

DECEMBER 14, 1995

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**USDA Forest Service
(Regions 1, 4, and 6),
Bureau of Land Management
(Oregon, Montana, Washington, and Idaho),
and
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made by and between the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, hereafter called the Authority, the U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Regions 1, 4, and 6, hereafter called the Forest Service, and the U.S.D.I. Bureau of Land Management in Oregon, Montana, Washington, and Idaho, hereafter called the BLM.

Whereas the fish and wildlife managers of the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana, Treaty Indian tribes, and Federal agencies coordinate the management of the Columbia Basin fish and wildlife resources in Oregon, Washington, Montana, and Idaho, and

Whereas the Forest Service, under the laws of the United States and regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, is responsible for the management of fish and wildlife habitat within the areas under its administrative jurisdiction, compatible with other recognized uses of land and water concerned, and

Whereas the BLM, under the laws of the United States and regulations of the Secretary of Interior, is responsible for providing multiple use management of the public lands and resources and their various values, including fish and wildlife, and

Whereas it is mutually the desire of the Authority, the BLM, and the Forest Service to work in harmony for the common purpose of developing, maintaining, and managing the Columbia Basin fish and wildlife resources in the best interests of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana, and of the United States, and

Whereas the effective management of the fish and wildlife resources on National Forest System lands and BLM administered public lands are dependent upon close coordination and cooperation with State fish and wildlife agencies, Tribal governments, and other Federal agencies, and

Whereas the Forest Service and the BLM wish to enhance the fish and wildlife resources in compliance with Federal statutes, Treaties, and the federal government's treaty trust responsibility, and be consistent with Tribal and State laws and the anadromous fish

restoration goals as reflected in various laws, documents and plans, including, but not limited to, the *Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980*, the *Columbia River Basin Anadromous Fish Habitat Management Policy and Implementation Guide (1991)*, and the *United States and Canada Pacific Salmon Treaty (1985)*.

Now, therefore, the parties hereto agree as follows:

A. Forest Service and BLM shall:

1. Recognize the federal and state agencies and tribal governments as the legally responsible bodies for the setting of seasons and the management of the fish and wildlife populations in the Columbia Basin.
2. Provide information to the Authority with regard to Forest Service and BLM regulations, policies, and programs which may have an impact of fish and wildlife resources managed by Authority Members within the Columbia River Basin with particular emphasis on Columbia Basin fish and wildlife programs affecting resources for which the State and Federal agencies and Indian tribes are responsible.
3. Provide information to Authority committees that discuss habitat management on lands administered by the Forest Service and the BLM within the Columbia River Basin.
4. Provide information to monthly Authority Liaison Group meetings when habitat and natural production issues are to be discussed and attend biannual Members' meetings.
5. Seek full collaboration with Tribal, State, and federal fish and wildlife managers in developing USFS and BLM policies and regulations.

B. The Authority shall:

1. Recognize the Forest Service and the BLM as agencies responsible for occupancy, use, and management of National Forest System lands and BLM administered public lands, including the habitat management of State and Federally listed threatened, endangered, and sensitive fish, wildlife, and plant species present or potentially available thereon.
2. Keep the Forest Service and the BLM informed of Authority proposals and programs that pertain to Columbia Basin fish and wildlife resources that may have an impact on National Forest System lands and BLM administered public lands.

3. Provide information to Forest Service and BLM representatives on Authority committees discussions that address habitat and natural production of wildlife and anadromous and resident fish within the Columbia River Basin.
4. Advise the Forest Service and the BLM of issues to be discussed at monthly Liaison Group and biannual Members' meetings.

C. The Authority, Forest Service, and BLM mutually agree:

1. That the successful management of fish and wildlife resources throughout the Columbia River Basin on National Forest System lands and BLM administered public lands depends upon close cooperation between the Authority, the Forest Service, and the BLM.
2. To promote the free exchange of information pertaining to the management of fish and wildlife resources throughout the Columbia Basin and their habitat on lands administered by the Forest Service and BLM.
3. To designate specific staff persons to facilitate and enhance timely coordination.
4. To capitalize on opportunities involving fish and wildlife resources on lands administered by the Forest Service and the BLM.
5. That nothing in this agreement shall be construed as obligating either the Authority Members, the Forest Service, or the BLM in the expenditure of funds or the future payment of monies in excess of appropriations authorized by law.
6. That nothing herein contained shall be construed as limiting or affecting, in any way, the delegated authority of the Authority Members, the Forest Service, and the BLM.
7. That this agreement shall become effective as soon as it is signed by the parties hereto and shall continue in force until termination by one or more parties upon 30 days notice, in writing, to the others, of its intention to terminate upon the date indicated.
8. That amendments to the Memorandum of Understanding may be proposed by one or more parties and shall become effective upon approval by all parties.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Donald G. Langston 12/14/95
CHAIRMAN, COLUMBIA BASIN FISH & WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

Herb Schmoor 19 Jan 96
REGIONAL FORESTER, REGION 1

Martha G. Hah 1/12/96
IDAHO STATE DIRECTOR OF THE BLM

Jay N. Brown 1/30/96
REGIONAL FORESTER, REGION 4

Larry E. Hamilt 2/9/96
MONTANA STATE DIRECTOR OF THE BLM

John McEwen 12-28-95
REGIONAL FORESTER, REGION 6

Elaine Y. Ziehniski 1/12/96
OREGON / WASHINGTON STATE DIRECTOR OF THE BLM