

From: Lynn & Woody Bain
Sent: Thursday, October 05, 2006 4:55 PM
To: Baugh, Zenobia
Subject: include the Lapwai Creek project number 2002-070-00 and Big

To: Mark Walker
Director of Public Affairs
Northwest Power & Conservation Council
851 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348

From: Lynn and Woody Bain
Juliaetta, ID

RE: Lapwai Creek project number 2002-070-00 and Big
Canyon Creek project number 1999-015-00

Date: October 5, 2006

It has come to our attention that these projects are in danger of losing their funding. The withdrawal of these projects will result in a loss to our local watershed effort, waste the funds invested by BPA to date, and lose landowner confidence.

We recognize that without the relationship between the The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (District) and the Nez Perce Tribe and local farmers and ranchers, mitigation of habitat loss would not have occurred. Landowners, through the intervention of the District, have come to realize that they can maintain their livelihood while at the same time protecting the environment.

Ours is a society that wants immediate results, but replacing lost fish habitat doesn't happen overnight or even within a few years. This is a situation which took hundreds of years to develop and will take many years to repair - but the District is at least beginning the process. Salmon are staging a comeback as are the Clearwater Drainage's steelhead, but without the funding necessary to support the District's work, it is possible that the habitat repairs that have occurred will have been in vain, and the fish that so many depend on will disappear for good.

Please give the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District the funding that our fish so desperately need.