



Department of Fish and Wildlife

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October 31, 1989

PAC 0019

PP BL
RA BF
JV

Peter J. Paquet
Northwest Power Planning Council
850 SW Broadway, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97205

Dear Peter:

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is please to submit its recommendations for changes in Protected Area designations. The Department has been actively participating in the process since the evaluation of Oregon streams in 1986 during the Pacific Northwest Rivers Study.

During the initial Protected Area process, we developed several criteria for anadromous fish, resident fish, and wildlife. The criteria were related to data fields of the River Study (Oregon Rivers Information System, or ORIS) which was queried to produce a list of streams. The list was then verified by the Department's district biologists as streams with values that would be impacted by hydro-electric development and should be protected. That list was submitted in August of 1987 and adopted by the Northwest Power Planning Council.

The data in the ORIS, representing the resource values, are continually being reviewed. Therefore, the present protected area amendment process included a re-examination of the database using the criteria and confirmation of protection if the rivers and streams met the criteria. In addition, the existing protected streams (adopted by the Council) and their values were reviewed. If they did not conform to the criteria, they are being recommended for deletion from the list.

As a result of our review, the Department is recommending changes from protected to unprotected status totaling 169 stream reaches for 539.8 miles (Table 1). These changes represent streams protected for resident fish

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and wildlife that did not conform to the criteria, and streams that did not meet criteria for protective category "D", anadromous fish and resident fish or wildlife. The list of streams, including river reach number, tributary, lower boundary, upper boundary and reach length, are on the enclosed computer disk labeled according to the appropriate appendix.

The Department also recommends additions to the protected status for resident fish totaling 189 reaches for 477.7 miles (Table 2). Twelve of these reaches are partial reaches of streams recommended in 1987 but overlooked when anadromous protection was designated for the lower portion of these reaches. The other reaches and partial reaches in table 2 meet protective criteria (the data fields are listed) for resident fish values.

In addition, our review included anadromous and institutionally protected streams for values that would change the protective category, but not add or delete from the list (Table 3). Also included in table 3 is a summary of the reaches and miles by category currently protected by the Power Council, and a similar summary that would result if the additions and deletions we recommend are adopted. These recommendations result in a net increase of 20 reaches and 214.3 miles.

The Department has also reviewed the additional 223 anadromous fish reaches (472.8 miles) and the 7 reaches (14 miles), uninhabited by anadromous fish, found during the Power Council's subbasin planning process. We concur with the distribution and recommend the appropriate change in protected status for these reaches.

Even considering the present recommendations, much work has yet to be completed. Time did not allow a full re-examination of reaches for wildlife values (i.e., 489 additional reaches indicate a "RARE" species exception may warrant protection). In January 1987, additional fish and wildlife species were published on the candidate list for federally protected threatened and endangered species (i.e., bull trout, redband trout). The database will be reviewed for these species. The recent state and federal wild and scenic river designations have not yet been included in the ORIS database, consequently, additional protective category changes may be needed.

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In our effort to strive for more reliable, accurate, and up-to-date resource information, the Department has just initiated a new Stream Surveys Program. This program, as well as individual review by our biologists, will supply data to the ORIS which may result in resource value changes in the database and protected area recommendations during the next amendment process.

I believe the Protected Area Program is a major factor for protecting fish and wildlife resource values from the impact of hydro-electric projects. The Department is grateful to the Power Council and Bonneville Power Administration for the administration and funding of the program and will continue to support its efforts.

Sincerely,



Randy Fisher
Director

bf
enclosure
cc: Martin
Ingram
MacHugh
Silovsky

TABLE 1
RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM PROTECTED TO UNPROTECTED

RESIDENT FISH ONLY DELETIONS

	Reaches	Miles
Resident Fish (Appendix A).....	142	475.2

WILDLIFE ONLY DELETIONS

Wildlife (Appendix B).....	17	53.5
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ANADROMOUS FISH AND RES. FISH OR WILDLIFE DELETIONS

Anadromous Fish and Resident Fish or Wildlife (Appendix C)	10	11.1
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Total reaches and miles deleted	169	539.8
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TABLE 2
RECOMMENDED CHANGES FROM UNPROTECTED TO PROTECTED

UNPROTECTED RESIDENT FISH PARTIAL REACH ADDITIONS
(of original streams recommended 8/28/87)

	Reaches	Miles
Resident Fish (Appendix D)	12	21.2

UNPROTECTED RESIDENT FISH REACHES THAT MEET CRITERIA

Criteria 1: All Values High (Appendix E)	28	128.6
Criteria 2: Migration Corridors (Appendix F)	38	59.3
Criteria 3: Rare Species Exception (Appendix G)	28	96.3
Criteria 5: Quality of Angling Experience and Value Class=1 (Appendix H).....	6	18.6
Total possible additions	100	302.8

UNPROTECTED PARTIAL RESIDENT FISH REACHES THAT MEET CRITERIA

Criteria 1: All Values High (Appendix I)	19	46.9
Criteria 2: Migration Corridors (Appendix J)	52	99.0
Criteria 3: Rare species exception (Appendix K)	1	0.7
Criteria 4: Unique Angling Opportunity and Value Class=1	3	2.8
Criteria 5: Quality of Angling Experience and Value Class=1 (Criteria 4 & 5 in Appendix K)..	2	4.3
Total possible additions	77	153.7

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Total Resident Fish reaches and miles added	189	477.7
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TABLE 3
RECOMMENDED CHANGES OF PROTECTED CATEGORIES

CURRENT NPPC PROTECTED REACHES

	Reaches	Miles
(A) Anadromous Fish	6813	14,160.1
(F) Resident Fish	638	2,693.9
(W) Wildlife	164	590.0
(B) Resident Fish and Wildlife	8	55.3
(C) Anadromous Fish and Resident Fish and Wildlife	0	0.0
(D) Anadromous Fish and Resident Fish or Wildlife	31	118.4
(Z) Institutionally Protected	<u>180</u>	<u>0.0</u>
 Total reaches and miles of protected streams	 7834	 17,617.7

CHANGES FROM "A" TO "D"

Anadromous Only to Anad. and Res. Fish or Wildlife (Appendix L and L2)	1527	2,847.5
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CHANGES FROM "Z" TO "A"

Institutionally Protected to Anadromous Fish	73	276.4
(Appendix M)		

PROTECTED REACHES IF ALL RECOMMENDATIONS ARE ADOPTED

(A) Anadromous Fish	5359	11,589.0
(F) Resident Fish	685	2,696.4
(W) Wildlife	147	536.5
(B) Resident Fish and Wildlife	8	55.3
(C) Anadromous Fish and Resident Fish and Wildlife	0	0.0
(D) Anadromous Fish and Resident Fish or Wildlife	1548	2,954.8
(Z) Institutionally Protected	107	0.0

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Total reaches and miles protected after recommendations	7854	17,832.0
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