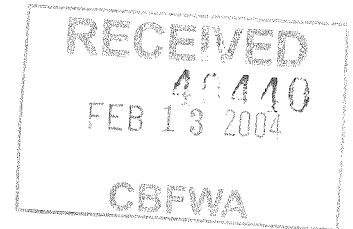




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
525 NE Oregon Street
PORTLAND, OREGON 97232-2737

F/NWR5

February 13, 2004



Frank Young
Fish and Wildlife Resource Coordinator
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
2501 SW First Ave, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97201

RE: 2nd Draft Fish Passage Design Criteria and Guidelines

Dear Mr. Young:

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) has completed a revised draft version of its design criteria and guidelines document, intended for use for the design of a broad range of fish passage facilities. The subject document does not constitute rulemaking by NOAA Fisheries; rather, the intent is to provide a fish facility design document detailing features that have proven to be successful in getting passage facilities on the ground that operate reliably and provide optimum levels of fish protection. Revisions have been made to the initial draft document, based on comments received at workshops held in 2003, and based on internal review. NOAA Fisheries is in the process of developing explanatory drawings and expanding the bibliography associated with the document.

We have posted the revised draft of the document for review at the NOAA Fisheries website, located at: <http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/1hydrop/hydroweb/docs/Passagecriteria.extrevdraft.pdf>.

We request your review and invite comments from you and those copied with this letter. In addition, please feel free to release this document to others within your agency for their review. For comments to be properly considered, they must be provided by the agency in written form (consolidating all comments from your agency) and must refer to the paragraph numbering scheme used throughout the document. Additional comments, not pertaining to a particular section, criterion, or guideline, should be submitted under a separate heading titled "General Comments."

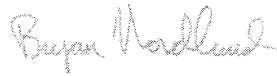
Please provide any comments, by April 2, 2004, to:

NOAA Fisheries Hydropower Division
Attn: Bryan Nordlund
510 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 103
Lacey, WA 98503



If you are unable to download the document from our website, please contact Debbie Clement at 503-230-5414. Please feel free to contact me at 360-534-9338 if you have general questions about the referenced document.

Sincerely,



Bryan Nordlund, P.E.
FERC and Water Diversions Branch

cc: John Barnett - Cowlitz Tribe
Larry Basham - FPC
Mark Browning - USFHA
Bob Buchholz, Gary Johnson, Rock Peters - NWP-COE
Janine Castro - USFWS
Brian Zimmerman - Umatilla Tribe
Lance Clark - ODOT
Doug DeHart - USFWS
John Ferguson - NWFSC
Bob Gatton - CH2M-Hill
Ray Hartlerode - ODFW
Clayton Hawkes - ADFG
Bob Heinith - CRITFC
Matt Hightree - IDFG
Dennis Hudson - USBR
Dave Hurson, Mark Lindgren, Marvin Shuttters - NWW-COE
Mick Jennings - Warm Springs Tribe
Dan Katz - NWS-COE
Chuck Peven - Chelan PUD
Stuart Hammons - Grant PUD
Shane Bickford - Douglas PUD
Pat Powers - WDFW
Larry Rasmussen - USFWS
Bob Rose - Yakama Tribe
Jim Stow - USFWS
Debra Virgovic - NRCS
Rick Wantuck - NOAA Fisheries, SWR
Lenny Young - WA DNR
Chris Bayham - Association of Oregon Counties