May 31, 2017

Operations Manager

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers

The Dalles Lock and Dam

P. O. Box 564

Cascade Locks, OR 97058

Dear Chief Operations Manager:

The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), in accordance with The Tribal Pacific Lamprey Restoration Plan for the Columbia River Basin (TPLRP, CRITFC 2011), is supporting its member tribes’ efforts to restore Pacific Lamprey (Entosphenus tridentatus) to the Columbia River basin. This ongoing project is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration and managed by the CRITFC. As part of the project we are requesting permission from the USACE for access to Bonneville, The Dalles, and John Day Dams to support adult lamprey collection by CRITFC member tribes.

A key component to restoring lampreys to the Columbia River basin is to collect adults for translocation to upper reaches of the basin (e.g. Umatilla, Yakima, and Snake Rivers). CRITFC requests permission to enter the USACE projects to support the collection of up to 9984 adult Pacific lampreys (2496 per member tribe) among Bonneville (BON), The Dalles (TDA), and John Day dams (JDD). Collection request numbers are calculated using the Tribal Guidelines for Translocation contained in the TPLRP (updated May 2017).

CRITFC’s role in supporting member tribe lamprey collection at USACE projects will primarily include, but not be limited to, the setting and checking of lamprey traps at BON, TDA, and JDD and the mechanical trap located at the JDD South Shore fishway. In addition, the CRITFC and its members aim to access to adults collected at the Bonneville Washington Shore Lamprey Flume Structure, the Cascades Island Lamprey Passage Structure (LPS), and the JDD North Lamprey Passage Structure. In addition to trapping at BON, CRITFC personnel will be responsible for safely holding trapped adult lamprey at BON until retrieval by member tribe staff and transporting adult lamprey, collected at TDA, to JDD for transfer to member tribe staff.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|   | Maximum collection number |
|  | BON | TDA | JDD | TOTAL |
| Yakama Nation | 1248 | 599 | 453 | 2496 |
| Umatilla Tribe | 1248 | 599 | 453 | 2496 |
| Warm Springs Tribe\* | 1248 | 599 | 453 | 2496 |
| Nez Perce Tribe | 1248 | 599 | 453 | 2496 |
| TOTAL | 4992 | 2396 | 1812 | 9984 |
| \*not expected to collect adults for translocation |

The CRITFC will have all necessary permits for this activity. We will coordinate with Ms. Tammy Mackey, Ms. Ida Royer, and Mr. Ben Hausmann at Bonneville Dam, Mr. Bob Cordie and Mr Jeffrey Randall at The Dalles Dam, and Mr. Miro Zyndol at John Day dam. CRITFC will coordinate with all USACE and Tribal staff to ensure a smooth and safe operation as in previous years. CRITFC has the current versions of A Guide for Fish Researchers (2017) for each appropriate project. CRITFC will supply all information requested in the Guide prior to work beginning. CRITFC will apply for and obtain security badges and required safety training prior to the initiation of work.

Project work plans are in the process of being completed and will be submitted to the Portland District Biologist as well as the Project Fisheries Research Coordinator for each project.

Sincerely,

Brian McIlraith

Pacific Lamprey Project Leader

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Fish Management

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CC: Mr. Jeffrey Randall

 Mr. Ben Hausmann

 Ms. Ida Royer

 Mr. Bob Cordie

 Mr. Miroslaw Zyndol

 Ms. Tammy Mackey