

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Columbia River Investigations  
Northern Pikeminnow Management Program Evaluation**

**Proposed Work at the John Day Dam**

**Project Work Plan**

The Columbia River Investigations Program, within the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, wishes to request permission to enter the forebay and tailrace Boat Restricted Zone (BRZ) areas at The Dalles Dam to capture and tag northern pikeminnow and collect biological data from northern pikeminnow, smallmouth bass, and walleye as part of an annual evaluation of the Northern Pikeminnow Management Program. We understand project operations (i.e. spill) may preclude us from entering BRZ areas. However, if project operations allow, we would like to sample one night each in the tailrace and forebay BRZ areas during the week of April 27-May 1, 2015.

Additionally, during the weeks of May 11-15, 2015 and June 28- July 2, 2015 we would like to work two days/nights each in the tailrace and forebay BRZ areas. We plan to use two electrofishing boats with two people on each boat. In previous years, we have been granted permission during spill events for one electrofishing boat to conduct sampling along the Oregon shoreline of the John Day tailrace as far upstream as safety permits. During a spill event in the forebay BRZ area, we propose one electrofishing boat (with two people aboard) sample along the Oregon shore up to the area near the powerhouse (*no closer than 300 shoreline feet from the adult fish ladder exit at the south end of the John Day powerhouse*) while a second boat monitors for safety. One electrofishing boat will also sample in the forebay area along the Washington shore no further downstream than the entrance/exit to the navigation lock. It is our understanding that this area along the Washington shore is *not* part of the forebay BRZ.

Sampling in each BRZ area is anticipated to be completed in approximately one hour. We will coordinate with the control room when entering and exiting all BRZ areas. Work will be conducted between the hours of 18:00 and 1:00 (April 27-May 1, 2015) or 1:00 and 12:00 (May 12-15, 2015 and June 29- July 2, 2015). If planned sampling dates should change, we will notify the USACE contact as soon as possible.

**Project Impact Statement**

Work will be conducted entirely from boats and no personnel will set foot on the dam or its associated structures except in the event of an emergency. Radio contact will be maintained with the control room on VHF Channel 14 at all times while in the BRZ areas to allow for quick exit if necessary. We will adhere to all applicable safety regulations while operating in the BRZ areas.