

FY 2001 High Priority Project Recommendations

**Prepared for the
Northwest Power Planning Council**

**by the
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority**

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**FY 2001 High Priority Project Recommendations
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Background

Phase One Program Amendments

On October 19, 2000, the Northwest Power Planning Council (NWPPC) adopted amendments to the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (Program) as the first “phase” of amending the Program. The amendments include a basin-wide vision, objectives, strategies, and structure for the province and subbasin levels of the Program, and provisions for subbasin plans. A schedule and process for subsequent amendment proceedings (next phases) to adopt measures for specific subbasins, mainstem coordination, province-level visions, objectives, and strategies were included in the amendments.

Program Transition

On October 20, 2000, the NWPPC issued a proposal for other funding needs for Fiscal Year 2001 only. The NWPPC identified four categories where funds would be necessary in FY 2001 to provide for a smooth transition into the new Program. These categories include: expansion of the base direct program fish and wildlife budget; subbasin planning; fund for land and water acquisition; and fund for High Priority (formerly called “Early Action”) projects. These funding categories were for FY 2001 only. The NWPPC has stated that when the first round of the provincial review process is completed, the region will have a more comprehensive understanding of potential fish and wildlife investments and be better positioned to discuss long-term funding needs.

The BPA and the NWPPC have made one such solicitation for High Priority projects (results presented here). The CBFWA recommends that the BPA solicit proposals for the remaining categories soon.

ESA Coordination

The fish and wildlife agencies and Tribes believe that the BPA Fish and Wildlife Budget should recognize the priority of work required under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). At the same time, the budget should continue the needed mitigation efforts under the Northwest Power Act, as well as responsibilities under the Clean Water Act. As the fish and wildlife benefits of activities under each of these authorities are shared, the activities must be integrated. In an October 31, 2000 memo, the BPA suggested “With the incorporation of the Endangered Species Act requirements into the Council’s Amended Program, and with the issuance of final Biological Opinions utilizing the Council’s Program as an implementation mechanism for off-site mitigation, we will achieve a critical integration that is necessary for a Regional [Unified] Plan.” The first step in this integration is accomplished here by the review of ESA/Biological Opinion (BiOp)-required projects in the NWPPC High Priority process. Further integration should be completed with the subbasin planning envisioned in the recently amended Program and with acceptance by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) that the NWPPC’s process is one of several means to implement ESA recovery. The NMFS and USFWS have also increased their participation in the rolling provincial review.

With the recent solicitation for High Priority projects as a starting point, the NWPPC should request the BPA solicit additional projects in the remaining categories discussed above. In this manner, the implementation of needed activities in FY 2001 that go beyond the currently funded Program activities can proceed without unnecessary delay.

High Priority Solicitation

The 2000 Program defined High Priority projects that should be allowed to proceed during the transition period while subbasin plans are developed. On November 13, 2000, the BPA and NWPPC issued a solicitation for High Priority projects. This was a limited, one-time solicitation for High Priority fish and wildlife project proposals that meet the specific criteria adopted by the NWPPC in its recent program amendments. The request was outside of the NWPPC's Rolling Provincial Review process and coordinated with the BPA and NMFS to identify immediate actions that will assist ESA-listed anadromous fish in the Columbia River Basin.

Although significant High Priority actions will be identified and implemented on an expedited basis, the majority of projects addressing ESA-listed fish as well as unlisted anadromous and resident fish and wildlife will be solicited over the next two years, as the NWPPC's Rolling Provincial Review cycles through the eleven provinces in the Columbia River Basin. The intention is that most projects will wait for consideration in the Rolling Provincial Review in order to maximize the benefits gained from that more comprehensive planning and review process. Proposals that are not approved for funding as High Priority projects may be re-submitted for funding in the appropriate Provincial Review.

The High Priority project solicitation is intended to be a one-time funding commitment resulting in immediate, on-the-ground benefits. This means, for example, that High Priority project funds will not be provided to build infrastructure or capacity that requires separate follow-on funding in subsequent fiscal years to do the on-the-ground implementation. Additional activities of the kind approved for funding in a High Priority project can be proposed for funding in FY 2002 on their own merits in the appropriate provincial review. Proposals should clearly identify any required funding for operation and maintenance of the project or for monitoring and evaluation.

The NWPPC has provided a set of criteria in its recently amended Program to define High Priority projects eligible for the BPA funding. Further, the NWPPC has, on a preliminary basis, expressed to the region that it believes the BPA should commit a minimum of \$15 million for implementation of qualifying FY 2001 High Priority projects.

A total of 96 proposals were submitted for the High Priority funding in FY 2001. The proposals are being reviewed simultaneously by the CBFWA, NMFS, USFWS, BPA, and the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP). The projects are reviewed for their internal scientific, management and legal merit and for their consistency with the High Priority project criteria in the NWPPC's program. The ISRP will provide the NWPPC with a written report of its review, and the NWPPC will make that report and this one available for an abbreviated public comment period.

CBFWA High Priority Project Review

Due to the large number of High Priority project proposals and the short period for review, an expedited review process was established. Resident fish, anadromous fish, and wildlife-specific proposals were assigned to the CBFWA's Resident Fish, Anadromous Fish, and Wildlife committees,

respectively, for review. Because many projects would directly affect more than one type of resource (i.e., resident fish, anadromous fish, and wildlife), multiple committees reviewed these proposed projects. In addition, since the scopes of several proposals were identified as “global” (i.e., resident fish, anadromous fish, and wildlife would all directly benefit from the work) each committee reviewed this group of proposals.

The Resident Fish and Wildlife committees established ad hoc work groups to review the proposals. After completing individual evaluations, the work groups met to reach a consensus recommendation for each proposal and subsequently reported back to their respective committees with their results for approval. The Anadromous Fish Committee reviewed the proposals in subregional teams initially, then as a full committee. Following review by the technical committees, the recommendations were reviewed and approved by consensus by the Members Management Group (MMG) and the CBFWA Members.

The CBFWA review used the following 13 criteria from the solicitation to evaluate the project proposals. It should be noted that the Program does not limit High Priority projects to anadromous fish projects, but recognizes that resident fish and wildlife projects may also be High Priority.

Criteria

1. That the proposed project warrants expedited consideration and funding because it addresses imminent risks to the survival of one or more species listed under ESA and 1) represents a time-limited opportunity or 2) is broadly recognized as a project that would achieve direct anadromous fish benefits.
2. The proposed project is appropriate mitigation for the FCRPS and not in lieu of expenditures or actions authorized or required by other entities and is otherwise consistent with the Northwest Power Act; and
3. The proposed project has all planning, permitting (e.g., NEPA, ESA compliance, 404, etc.), and landowner agreements completed so that on the ground work may begin not later than September 30, 2001. (There may be exceptions to this requirement where a programmatic review has been completed to which a site-specific action may tier).

In addition, a proposal should demonstrate that it would fulfill one or more of the following biological criteria:

4. The proposed project would produce largely self-sustaining habitat after activities are completed;
5. The proposed project has measurable, quantitative, biological objectives and will result in clear benefits to species' survival;
6. The proposed project would connect patches of high-quality habitat or extend habitat out from a core area;
7. The proposed project would improve conditions in a 303d, water quality-limited stream;

8. The proposed project would address a habitat enforcement issue and result in the protection of listed, anadromous fish habitat including marine habitat;

Finally, proposals could improve their priority position by demonstrating that:

9. The proposed project fulfills more than one of the criteria above;
10. The proposed project provides for cost-sharing with other entities;
11. The proposed project is part of a collaborative effort with other entities or has a synergistic effect with actions implemented by other entities;
12. The proposed project is recommended by an action plan derived from a science-based assessment; and/or,
13. The proposed project is approved by a tribal or state government authority with fish and wildlife management responsibility.

The technical reviews described how the proposal meets, or does not meet, the criteria. The CBFWA anadromous fish, resident fish and wildlife committees provided a management review of the proposals and developed recommendations to the CBFWA Members, via the MMG.

National Marine Fisheries Service Review

The NMFS reviewed all of the project proposals using the solicitation criteria provided by the NWPPC and BPA. In addition, the NMFS staff provided input on projects that must be implemented immediately, according to the reasonable and prudent alternative in the December 21, 2000, biological opinion regarding effects of the federal power system on listed salmon and steelhead. These projects were identified with a BiOp designation in the Funding Category under the CBFWA recommendations. The NMFS noted that additional proposals, which did not receive the BiOp designation, may also be consistent with actions required by the biological opinion. However, those projects (e.g., inventory, planning, and monitoring proposals) do not need to be implemented as quickly as the projects given the BiOp designation.

The NMFS also noted that another immediate requirement of the biological opinion, initiation of experiments to document the biological effectiveness of habitat improvement projects, could be linked to several of the high-priority projects considered in this solicitation. The NMFS identified high-priority projects with the potential to provide this information, if the monitoring plans are adjusted and some additional funding is provided. The NMFS biologists are currently contacting project proponents to suggest modifications to the monitoring and evaluation components of the proposals and the NMFS strongly encourages the NWPPC to recommend funding the additional costs that will be associated with these modifications.

US Fish and Wildlife Review

The USFWS reviewed all of the project proposals using the solicitation criteria provided by the NWPPC and BPA. In addition, the USFWS staff provided input on projects that were needed or

required by the recent biological opinion regarding white sturgeon and bull trout. These projects were identified with a BiOp designation in the Funding Category under the CBFWA recommendations.

CBFWA High Priority Project Recommendations

During discussion related to evaluation of the High Priority projects a number of issues arose that are related to the transition to the new, amended fish and wildlife program. These issues had influence on how the CBFWA finally elected to rate the proposals. One important issue was the limitation of the solicitation to anadromous fish projects. The Program language describing High Priority projects does not state that only anadromous fish projects would be funded. Several resident fish and wildlife projects met the review criteria and are recommended here. A solution offered for some resident fish projects is that they could be funded in the Mountain Columbia Provincial Review. Because these projects meet the criteria, and represent work that must be done in an expedited fashion, waiting for FY 2002 funding through that process is unacceptable.

Also it became apparent that strict application of the criteria would largely select only habitat-type projects to be funded. However, numerous proposals were submitted that were judged by the managers to be High Priority, but which failed at least one of the three required criteria. These “failed” proposals were often vital to positioning the region to move ahead with watershed assessment, sub-basin planning, research regarding critical uncertainties, etc. Accordingly the managers elected to place these in a category labelled High Priority “B” projects. These proposals were generally associated with assessments, subbasin planning and infrastructure, and research, monitoring and evaluation. Although most appeared to be good projects, and likely High Priority, the criteria prevented them from being rated High Priority “A.” These types of projects are vital to moving forward with recovery of listed species as well as with the NWPPC’s mitigation responsibilities in an effective and efficient manner.

Some projects rated as High Priority raised in-lieu questions. We believe there needs to be additional discussions regarding this issue, however, for our purposes here we opted to base the priority judgement solely on the need for the activity and leave the individual in-lieu issues for future consideration by the NWPPC and BPA.

Finally, no proposals were received to address many of the Reasonable and Prudent Alternatives (RPA) in the Hydrosystem Biological Opinion. Some Hatchery Genetic Management Plans and safety net activities need to be initiated now. It may be necessary to expand the Columbia Plateau Provincial Review solicitation to include these important actions.

The CBFWA’s review and recommendation are reflected in Table 1. Projects were assigned to one of three funding priorities; however, projects were not prioritized within budget categories. The placement of a proposal relative to others in a budget category does not suggest the project is more or less important than any of the other projects in the category. The three categories are described below.

In addition to reviewing these projects based on the solicitation criteria, the NMFS and USFWS provided a review and summary of projects that are needed or required for the action agencies to meet the recent biological opinions. These projects have been identified with a BiOp designation in the Funding Category column of Table 1.

High Priority “A”

The CBFWA identified 46 projects that meet the solicitation criteria and totaled \$45 million. The projects were generally land and water acquisitions and habitat improvement projects. The CBFWA supports funding these projects in an expedited manner. This total is significantly greater than the \$15 million estimated by the NWPPC in October 2000. These projects represent some of the unmet needs in the basin that should be addressed to assure progress towards recovering the fish and wildlife resources. Although many of the projects raised in-lieu questions, it is our understanding that the BPA is responsible for coordinating and funding recovery actions for the Federal Caucus.

High Priority “B”

A total of 42 projects did not meet the solicitation criteria; however, they are considered High Priority projects by the CBFWA and total nearly \$45 million. These projects address the transition needs identified by the NWPPC and supported by the CBFWA including subbasin assessment and planning; research, monitoring and evaluation; needs identified in the biological opinions; and other projects that should be funded outside of the Rolling Provincial Review and in an expedited manner. Table 1 assigns each “B” proposal to one of the other Council transition needs. If the NWPPC is not going to solicit projects for these other categories of transition needs, these HP“B” projects should be funded immediately. This list of projects demonstrates the need to complete assessments and build infrastructure to support a regional subbasin planning and implementation effort. It is generally acknowledged that to perform meaningful subbasin planning, comprehensive assessments need to be completed as quickly as possible.

Not High Priority

Six projects were generally not considered urgent and it was felt that the Rolling Provincial Review should determine their funding priority. These projects are generally habitat restoration efforts that will take a long time to implement or demonstrate results. These projects suit the Rolling Provincial Review process in that the habitat these projects will protect or restore needs to be prioritized in relation to the rest of the subbasin.

Project number 23093, “Evaluate the feasibility of modifying the Selah Moxee irrigation canal to increase water available for fish by 15,000 acre feet”, was not included in the initial CBFWA project review list. This project has not been reviewed by CBFWA at this time.

Table 1. FY 2001 CBFWA Review of High Priority Projects

Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23001	Protect Bear Valley Wild Salmon, Steelhead, Bull Trout Spawning and Rearing Habitat	SBT & IDFG	Salmon	HP "A" -BiOp	\$320,000	Y	Y	Y	
23002	Ames Creek Restoration	USFS	Willamette	HP "A"	\$170,000	Y	Y/Y	Y	This seems to be an excellent project.
23003	Experimental Selective Fishery Techniques Development, Evaluation, and Coordination	NMFS-SFD	System wide	HP "B" W	\$400,000	N	Y	Y	This project is called for in the NMFS Biological Opinion but does not meet the criteria for high priority as defined by the NWPPC for this process. This project is considered a high priority need at this time.
23004	Support for the Development and Certification (FDA approval) of Effective Drugs and Anesthesia for Fish	USFWS, Bozeman NIO	System wide	HP "B" -BiOp P	\$240,000	N	Y	Y	This project is considered a high priority by CBFWA and should be funded immediately. However, this project does not meet the criteria for high priority as defined by the NWPPC for this process. This project is in the NMFS Biological Opinion as a conservation measure and will be required for handling adult salmon at mainstem dams.
23005	Develop an Anadromous Salmonid Habitat Carrying Capacity Model	University of Idaho	Middle Snake	HP "B" S	\$375,895	N	Y	Y	This project should be considered for subbasin assessments and subbasin planning. The model would greatly assist subbasin planning for supplementation activities.
23006	Walla Walla River Flow Recruitment - Eastside Ditch Piping	WWBWC	Walla Walla	HP "A"	\$189,000	Y	Y	Y	This project should be closely coordinated with 230046.
23007	Conservation Easement, Baker Ranch, Salmon River East Fork	IOSC	Salmon	HP "A" -BiOp	\$1,415,000	Y	Y	Y	

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23008	Improve Stream Habitat by Reducing Discharge from Animal Feeding Operations in Salmon and Clearwater Basins	IOSC	Clearwater/Salmon	HP "B" W	\$3,366,000	Y	Y	N	This project is establishing a cost share grant program to add value to an existing regulation-based improvement effort. There are small operations and multi-species facilities that fall outside of the Beef Cattle Environmental Control Act. The Act was designed to address CAFO's impact on Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act requirements. The IDAG is inspecting these operations and finding additional work that needs to be performed that falls outside of the BCECA. The program proposed here would provide a cost-share opportunity for additional improvements that would reduce animal nutrient loading in the streams but may not be required by law. Work is not being directed according to any subbasin planning effort that prioritizes efforts. Specific activities and locations are unknown at this time. Questions of in-lieu were also raised.
23009	Reconnect Falls Creek to the Main-stem Pahasimeroi River	IOSC	Salmon	Not HP	\$830,000	N	Y	N	Currently 8 diversions on Big Springs Creek with partial migration. 2-3 years for completion of Big Springs Creek passage problems. 2 years to complete Falls Creek. Permits have not been completed. Province review will determine priority of this project in this basin. Intends to reconnect habitat by providing additional streamflow, but the "saved" water comes with no guarantee that it will remain in the stream.
23010	Restoration of Anadromous Fish Access to Hawley Creek	IOSC	Salmon	Not HP	\$2,159,000	N	Y	Y	Province review process will determine the priority of this project within the subbasin. Intends to reconnect habitat by providing additional streamflow, but the "saved" water comes with no guarantee that it will remain in the stream.
23011	Reconnect Little Morgan Creek to the Main-stem Pahasimeroi River	IOSC	Salmon	Not HP	\$1,100,000	Y	Y	N	This project should be reviewed under the provincial review. Intends to reconnect habitat by providing additional streamflow, but the "saved" water comes with no guarantee that it will remain in the stream.
23012	Arrowleaf/Methow River Conservation Project	TPL, WDFW	Methow	HP "A"	\$3,750,000	Y	Y	Y	The \$3.75 million is for the purchase of a conservation easement on 600 acres of the property located in the Methow Basin.

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
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23013	Locate, Mark, and Removal of Lost "Ghost" Fishing Nets in Selected Columbia River Reservoirs: A Feasibility Study	CRITFC	Mainstem	HP "A"	\$86,109	Y	Y	Y	This project addresses an unaccountable loss of adults between mainstem dams identified in the NMFS Biological Opinion under Action 118.
23014	Distribution and seasonal habitat use of ESA-listed salmonid species in City of Portland tributary streams	City of Portland	Willamette	HP "B" S	\$54,792	N	Y/N	Y	As a data collection effort, this project does not address survival directly, but may help determine what needs to be done.
23015	Protect Salmon River Breaks Wild Salmon, Steelhead, Bull Trout Spawning and Rearing Habitat	Valley Sun L.L.C.	Salmon	HP "A" -BiOp	\$47,000	Y	Y	Y	
23016	Reconnection of floodplain slough habitat to the Kootenai River	KTOI	Kootenai	HP "B" S	\$139,974	Y	Y	N	
23017	Assess Surface-Water Flow And Feasibility of Enhancing White Sturgeon Spawning Substrate Habitat, Kootenai R., Idaho	KTOI, USGS	Kootenai	HP "A" -BiOp	\$535,000	Y	Y	Y	
23018	Crawford Vegetative Management Road Decommission	USFS	John Day	HP "A"	\$98,000	Y	Y	Y	The proposal claims that it had been coordinated with the state and tribe, which it has not. This project also raises in-lieu questions.
23019	Trout Creek Culvert Replacement	USFS	Deschutes	HP "A"	\$128,000	Y	Y	Y	Proposal does not specify the kind of culverts. If the proposal is to replace round culverts with bigger round culverts, it is not worth it. The proposal was not coordinated with the tribe.
23020	Badger Creek Culvert Replacement and Road Closure Projects	USFS	Deschutes	HP "A"	\$87,000	Y	Y	Y	The proposal was not coordinated with the tribe.
23021	Restoring Bull Trout Habitat In The Blackfoot River's North Fork	TU	Blackfoot	HP "A" -BiOp	\$750,300	Y	Y	Y	

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
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23022	Chumstick Culvert Replacement and Habitat Enhancement 2001	YN	Wenatchee	HP "B" W	\$270,825	N	Y	Y	The replacement of these 12 culverts will be beneficial to steelhead (ESA listed) assuming replacement of the primary culvert at Highway 209 (BPA contract #99-023) is completed. Although impacted by development, the creek does not go dry except in a couple of stretches during late summer when it goes subterranean. The stream would have value for coho and steelhead rearing.
23023	Stormy Creek High Priority Culvert Replacement	YN	Entiat	HP "A"	\$122,800	Y	Y	Y	While the Entiat Subbasin has less overall potential than others in the area, this proposal addresses a real problem/limiting factor - rearing habitat. Unfortunately, this proposal would open up only a small area.
23024	Hancock Springs Passage and Habitat Restoration Improvements	YN	Methow	HP "A"-BiOp	\$49,941	Y	Y	Y	This is a great project, as it would provide important benefits by addressing the factor limiting production, for a low price.
23025	Restore anadromous fish passage at Hemlock Dam on Trout Creek, tributary to Wind River	YN	Wind	HP "B" S	\$220,763	N	Y	Y	This proposal would fund assessment work and would not provide direct benefits.
23026	Klickitat Basin Key Habitat Acquisition	YN	Klickitat	HP "A"	\$3,000,000	Y	Y	Y	This proposal would fund acquisition of three important parcels. This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23027	Methow Basin Floodplain and Riparian Land Acquisitions	YN	Methow	HP "A"	\$2,332,150	Y	Y	Y	This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23028	Increase Naches River In-stream Flows By Purchasing Wapatox Water Right	YN	Yakima	HP "A"	\$4,000,000	Y	Y	Y	This is a reasonable project, although it needs a companion effort to protect the floodplain from continuing diking, etc. One technical reviewer expressed considerable frustration with an in lieu concern, the BOR has funds to pay for the purchase of instream water rights but has not been willing to move on this project.
23029	Decommission ten miles of roads in the Wind River Subbasin	YN	Wind	HP "A"	\$104,000	Y	Y	Y	An in lieu concern was voiced in the technical review, that as a federal agency the US Forest Service has more ability to secure federal funds to correct problems arising from its management in order to comply with federal laws (ESA).

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23030	Initiate wetland and wet prairie restoration and restore historic stream function, Bessett Property, Willamette Valley, Oregon.	NHI	Willamette	HP "A"	\$112,630	Y	Y/Y	Y	This appears to be a good project. The proposal lists biological objectives for birds.
23031	Protect John's Creek Watershed	NPTFWP	Clearwater	HP "A"	\$73,878	Y	Y	Y	
23032	Return Spawning/Rearing Habitat to Anadromous/Resident Fish within the Squaw Creek to Papoose Creek Analysis Area Watersheds	NPTFWP	Clearwater	HP "A"	\$420,000	Y	Y	Y	
23033	Big Creek Passage and Screening	WDFW	Yakima	HP "A" -BiOp	\$187,000	Y	Y	Y	
23034	Reproductive Success Of Naturally Spawning Wild and Hatchery-origin Spring Chinook	WDFW	Yakima	HP "B" -BiOp W	\$260,674	N	Y	Y	This is a feasibility study under the YKFP and by itself will not have any direct benefit to salmon.
23035	Buckskin Slough Restoration	WDFW	Yakima	HP "A"	\$13,200	Y	Y	Y	
23036	Evaluate live capture selective harvesting methods for commercial fisheries on the Columbia River	WDFW, ODFW	Mainstem Columbia	HP "A" -BiOp	\$384,285	Y	Y	Y	
23037	Assessment of bull trout populations in the Columbia Basin (excluding the Columbia Gorge), WA.	WDFW	System wide	HP "B" S	\$809,279	N	Y	Y	
23038	Yakima Basin Inventory and Assessment (SSHIAP), and Study and Model Integration	WDFW	Yakima	HP "B" S	\$194,000	N	Y	Y	Assessment work will not provide direct benefits.
23039	Upper Yakima River Acquisitions	WDFW	Yakima	HP "A" -BiOp	\$1,936,000	Y	Y	Y	This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23040	Re-introduction of Lower Columbia River Chum Salmon into Duncan Creek	PSMFC, WDFW	Mainstem Columbia	HP "A" -BiOp	\$420,796	Y	Y/Y	Y	The technical reviewers questioned whether the necessary paperwork could be completed by September 30, 2001 but NMFS believes it can be done. This project has an important RM+E component that NMFS will assist WDFW in developing.
23041	Restoration of ecosystem nutrient levels in the Columbia Basin	WDFW	System wide	Not HP	\$57,428	N	Y	Y	Value of this project depends on whether nutrient levels are limiting. Tribal support is predicated on there being sufficient hatchery returns to meet tribal member needs as well as this study's needs. This project is not directly related to the project proposed under the innovative category. This would be a process related undertaking rather than an investigative one.
23042	Forest and Fish - Road Inventory	WDFW	System wide	HP "B" S	\$256,080	N	Y	Y	A necessary first step, but the proposal will not provide direct benefits. The wildlife committee determined that this project failed to meet one or more of the gatekeeper criteria.
23043	Columbia Basin Fish Passage and Screening Inventory; WDFW Lands and Kittitas County	WDFW		HP "B" S	\$182,040	N	Y	Y	A necessary first step, but the proposal will not provide direct benefits. The wildlife committee determined that this project failed to meet one or more of the gatekeeper criteria.
23044	Naches River Water Treatment Plant Intake Screening Project.	City of Yakima	Yakima	HP "A"	\$1,657,500	Y	Y	Y	This proposal has not been coordinated with the co-managers. This project raises in-lieu concerns as well as funding activities beyond the screening implementation.
23045	Gourley Creek Dam Fish Ladder	City of Scappoose		HP "A" -BiOp	\$200,119	Y	Y/Y	Y	This is probably a good project. The proposal had some confusion regarding the needed permits, but can probably meet the deadline. The proposal only addresses part of the salmon life cycle. It does not consider protection for the out-migrating juveniles.
23046	Increase In Stream Flows to De-watered Stream Reaches in the Walla Walla Basin	WWCCD	Walla Walla	HP "A" -BiOp	\$590,000	Y	Y	Y (Obj 1)	This proposal is related to #23006. Objective #1 appears to be ready to implement, but specific land-owners and locations are not identified for the other objectives/tasks. The work needs continuing coordination with the F&W managers to assure that priority areas are funded.
23047	Acquire Tucannon River Water Rights	WWT	Tucannon	HP "A"	\$120,000	Y	Y	Y	Questions regarding the significance of the direct benefits provided. An additional 2 cfs is not enough to have much effect on the dewatering

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
									problem.
23048	Install Fish Screens to Protect ESA-listed Steelhead and Bull Trout in the Walla Walla Basin	WWCCD	Walla Walla	HP "A" -BiOp	\$461,700	Y	Y	Y	Proposal does not identify the specific sites to be screened. The NPPC Program cited as the "action plan derived from a science based assessment." Need to insure that the action agency insure that all screens that are installed are covered by a water right.
23049	Benefit/Risk Analysis to Promote long-term Persistence of Chinook Salmon in the Middle Fork Salmon River	NPT	Salmon	HP "B" S	\$108,236	N	Y	Y	
23050	Establishing a Regional Salmonid Germplasm Repository for Populations Listed under the Endangered Species Act	NPT / UI	System wide	HP "A" -BiOp	\$1,235,275	Y	Y	Y	
23051	Assessment and Implementation of Technologies to Monitor Adult Spring and Summer Chinook Salmon Abundance in Snake River Basin Tributary Streams	NPT	Salmon	HP "B" S	\$516,678	N	Y	N	Although this activity is called for in the NMFS Biological Opinion, this project doesn't meet the criteria for high priority under this funding category. This project needs basin wide coordination.
23052	Acquire and Enhance Lower Big and Little Creeks, Columbia River Estuarine Floodplain, Clatsop County, Oregon.	NCLC	Mainstem Columbia	HP "A" -BiOp	\$528,500	Y	Y/Y	Y	This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23053	Wagner Ranch Acquisition	CTWSRO	John Day	HP "A" -BiOp	\$2,658,774	Y	Y	Y	Some question of the extent to which this project by itself would address imminent survival. This project would have the lowest priority of the four John Day Subbasin acquisitions. This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23054	Forrest Ranch Acquisition	CTWSRO	John Day	HP "A" -BiOp	\$4,184,185	Y	Y	Y	This project has the highest priority of the four John Day Subbasin acquisitions. A critical acquisition. This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.

Table 1. FY 2001 CBFWA Review of High Priority Projects

Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23055	Acquire Prime Salmonid Spawning and Rearing Habitat on Entiat River	CDLT	Entiat	HP "A" -BiOp	\$1,411,320	Y	Y	Y	This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23056	Farmers Irrigation District Mainstem Hood River Fish Screen Project	CTWSRO	Hood	HP "A" -BiOp	\$500,000	Y	Y/Y	Y	The proposed work consists of two parallel tracks for selection of the type of screen applicable and acceptable. The project schedule is such that in May a decision will be made as to which type of screen to install. The screen will meet NMFS criteria. NMFS supports this project as long as the screen meets their criteria.
23057	Enhance Instream Flows and Fish Habitat for 2001 Irrigation Season	OWT	System wide	HP "B" S	\$51,000	N	Y	N	Most of the proposed funding would go for hiring staff with limited purchase of water rights. The real benefits come from other sources of funding. Why does the proposed position need to be funded in advance of the "Rolling Review?"
23058	Acquire BAIC Tract: Wildlife Mitigation Site - Horn Butte Area, Oregon	TNC, ODFW	Umatilla	HP "B" R	\$5,669,617	N	Y	Y	
23059	Prevention and Control of Agricultural Water Pollution in the Columbia Basin of Oregon	ODA	System wide	HP "B" S	\$5,341,000	N	Y	Y	This project is mostly a planning exercise that addresses important aspects of subbasin planning. It does not meet the high priority criteria for addresses an imminent risk to survival, however, this project should move forward under the NWPPC subbasin planning exercise.
23060	Assess Stream Quality for Salmonid Recovery	DEQ		HP "B" M	\$369,816	N	Y	Y	The effort appears to fund some of the ODEQ responsibilities and thus raises <i>in lieu</i> questions. It appears to duplicate work that the NPPC Program should be doing. This project will provide critical information for subbasin planning in the Lower Columbia (i.e. Willamette subbasin) and Blue Mountain provinces.
23061	Securing Wildlife Mitigation Sites – Oregon	OWC		HP "A"	\$1,500,000	Y	Y	Y	The wildlife committee determined that the project be restricted to the acquisition of Rick Paige Ranch. With this modification the project would primarily benefit aquatic resources but would also provide significant benefits to wildlife. The total cost for the Rick Paige Ranch acquisition to BPA will be \$1,500,000.

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23062	Construct approved fish screening systems on unscreened irrigation diversions.	ODFW	Mainstem Snake	HP "A" -BiOp	\$71,142	Y	Y	Y	
23063	Bull Trout Population Assessment	ODFW		HP "B" S	\$191,739	N	Y	Y	
23064	Hood River-Punch Bowl Falls Fishway- Replacement of Access Stairway	ODFW	Hood	HP "B" W	\$136,750	N	Y/Y	Y	This proposal was not evaluated in the "Rolling Review" because it was not ready in time. Personnel have to wade across the creek at low flows to dig gravel out of the ladder. This presents a safety problem and delays necessary maintenance. Since the ladder cannot be accessed for maintenance there is potential for adult fish blockage, injury and mortality during high flow events.
23065	Develop System to Acquire Additional In-stream Flow Through Market Based Incentives	ODFW	System wide	HP "B" S	\$310,442	Y	Y	Y	The project will be more fully developed and submitted in the Columbia Plateau Province Review focusing in the John Day River.
23066	Fish Distribution Data Development for Cutthroat Trout and Non-anadromous areas	ODFW	System wide	HP "B" S	\$200,579	N	Y	Y	
23067	Compile and Digitize Oregon's Fish Screen and Culvert Data	ODFW	Deschutes	HP "B" S	\$28,848	N	Y	Y	There appears to duplication and overlap with efforts that FSOC, StreamNet, and other NPPC assessments have already been funded to do. As a data collection effort it will not provide direct benefits.
23068	Fish Presence Survey & Georeference Data Entry	ODFW	Deschutes	HP "B" S	\$37,717	N	Y	Y	As a data collection effort it will not provide direct benefits. There appear to be in lieu issues with this proposal.
23069	Apply for Additional In-stream Water Rights	ODFW	System wide	HP "B" H	\$65,442	N	N	Y	Proposal will not provide direct benefits. There appear to be in lieu issues with this proposal.
23070	Web Based System for Interactive Mapping, GIS Data, Metadata and Map Distribution	ODFW	System wide	HP "B" S	\$63,640	N	Y	Y	This project is needed but should be supported through subbasin planning. Does not fit in this category.
23071	Calapooia River Flow Acquisition and Fish Passage Assessment	ODFW	Willamette	HP "A"	\$55,015	Y	Y	Y	The proposal appears to present in lieu issues. Project is implementable. Will provide benefits to upstream passage of ESA listed chinook salmon

Table 1. FY 2001 CBFWA Review of High Priority Projects

Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
									and spawning winter steelhead.
23072	Fifteenmile Creek Adult Trapping Facility	ODFW	Fifteenmile	HP "B" M	\$572,648	N	Y	N	This is a data collection effort. Monitoring efforts need basin wide coordination.
23073	Purchase Perpetual Conservation Easement on Holliday Ranch and Crown Ranch Riparian Corridors and Uplands	ODFW	John Day	HP "A" - BiOp	\$481,800	Y	Y	Y	This is an important, cost-effective project. This project would have the second highest priority of the four John Day Subbasin acquisitions. The technical reviewers recommend dropping the O&M funding if they jeopardize funding the acquisition. This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23074	Lower Columbia River and Estuary Habitat Assessment and Mapping Project	LCREP	Mainstem Columbia	HP "B" S	\$256,500	N	Y/Y	Y	This is a data collection effort and will not provide any direct benefits to anadromous fish.
23075	Life history strategies in Oncorhynchus mykiss: interactions between anadromous and resident forms.	ODFW	Grande Ronde	HP "B" M	\$209,925	N	Y	Y	The proposal has not been coordinated with the tribes. This is a high priority for ODFW as it addresses a critical uncertainty (contribution of resident O. mykiss to the anadromous O. mykiss) which has been identified as a possible factor determining population size. This project needs broader coordination since this is a systemwide issue.
23076	Complete Watershed Assessments in the Columbia Plateau	OWEB	System wide	HP "B" S	\$1,602,836	N	Y	Y	This proposal appears to be duplicative of the NPPC assessment. It is probably an excellent opportunity, but does not meet the current High Priority criteria.
23077	Evaluation, Prioritization and Resolution of Fish Passage Impediments	OWEB		HP "B" S	\$11,000,000	N	Y	Y	This proposal appears to duplicate other screening inventory work. As a data collection effort, the proposal will not provide direct benefits to fish.
23078	Walla Walla Basin Flow Restoration Project	OWRD	Walla Walla	HP "B" M	\$951,254	N	Y (Obj 1) N (Obj 2)	N	The proposal does not identify an action plan that it would implement. The priority of this project should be determined in a province review.

Table 1. FY 2001 CBFWA Review of High Priority Projects

Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23079	Implement Anadromous and Resident Salmonid Population and Habitat Monitoring in the Oregon Portion of the Columbia River Basin	ODFW	System wide	HP "B" M	\$2,291,923	N	Y	Y	This proposal probably presents an excellent opportunity, but as it would not provide any direct benefits to listed salmon, it does not fit in this solicitation. Technical reviewers suggested that ODFW should already be funding this monitoring and therefore, it raises an in lieu question. Population and habitat assessments are important for subbasin planning. Before an effort of this size is initiated, coordination should be facilitated between all states. This issue needs basin wide coordination.
23080	Hydrographic Record Update Project	OWRD	System wide	HP "B" S	\$1,119,719	N	Y	Y	This project is needed but should be supported through subbasin planning. Does not fit in this category.
23081	Water Right Acquisition Support Project	OWRD	System wide	HP "B"	\$423,576	N	Y	Y	This is a companion project to 23065. This will be an important component to implementing a water acquisition fund through the fish and wildlife program.
23082	Protect Fish Habitat Through Education and Enforcement	CRITFC	System wide	Not Rated Yet	\$303,575	Y	Y	Y	Enforcement portion of this proposal meets the high priority criteria. The education portion of the proposal is not urgent but would provide benefits to the region. Project should only be funded if well coordinated with Oregon State Patrol to avoid duplication of effort.
23083	Rear and Release 1.0 million spring chinook at Ringold Springs Hatchery	CRITFC	System wide	HP "B" P	\$235,584	N	Y	Y	There is a management dispute regarding the listed stock of fish in the Methow River.
23084	Acquisition of Lower Desolation Creek, John Day Basin	CTUIR	John Day	HP "A"	\$4,987,754	Y	Y	Y	This project would have the third priority of the four John Day Subbasin acquisitions, close to that of the Holliday project #23073. This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23085	Columbia Basin, Native American Fish Tissue Contaminant Study: Ecological Analysis Section	YN		HP "B" M	\$125,750	N	Y	Y	This is not a high priority project for NMFS in regards to ESA listed fish. It would fulfill a data gap that would contribute to ESA recovery planning.
23086	Support for CRITFC participation in Willamette-Lower Columbia restoration activities.	CRITFC	Willamette	Not HP	\$122,289	N	Y/N	Y	This project will not provide any direct benefits to anadromous fish.

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23087	Collaborative Center for Applied Fish Science	CRITFC	System wide	HP "B" P	\$4,216,852	N	Y	Y	This project provides a time limited opportunity for construction of a center to organize the CRITFC tribes analyses efforts for ESA recovery planning contributions.
23088	Renovate Selway Falls Anadromous Fish Passage Tunnel	IDFG	Clearwater	HP "A"	\$308,938	Y	Y	Y	
23089	Purchase of Tanker Trucks and River Racks/Wiers	CRITFC	System wide	HP "B" P	\$533,367	N	Y	Y	The CBFWA managers support this project due to the high expected returns of spring chinook in 2001. Purchase of these trucks would avoid an emergency action in the late spring for transporting adults and could help provide equipment for smolt outplanting. Funding should be contingent on the 2001 US v OR agreement.
23090	Farm to Fish	SBT	Salmon	Not HP	\$88,000	N	Y	N	
23091	Protect East Fork Salmon River chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout habitat	SBT	Salmon	HP "A" -BiOp	\$1,030,000	Y	Y	Y	This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23092	Genetic relationship of steelhead in North East Oregon	ODFW	Grande Ronde	withdrawn	\$266,930	N	Y	Y	As a study, this proposal would not provide direct benefits. This project will be funded under the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan.
23093	Evaluate the feasibility of modifying the Selah Moxee irrigation canal to increase water available for fish by 15,000 acre feet	Selah Moxee Irrigation District	Columbia Plateau	Not Reviewed	\$99,607				This project was not included in the initial CBFWA project review list.
23094	Acquire 27,000 Camp Creek Ranch at Zumwalt Prairie	TNC	Imnaha	HP "A" -BiOp	\$2,000,000	Y	Y	Y	The reviewers assumed that the request to BPA was for \$2 million of the total purchase price. This project would provide significant benefits to wildlife.
23095	Aerial Photography and Digital Mapping of the floodplain of the Willamette River	DOGAMI	Willamette	HP "B" S	\$1,047,655	N	Y/N	Y	This project is a data collection effort. This project proposes monitoring efforts that need to be discussed at a systemwide scale. The scale and scope of this type of project needs to be defined at a regional level. This increment of resolution may not be necessary for the F+W Program.

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Project ID#	Title	Sponsor	Subbasin	Budget Category*	Task Cost	Criterion			Comments
						1	2	3	
23096	Assessment of Riparian Condition Through Spectrometric Imaging of Riparian Vegetation	ODEQ		HP "B" S	\$240,000	N	Y	Y	Project relates to TMDL schedule and process.

Budget Category:	Task Cost
HP "A" = meets solicitation criteria and is considered high priority by CBFWA members	\$45,017,686
HP "B" = does not fit solicitation criteria but is needed for emergency or long term actions	\$44,689,415
Not HP = does not meet solicitation criteria and/or should be considered in rolling province review	\$4,356,717
Withdrawn	\$266,930
"S" = Subbasin Planning and Assessment	
"H" = Habitat Acquisition (Land, Water, Easement)	
"M" = Monitoring, Evaluation and Research	
"RW" = Resident Fish and Wildlife	
"P" = High Priority for timeliness, needs to be done this year.	
"W" = Wait for provincial review	

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