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Northwest Power and Conservation Council

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Oregon

Bruce A. Measure
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

September 15, 2006



Dear Interested Party:

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council is seeking public comments on its draft fish and wildlife project funding recommendations to the Bonneville Power Administration for Fiscal Years 2007 through 2009. The Northwest Power Act directs the Council to recommend to Bonneville the fish and wildlife projects that Bonneville should fund to implement the Council's *Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program*.

The draft funding recommendations are posted on the Council's website, at www.nwcouncil.org/fw/budget/2007/draftrec. For printed copies, please call the Council's office at 503-222-5161 or 800-452-5161.

Please note that the Council's draft funding recommendations are posted on the website in several parts:

Ecological provinces: (1) a table in an Excel spreadsheet form showing all of the project proposals organized by province with the Council's draft recommended FY07-09 budgets for each project, along with comments on appropriate projects and (2) a brief list of important issues for consideration.

Basinwide research, monitoring and evaluation, and coordination projects: (1) a table in an Excel spreadsheet form showing all of the Basinwide group's project proposals with the Council's draft recommended FY07-09 budgets for each project, along with comments on appropriate projects and (2) a brief summary of the Council's draft recommendations illustrating key issues.

Mainstem on-the-ground/Multi-province projects: (1) a table in an Excel spreadsheet form showing all of the project proposals in this group with the Council's draft recommended FY07-09 budgets for each project, along with comments on appropriate projects and (2) a brief summary of the Council's draft recommendations illustrating key issues.

Summary table. A table summarizing the dollar amounts of the Council's draft funding recommendations.

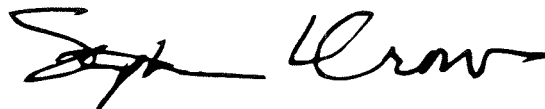
Draft decision document/programmatic issues and draft recommendations: The last document is a preliminary draft of the Council's final decision document that will ultimately contain the whole of the Council's final project funding recommendations to Bonneville for FY07-09. Of particular importance at this stage is **Section 3**, which contains a discussion of a set of broad policy or programmatic issues and the Council's draft resolution of those issues and how they would affect the project funding recommendations.

Public comments are due by the close of business Friday, October 6, 2006. Please submit your comments to Mark Walker, Director of Public Affairs, Northwest Power and Conservation Council, 851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100 Portland, Oregon, 97204, or send them to the Council by e-mail to comments@nwcouncil.org with "FY07-09" in the subject line.

The Council will decide on its final project funding recommendations to Bonneville for FY07-09 at the Council's next meeting, in Helena, Montana on October 17-19, 2006. In making its final project recommendations, the Council will consider the public comments on its draft along with the project proposals, the review report of the Independent Scientific Review Panel, the public comments on the panel's report, the prioritization recommendations from the various review groups organized by the Council, and other comments and information in the Council's administrative record.

Thank you for your interest in the Council and its fish and wildlife program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen L. Crow". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Stephen" written in a more compact, stylized manner and the last name "Crow" written in a larger, more legible cursive script.

Stephen L. Crow
Executive Director