



February 13, 2020

To: Kevin Moynahan  
Operations Manager  
John Day Dam  
U. S. Army Corp of Engineers  
P.O. Box 823  
Rufus, OR, 97050

CC: Miroslaw Zyndol  
John Day Fisheries Research Coordinator

CC: Tammy Mackey  
District Fisheries Biologist – Columbia River

From: Tyler Beals  
Fish Biologist  
Yakama Nation  
Fisheries Resources Management Program

**RE: YN Request for Access on the John Day Dam Project**

Dear Mr. Kevin Moynahan,

Yakama Nation Pacific Lamprey Project staff would like to request access on John Day Dam to collect juvenile Pacific Lamprey to be used in an acoustic telemetry project in Lower Yakima River and mainstem Columbia (McNary Dam). The project was funded primarily by Yakama Nation Fisheries, Bureau of Reclamation, and local irrigation districts. USGS and PNNL are also key partners for this study. This study is the third study that is using the newly developed lamprey/eel tag for monitoring Pacific Lamprey juvenile passage, following PNNL's first pilot study in 2017. In 2018 and 2019, we collected Pacific Lamprey juveniles from John Day Dam and McNary Dam and tagged them with the newly developed acoustic tag. The results from the past two years of study have shown valuable insights into the migration patterns of juvenile lamprey as they migrate from the Yakima River downstream into the Columbia River.

The full duration of John Day Dam access is anticipated to be between March 10 and June 30, 2020 (but primarily between late March and late May). The purpose of this letter is to describe the study objectives, the anticipated activities, and needs at John Day Dam project. \*Note: This request is the backup plan in the event that the number of lamprey required for this study cannot be collected within the Yakima Subbasin (via the juvenile fish monitoring facility at Chandler Diversion on lower Yakima River or Yakima tributary screw traps).

This study will be similar to others conducted throughout the Snake and Columbia rivers to estimate survival and passage metrics of juvenile salmonids using acoustic telemetry technology. The primary goal of this study is to evaluate passage of juvenile lamprey through Lower Yakima River reach (through Wapato, Sunnyside, Prosser, and Horn Rapids dams and diversions) and mainstem Columbia River (between mouth of Yakima River and Lower Columbia River).

Yakama Nation staff will need access to the John Day Dam juvenile fish facility from March 10, 2020, to June 30, 2020, to transfer collected juvenile lamprey from the facility and then transport to Yakama Nation Prosser Hatchery. We would need to collect up to 225 juvenile lamprey (once we secure the target number of fish including other sources, we will be done for the year). Collected fish will be transferred to a large cooler / fish tote supplied with air for the trip to Prosser Hatchery where the tagging will be done. Once fish are transported safely and accounted for, then Yakama Nation personnel would immediately leave the Project for the day. We have our Yakama Nation Scientific Fish Collector's Permit for this work and other required permits will be obtained as needed.

The Yakama Nation point of contact for this study is Tyler Beals (509-831-2267 [cell]). Fish collection plans have been previously discussed with Ricardo Walker (Portland District USACE; 503-808-4709) and Steve Junke (Portland District USACE; 503-808-4709). We will also contact Miroslaw Zyndol (John Day Fisheries Research Coordinator; 541-506-7860) and Tammy Mackey (District Fisheries Biologist). Yakama Nation Fisheries will work closely with the John Day Dam Project Biologist, Project OPM, and project staff to minimize our impacts on project operations and maintenance activities. We have extensive experience working on Columbia River dams and understand the value of coordination with the project.

Additional pre-project documents requested by the John Day Dam project to include a schedule, safety plan, study plan, impacts to the project, access requests, collection permit, and a list of Yakama Nation personnel will be packaged together and provided to Tammy Mackey prior to the start Yakama Nation activities on John Day Dam related to this study.

Thank you for considering our access request. Please contact me if you have any questions.

I will be contacting and coordinating with ACE to ensure that our participation in this activity complies with project standards for security and safety. I look forward to working with you to complete all necessary steps in a timely manner and thank you both in advance for your help in completing this important work.

Best Regards,



Tyler Beals  
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