



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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September 18, 2007

Stephen J. Wright
Administrator
Bonneville Power Administration
905 N.E. 11th Avenue
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Mr. Wright:

The Members of the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA) would like to express our sincere appreciation and support for Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) recent decision to rename the Burlington Bottoms Wildlife Mitigation site after John R. Palensky.

For the past 11 years, John was an active and involved member of CBFWA, serving as the Chair of the Anadromous Fish Committee and Members Management Group, and in 2002-2003 as Chair of CBFWA. During his tenure at CBFWA, John's role as NOAA Fisheries representative during the time of Endangered Species Act listing for many of the salmon populations within the Columbia River was an arduous task and John fulfilled the role with dedication and humor. John was able to overcome conflicts among our members and strove to find common ground through compromise and reason. In his role as the NOAA representative, John did not focus solely on anadromous fish issues, but engaged and helped find solutions and strategies for resident fish and wildlife issues as well. His leadership and guidance will be missed within CBFWA and throughout the Columbia River Basin.

John's service to the fish and wildlife populations of the Columbia River for the past 30 years, while serving as Director of the Fish and Wildlife Division at BPA and as a NOAA contractor and active member of CBFWA, should be remembered and admired. The naming, in his honor, of a mitigation site that has been funded through the Fish and Wildlife Program is a fitting tribute to memorialize his contribution to this great effort.

Sincerely,

Daniel H. Diggs, Chair
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority

cc: Maria Palensky
D. Robert Lohn, NMFS
NPCC Members
CBFWA Members

Coordinating and promoting effective protection and restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitat in the Columbia River Basin.

The Authority is comprised of the following tribes and fish and wildlife agencies:

Burns Paiute Tribe

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

National Marine Fisheries Service

Nez Perce Tribe

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall

Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Coordinating Agencies

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Upper Columbia United Tribes

Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes