March 7, 2018

Mr. Bryan Wright
Marine Mammal Research
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Mr. Steven Jeffries
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Mr. Doug Hatch
Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission

Dear Mr. Wright, Mr. Jeffries and Mr. Hatch:

   This is in response to the states of Oregon and Washington memorandum dated January 12, 2018 requesting approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to conduct Sea Lion hazing and capture activities at the Bonneville Project. These activities have five objectives:

   1) Capture and permanently remove individual predatory CSL from the Bonneville Dam area as permitted under Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) Section 120 Authority granted to the States by NMFS.

   2) Increase the proportion of marked CSL and SSL found in the Bonneville Dam area.

   3) Improve our understanding of salmon ID predation levels below Bonneville Dam.

   4) Increase our Sea Lion food habits and prey genetics databases.

   5) Minimize predation and limit the recruitment of new pinned predators to the area below Bonneville Dam by use of non-lethal hazing activities.

   With respect to the objectives outlined above, your request is approved, though please note that Bonneville Project assistance may be limited, depending on the activities already scheduled at the dam.

   Please follow the guidance that the BiOp, NOAA, F/NWR/2011/05874, dated February 29, 2012 (available on the FPOM website) outlines with specific limits to Sea Lion bomb use and boat access within the BRZ for human and fish safety issues. This includes a 100 foot minimum distance for boats from all project structures, a 150 foot minimal distance from main fish way entrances, no use of seal bombs from the boats within 300 feet from all fish ways, floating orifices, B2CC or smolt monitoring facility outfalls, and no use of seal bombs within 150 feet of any shoreline or shallow water area. Seal bomb use is limited to 1-3 bombs per animal/ per hazing occurrence and no seal bombs in the BRZ when fish counts reach 1000 fish per day. Additional specifications are included in the BiOp.

Prior to beginning work, please arrange a meeting with Mr. Ben Hausmann, at (541) 374-4598. No work may begin until copies of all required permits are on file with Mr. Andrew Derugin, Andrew.g.Derugin@usace.army.mil and Mrs. Erin Kovalchuk, Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil.

Please remain in contact with Mr. Hausmann throughout your time at the dam. There are many researchers and contractors working at the dam, please work to ensure good communication and cooperation between agencies and organizations.

A copy of this letter has been provided on http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/NWP%20Research/Research.html. If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Mr. Hausmann or Mr. Derugin via e-mail or by phone.

Sincerely,

Tony R. Kirk
Operations Project Manager
Bonneville Project

CENWP STAFFING SHEET

Office Symbol: CENWP-ODB   DATE: 7 March 2018

SUBJECT: Approval Letter for Bryan Wright (ODFW), Steven Jeffries (WDFW), and Doug Hatch (CRITFC).

DESIRED ACTION: Requires OPM Signature

RETURN TO: Please send a copy of the scanned, signed letter to Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil and copy Andrew.G.Derugin@usace.army.mil. Call Andrew Derugin at (541) 374-4020 if there are questions.

DETAILED SUMMARY: 1. Purpose: To allow researchers access to Bonneville Project.

2. History: Reviewed by Bonneville Fisheries and the Bonneville Safety Officer.

3. Reason: To permit Sea Lion capture, marking, tracking, hazing, and removal operations at Bonneville Project.

REMARKS:		Initial/Date	Name/Office Symbol
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur AGD 2/27/18	Derugin, Andrew CENWP-ODB
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur JGR 2/28/18	Rerecich, Jon CENWP-PME
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur EHK 2/28/18	Kovalchuk, Erin CENWP-ODT-F
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur MBE 2/28/18	Eppard, Brad CENWP-PME
	Signed	Concur *TRK*	Kirk, Tony CENWP-ODB