Farmers Co-operative Irrigation Co.

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February 6, 2003

Northwest Power Planning Council
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Council Members:

Concerning the Draft Mainstem Amendments to the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program, Council document 2002-16:

1. We applaud the proposal to eliminate the call for an additional 1 million acre-feet of water from the Upper Snake River. Based on hydrologic analysis, the Idaho Department of Water Resources has determined that this additional water would only increase the water speed at Lower Granite by one-tenth of one mile per hour. Further, this would dry up an estimated 650,000 to 700,000 acres, decreasing production revenue an estimated $240 million per year.
2. We agree that the ability to change actions, based on need and development of new scientific information, is necessary.
3. We support the proposed mass transportation study of Snake River fall Chinook.
4. We agree that the mainstem flow targets are not supportable.
5. We share the opinion that where FERC has not required fish reintroduction above a licensed project, the Council should not require it either.

Sincerely,

Walter Garman
Chairman

Concerning the Northwest Power Planning Council Draft Mainstem Amendments—Council document 2002-16

We, the undersigned:

- applaud the Council's proposal to eliminate the call for an additional 1 million acre-feet of water from the Upper Snake River;
- agree that the ability to change actions, based on need and development of new scientific information, is necessary;
- agree that the mainstem flow targets are not supportable;
- support the proposed mass transportation study of Snake River fall Chinook;
- agree that the Council should not require fish reintroduction above dams where reintroduction is not required by FERC.

Name	Organization
Robert Hanggeler	Farmers Co-op Irrigation
Kenneth Lisie	Farmer Coop Irg.
Dennis Wiggins	Farmers Co-op Irrigation
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Dick Hamilton	Farmers Co-op Irrig.
Walter Garman	Farmers Co-op Irrigation