit of the public." in a manner that provides "...a balance of public benefits¹ for all citizens of the state..." that includes:

- "(1) Encouraging direct public use and access;*
- (2) Fostering water-dependant uses²;*
- (3) Ensuring environmental protection; and*
- (4) Utilizing renewable resources."*

¹ WAC 332-30-106 defines public benefit as "...that all of the citizens of the state may derive a direct benefit from departmental actions..."

² Water dependent uses are those uses that "...cannot logically exist in any location but on the water." Examples include water-borne commerce; terminals; watercraft construction, repair or maintenance; moorage; aquaculture; and log booming. (RCW 79.90.465)



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In addition, generating revenue in a manner consistent with subsections (1) through (4) of this section is a public benefit. (RCW 79.105.030)

The proposed Chief Joseph Hatchery Program crosses over shorelands and bedlands of the Okanogan River owned by the State of Washington and managed by the DNR. I have reviewed the proposal, and our Department does not have any objections to the project as described. However, I would like to highlight several DNR requirements that pertain to this project:

- Under Section 4, it does not include the Department of Natural Resources as an agency involved in the approval process for this project.
- Greater detail is needed on how the waste water from the holding/acclimation ponds will be treated before it is discharged. As currently written, it states "per State of Washington environmental regulations."
- All structures (intakes and discharge pipes) situated on state-owned aquatic lands will require a use authorization from the DNR. An Application for Authorization to Use State-Owned Aquatic Lands is enclosed for this purpose.

DNR reserves the right to comment further on all future amendments and revisions to this project proposal.

Again, we appreciate Bonneville Power Administration's consideration of our comments as proprietary manager of the State-owned aquatic lands within and adjacent to the proposed project boundaries. If you have any questions I may be contacted at (509) 933-3847, ext. 22 or by email at cindy.preston@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cindy Preston" followed by "for".

Cindy Preston, Land Manager
Aquatic Region/Rivers District

Enclosures

cc: Mickey Carter, Environmental Protection Specialist, BPA, PO Box 3621, KEC-4 Portland, OR 97208