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**THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE WARM SPRINGS RESERVATION OF OREGON**

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**
***HOOD RIVER/PELTON LADDER PROJECT***
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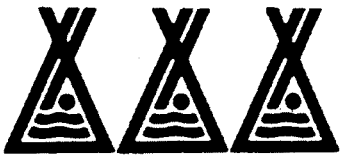

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June 4, 2002

Erik Merrill
ISRP/ISAB Coordinator
NPPC

Subject: ISRP Recommendations regarding Project 34023—Laboratory, Prototype, and Field Evaluation of Undershot Horizontal Fish Screen in Hood River Basin

Dear Mr. Merrill:

I am writing in reference to the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and Farmers Irrigation District Innovative Project Grant Application Number 34023 and, in particular, the ISRP Recommendations regarding this project. The ISRP believes that similar technology to our proposed innovative screen exists as a fish screen on the Salmon River on Vancouver Island, Canada. Pursuant to the panel's recommendation, I contacted Craig Wightman, Senior Biologist, Provincial BC, Nanaimo and asked him about their Salmon River screen. After speaking with Mr. Wightman, it is apparent that the screen on the Salmon River is not the same as the innovative technology we propose in our application to BPA.

It is my understanding from Mr. Wightman that the screen at the diversion on the Salmon River has excessively high approach velocities that result in serious entrainment problems (up to 20%) and fish descaling. The screen slopes upstream, which, in part, apparently allows the screen to lift up such that fish are entrained. The screen we propose to study is a flat plate screen with extremely low approach velocities and high sweeping velocities that should allow for safe fish passage and efficient transport of debris and sediment.

After my discussion with Mr. Wightman about the Salmon River screen, I believe the ISRP's comment that this project is "marginally innovative" is not accurate. I believe the screen we propose to study is extremely innovative, offering new solutions to long-standing diversion screening problems on high sediment-load streams. I request you consider this matter when ranking this project.

Sincerely,

Mick Jennings
Hood River Program Manager

Cc: Neil Ward, Resident Fish Analyst, CBFWA