

From: LaRiviere, Mark
Sent: Thursday, July 26, 2007 4:07 PM
To: O'Toole, Patty
Subject: Comment on Innovative Proposals

Patty:

I recognize this note of support is past the comment deadline for the Innovative proposals for the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (ISRP 2007-9), however, I am hopeful this can be included in the record.

Tacoma Power has worked with Natural Solutions, Inc. for several years in trying to improve the collection of downstream salmonid migrants in the Cowlitz River, Lewis County, Washington. This work is being done as partial fulfillment of fisheries mitigation requirements for the Cowlitz Hydro Project (FERC No. 2016). The Induced Flow concept that Natural Solutions is proposing has significant application and has shown merit for helping to solve the vexing problem of collecting migrants that pass Cowlitz Falls Dam and enter Riffe Lake, a large storage reservoir behind Mossyrock Dam. Together with Natural Solutions, Tacoma Power has deployed fixed traps, and provided other logistical support to Natural Solutions. The concept of using currents to move or direct the migrants makes good biological sense and given the poor collection efficiencies experienced at Cowlitz Falls Dam, offers a possible solution to improving the downstream migrant collection efficiency towards the ultimate goal of established self-sustaining runs of natural-origin salmonids in the upper Cowlitz River basin. Tacoma Power supports the efforts of Natural Solutions, Inc., and will continue to work with them on the Cowlitz River. Tacoma Power urges the support of outside funding for the continued work of Natural Solutions, Inc.

Thank you.

Mark G. LaRiviere
Senior Fisheries Biologist
Tacoma Power
Generation, Natural Resources
3628 So. 35th Street
Tacoma, WA 98409