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October 6, 2006

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

Dear Council Members:

The Nez Perce Bio-control Center (NPBC) is taking the opportunity to comment on the 2007 BPA project draft Council recommendation list. We noted that two projects within the Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District (Lapwai Creek 2002-070-00 and Big Canyon Creek 1999-015-00) are not included on the Council's draft recommendation list.

The NPBC works directly on invasive weed control specializing in the use of biological control agents (primarily insects). There are many invasive weeds that are well established in both watersheds and located within the Nez Perce Reservation. Due to the vast infestation of noxious weeds within the Lapwai Creek and Big Canyon Creek watersheds, negative impacts are occurring within these two natural systems. Continued efforts in watershed restoration would greatly improve these watershed systems by enhancing the natural resources through efforts to bring back the natural balance within these two particular watershed systems.

By addressing the invasive/noxious weeds concerns in an integrated weed management strategy in addition to other watershed enhancement activities, there is a great chance that the natural resources will be brought back into a more balanced state resulting in improved lives of individuals that live and depend on the land for their livelihood, in addition to the people that place a high value on the natural resources. These watershed projects have a high potential to bring neighbors together with a common goal of enhancing and protecting the natural resources through working together to address and fix specific problems within these beneficial watersheds.

The NPBC is requesting the Council to include these projects on their final recommendation list to BPA. The NPBC supports these projects through enhancement of the valued natural resources through working together through landowner cooperation and involvement.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Brusven".

Paul Brusven, Coordinator