

Department of Fish and Wildlife South Willamette Watershed District Office 7118 NE Vandenberg Ave Corvallis, 97330 (541) 757-4186 (541) 757-4252



April 20, 2018

Barry Thom Regional Administrator, West Coast Region National Marine Fisheries Service 1201 Northeast Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100 Portland, OR 97232

RE: California sea lion removals April 17-19, 2018

Dear Mr. Thom,

This letter is to notify you of the permanent removal of **six** (6) California sea lions at Bonneville Dam as required under Condition 12 of the states of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho's MMPA Section 120 LOA to remove individually identifiable predatory California sea lions that are having a significant negative impact on ESA-listed salmonids in the vicinity of Bonneville Dam. We removed the following California sea lions, as identified by removal date, brand, and serial number:

April 17, 2018: 1-39 (245), 2-17 (338) April 18, 2018: U146 (342), 2-12 (323) April 19, 2018: 2-11 (305), 2-35 (339)

These sea lions were on the list of animals authorized for permanent removal according to the criteria outlined in the states' MMPA Section 120 LOA (i.e., known individual animal, present at Bonneville Dam on five or more occasions, observed consuming salmonids, and exposed to non-lethal hazing efforts). Since no facilities were authorized by NMFS to take live sea lions at this time, these animals were euthanized according to our IACUC guidelines. Biological samples were collected for later examination and the remaining materials were disposed of in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

Sincerely,

Bryan Wright Acting Marine Mammal Program Leader