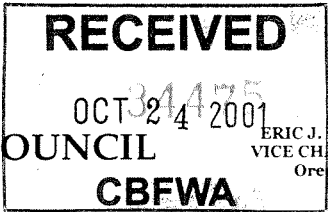


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October 22, 2001

Ms. Sarah McNary
Manager, Fish and Wildlife
Bonneville Power Administration
P.O. Box 3621; KEW
Portland, Oregon 97208

Dear Ms. McNary, *Sarah*

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of Council's recommendation for funding the following project. The Council adopted this recommendation on October 18, 2001, in Portland, Oregon.

On October 12, 2001 Council received from CBFWA a request to fund temporary acclimation ponds on the Okanogan River for the Confederated Colville Tribe (CTT) at \$199,862. The CBFWA letter stated that \$199,862 was needed on an emergency basis to fund temporary acclimation ponds to continue rearing the 300,000 spring and summer chinook that could not continue to be reared at the Methow Hatchery due to the drought conditions. The letter stated that failure to secure these facilities would result in the premature release into the Okanogan River, resulting in very low survivals. The request was identified as very urgent and time sensitive.

The Anadromous Fish Committee and the Members Management Group reviewed this request and the CBFWA members approved the request on October 12, 2001. The CBFWA letter stated that long-term use of these facilities would be reviewed under the Columbia Cascade Province rolling review. Available funding for this request was identified in the anadromous fish placeholder at the Quarterly Review meeting on September 7, 2001.

During staff analysis it was determined that the CBFWA request had not only incorporated the emergency measure to address the acclimation needs for the 300,000 spring chinook, but had also included the acclimation needs for a pilot study for summer chinook. The pilot study seemed to be based on the proposal submitted as part of the 2001 Action Plan emergency solicitation of proposals (proposal # 26010).

The Council recommends that Bonneville fund only the emergency action to acclimate the 300,000 spring chinook under certain conditions. These conditions are as follows.

1. This is an emergency request to modify one settling pond as a temporary acclimation pond at \$118,676.
2. Future funding is dependent on a favorable review during the upcoming Columbia Cascade Provincial Review and three-step review process. The proposed project to acclimate and release the 300,000 spring chinook into the Okanogan Subbasin is defined as a new production initiative and triggers the three-step review under provision of "planting fish in waters they have not been planted in before".
3. That Bonneville ensure through contracting that the costs outlined in the CCT request is appropriate for the modification of the settling pond.

Sincerely,



Doug Marker
Acting Director
Fish and Wildlife Division

Cc: Bob Austin, BPA
Nancy Weintraub, BPA
Joe Peone, CCT
Brain Allee, CBFWA
Rob Jones, NMFS
Dan Diggs, USFWS
Bill Tweit, WDFW