

From: Campbell,Matthew
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2007 4:52 PM
To: O'Toole, Patty
Subject: FW: Comment on FY07-09 Innovative proposal (200751100: DNA typing to identify native inland Oncorhynchus mykiss)

Patty,

I wanted to briefly provide some comments regarding the innovative proposal (200751100: DNA typing to identify native inland Oncorhynchus mykiss) put forth by Gary Thorgaard and colleagues at Washington State University. This is an extremely well written proposal describing research aimed at identifying unique nuclear DNA markers to differentiate interior redband trout and coastal rainbow trout. The authors of this proposal have agreed to collaborate with our agency (IDFG) to assess the utility of any markers developed, by screening populations/samples we have already collected and extracted DNA from. Diagnostic markers will allow our biologists/managers to identify pure redband trout populations, identify hybridized redband trout populations that are no longer pure, quantify the level of hybridization and introgression within redband trout populations, and identify the origin of *O. mykiss* introgression observed in westslope cutthroat trout populations. Ultimately, this work should assist in "on the ground" efforts to prioritize populations for conservation and management purposes, as well as identifying suitable populations for translocations, reintroductions, and broodstock development programs. I agree with the ISRP that this is an innovative, highly justified project, which could produce benefits to fish and wildlife in a shorter time frame than other proposed projects, and fully recommend it's funding.

Sincerely,

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