



Colville Confederated Tribes

Fish and Wildlife Department

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October 11, 2007

Mr. Brian Lipscomb, Executive Director
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
851 SW Sixth Avenue, Suite 260
Pacific First Building
Portland, Oregon 97204

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CBFWA

Dear Brian:

As you know the Colville Confederated Tribes and the Upper Columbia United Tribes are very focused on the ongoing discussions relative to regional coordination function and funding. We are currently assessing the key elements of the discussion and are intent on supporting a position that provides a benefit to all Columbia River Basin fish and wildlife managers.

One area of particular interest to the Tribes is the use of regional coordination resources to maximize our ability to coordinate with other sovereigns, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and the Bonneville Power Administration. One necessary step in furthering the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority's effectiveness in regional coordination and facilitation, from our perspective, is to ensure that adequate staffing is assigned to the Upper Columbia region (both in focused duties and work station). This step, however, is one of many considerations that requires regional discussion to ensure that an agreed upon approach is consistent with the needs of each sovereign. The Tribes support ongoing deliberation toward that end.

From this perspective we request that the CBFWA work plan be considered for further deliberation at the October 23, 2007 MAG meeting. We further request that the presentation to the NPCC from CBFWA communicate the current work plan and Coordination Definitions as draft and that CBFWA intends to deliberate toward refinement of the plan elements.

We are hopeful that this continued dialogue contributes positively to the overall discussion of regional coordination in the Columbia River Basin.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William T. Towey".

William T. Towey, Policy Analyst
Fish and Wildlife Department