

## Jenkins, Kris

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 07, 2005 7:02 PM  
**To:** Walker, Mark  
**Subject:** Comments on FPC changes

Mr Walker:

I could not attend the meeting today, but wish to send comments on BPA/Congress's plan to shift salmon passage data collection to a new agency.

As a Native Oregonian who has fished for salmonids for nearly 50 years and watched their steady decline, particularly in the Columbia basin and the coastal streams, I do not believe shifting data collection to another agency serves the best interest of anglers, native tribes, or the general economy of the Pacific Northwest.

As a registered professional engineer with a doctorate in applied science, I know the importance of unbiased, "honest" data. In addition to Congress and the BPA, the tribes and states need reliable data on salmon migration. Although some people in Congress and the BPA do not like the data coming from the Fish Passage Center (FPC), and therefore mandated transferring its functions to other facilities, the FPC has in fact provided "honest," independent data and good technical assistance to state and tribal fishery managers in the Pacific Northwest.

Although other facilities can perform the functions and collect and disseminate the data the FPC has supplied, no facility enjoys the reputation of the FPC and would need to gain its reputation over time to be accepted as "honest" and unbiased. Please select replacement facilities with care.

Likewise, parsing out various functions to a number of non-collocated facilities would be the wrong choice. I would prefer that you select one group at one facility to perform all the functions the FPC currently performs. This would enhance the likelihood that the new facility could gain a good reputation faster.

When you find a new group to take over the functions of the FPC, neither the BPA nor the Power Planning Council should control it. It should be independent, with both tribal personnel and state fisheries personnel on the board of directors. Again, this would enhance the likelihood that the new facility could gain a reputation faster as independent, unbiased, and impartial.

Lastly, all data and analyses from the new group should be available to the public at no cost, such as through an independent web site (not governed, controlled, or funded by the BPA or Power Council.).

Thank you in advance,

Sincerely,

James H Fenner, PhD, PE  
5765 SW Windfield Loop  
Lake Oswego, OR 97035