



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, PORTLAND DISTRICT
BONNEVILLE LOCK AND DAM
PO BOX 150
CASCADE LOCKS OR 97014-0150

28 March 2022

John Edwards
Columbia River Pinniped Biologist
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
360-280-2155
P.O. Box 43200
Olympia, WA 98504-3200

Dear Mr. Edwards

This is in response to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife memorandum dated 03 February 2022 requesting approval from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to conduct sea lion capture and removal activities at the Bonneville Lock & Dam. This work will be conducted in conjunction with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. The proposed activities have four objectives:

- a. Capture and permanently remove California sea lions (CSLs) and Steller sea lions (SSL) from the Bonneville Dam area as permitted under Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) Section 120(f) by NMFS for sea lion management in the lower Columbia River Basin.
- b. Improve our understanding of salmonid and at-risk fish stock predation levels below Bonneville Dam.
- c. Increase our sea lion food habits and prey genetics databases and assess food habits of sea lions present at Bonneville Dam.
- d. Reduce depredation of fish, reduce sea lion presence, and resultantly limit the recruitment of new pinniped predators to the area below Bonneville Dam.

With respect to the objectives outlined above, your request is temporarily approved until the official Real Estate License is finalized which will supersede this approval letter. Please note that Project assistance may be limited, depending on the activities already scheduled at the dam.

No work may begin until copies of all required permits are on file with Mr. Andrew Derugin, Andrew.g.Derugin@usace.army.mil and Mr. Darren Gallion, Darren.G.Gallion@usace.army.mil.

Please remain in contact with Mr. Derugin 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 will be provided on <http://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/FPOM/2010/NWP%20Research/Research.html>. If you have questions regarding this correspondence, please contact Mr. Derugin via e-mail or by phone.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Adams, P.E.
Operations Project Manager

CENWP STAFFING SHEET

Office Symbol: CENWP-ODB

DATE: 03/22/2022

SUBJECT: Approval letter for John Edwards (WDFW), Mike Brown (ODFW), Joe Dupont (IDFG) and Doug Hatch (CRITFC).

DESIRED ACTION: Requires OPM Signature

RETURN TO: Please send a copy of the scanned, signed letter to Darren.G.Gallion@usace.army.mil and copy Andrew.G.Derugin@usace.army.mil. Call Andrew Derugin (541-374-3879) 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, and removal operations at Bonneville Project.

REMARKS:		Initial/Date	Name/Office Symbol
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur AGD 03/22/22	Derugin, Andrew CENWP-ODB
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur JGR 03/23/22	Rerecich, Jon CENWP-PME-F
	Non-Concur/Concur	Concur DGG 03/22/22	Gallion, Darren CENWP-ODT-FF
	Signed		Adams, Michael CENWP-ODB