

The Fish Passage Center

History

- The FPC was first established 1982 through an agreement among CRITFC, NMFS and BPA (then called the WBC)
- The NWPPC adopted the WBC/FPC into the first Fish and Wildlife Program
- For the purpose of providing assistance to the agencies and tribes, monitoring fish passage survival characteristics

Project Goals

- Technical staff for the CBFWA agencies and tribes
- Focal point for co-sponsored activities of CBFWA
- Collection and analysis of basin wide data regarding fish passage
- Basin wide distribution of data and analysis
- Provide a long term consistent, continuous fish passage database to support short and long term mitigation and protection decisions

Tasks

- Design, implementation and analysis of the annual Smolt Monitoring Program
- Design, implementation and analysis of the annual Comparative Survival Study
- Conduct the Adult and Juvenile Fish Facility Inspection Program

Deliverables

- Smolt Monitoring Program
 - FPC Annual Report
 - ESA Section 10 permit, application accounting and reporting requirements
 - FPC web site, data and document distribution
 - Weekly reports
 - Gas bubble trauma annual report for state water quality agencies

Deliverables

- Comparative Survival Study
 - Annual Status Report
 - Annual study design
 - ESA Section 10 permit reporting and accounting requirements

Deliverables

- Adult and Juvenile Fish Facility Inspection Program
 - Annual Report
 - Training individual inspectors
 - Supervise monthly inspections and receive and consolidate reports
 - Pursue facility problems with the COE

Deliverables

- Distribution of Data – FPC Web Page
 - Daily update of all SMP data
 - Daily acquisition of other relevant data from other sources such as flow and spill
 - Daily maintenance of FPC Hatchery Data Base

–

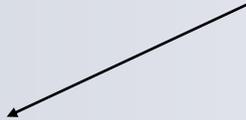
Deliverable – Response to Requests

- Review and comment, study designs
 - COE funded studies at specific projects
- Requests for specific data summaries
 - NMFS regional process, Implementation Team or Technical Management Team requests
- Request for historic data summaries
 - Historic migrant distribution and timing ODEQ

Data Requests



Regional, National
International, Public
and Private entities



Email, written, verbal,
telephone requests



FPC Web site

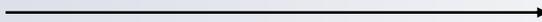


Data Request
Forms

Redirect to website?



Review and
assign



Response, hard copy,
email, excel, ascii

The Staff

- 4 Biologists
- 4 Computer Scientists
- 1 Natural Resource Analyst/Hydrologist
- 1 Biometrician
- 1 Administrative Assistant
- Total 93 years of combined experience at the FPC

FPC recent events

- Senator Craig attaches language to the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill for 2006
- Pages 178-179
- CBFWA members were not aware of the language prior to inclusion
- CBFWA members became aware of the language in mid-July

The Craig language:

- "The Committee is concerned about the increasing cost of salmon recovery efforts in the Columbia Basin, and about the potential adverse impact of those increased costs on customers of the Bonneville Power Administration. The Committee also is concerned about the quality and efficiency of some of the fish data collection efforts and analyses being performed. As a result, during fiscal year 2006, the Bonneville Power Administration may make no new obligations from the Bonneville Power Administration fund in support of the Fish Passage Center. The Committee understands that there are universities in the Pacific Northwest that already collect fish data for the region and are well-positioned to take on the responsibilities now being performed by the Fish Passage Center, and that the universities can carry out those responsibilities at a saving to the regions ratepayers that fund these programs."

Implications-The Fish and Wildlife Program

- Sets precedence for limiting and managing Fish and Wildlife Program expenditures in the Columbia Basin
- Establishes that salmon recovery in the Columbia Basin is too expensive at the present level
- Sets precedence for project funding outside the regional process

Implications - FPC

- FPC is not funded beginning October 1, 2005. All FPC programs end.
- Technical support for the tribes, and agencies relative to fish passage through the hydro system ends.
- SMP and CSS monitoring data collection and reporting system is not in place
- FPC web site and public access present and historical data and analysis is eliminated.

Response

- Letters to Northwest Congressional Delegations
- Tribal and state fish and wildlife agency contacts with Congressional staffs
- Newspaper, radio and television media coverage

Resolution

- Deletion of language in the Energy and Water Appropriations Bill
- Deletion can occur in the Committee by Committee members

Primary Actors

- Energy and Water Committee members which can affect change in the FPC language
- Bonneville Power Administration which has some flexibility and scope in their implementation of the language if it is not changed in the Committee.