

October 3, 2006

TO: Mark Walker  
Director of Public Affairs  
Northwest Power & Conservation Council  
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Dear Council Members:

This letter is to provide comments on the Council's draft 2007 recommendation list. The Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District's Lapwai Creek Project (2002-070-00) is vital to fish habitat restoration in our area. As a landowner and farm operator within the Lapwai Creek watershed, I am in full support of this project and have participated with the District to implement habitat restoration activities.

Habitat restoration activities are difficult to install without assistance from the District. Eighty six percent of the watershed is private lands. Funding this project would allow for habitat restoration activities on private lands and would greatly improve steelhead habitat.

In addition, agricultural lands are the primary land use within the watershed. We have installed filter and buffer strips along stream areas on our farm. We hope to continue our work in habitat restoration in the future. Without continued funding for this project, we would lose the benefits we have already completed and would not be able to install future projects.

I am requesting the Council to include this project on your final recommendation list to BPA. The project funds provide for direct on-the-ground improvements.

Sincerely,



Daryl Sander

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