

Northwest Environmental Data-Network Memorandum of Understanding

Memorandum of Understanding: Northwest Environmental Data-Network (NED)

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into this the 12th day of October, 2004 between the:

NED Co-chairs:

The Northwest Regional Office of NOAA Fisheries (NOAAF-NWRO), as represented by the Regional Administrator NOAAF-NWRO, Mr. D. Robert Lohn

and,

The Northwest Fisheries Science Center of NOAA Fisheries (NWFSC-NOAAF) as represented by the Science Director, Dr. Usha Varanasi

and,

The Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Council (NPCC) as represented by the Chairman, Judi Danielson

and, any other NED Co-chairs or Participants as described in Attachment A

(Hereinafter together referred to as the "Parties").

WHEREAS the NPCC has an overall planning responsibility for power and conservation issues arising from the development of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) within the Columbia Basin.

WHEREAS NOAAF has a lead responsibility for anadromous fish conservation and management.

The Parties have agreed to undertake collaborative activities as detailed below:

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I. PURPOSE

This Memorandum of Understanding (the “MOU”) between the parties is intended to acknowledge and encourage discussion that may lead to further collaborative action and joint activities in areas of mutual interest with respect to improving the collection, management and sharing of environmental data and information.

It is understood that where our legal responsibilities require decision making based on good science and in many other areas our work depends on environmental data that is verifiable, of highly defined, high quality, accessible via internet technologies and is based on consistent or comparable methodologies and standards.

The MOU will serve as a basis for the development of mutually beneficial activities based on principles of cooperation, communication, trust, commitment and shared risk and benefit. It is a voluntary arrangement between the Parties and seeks to define the parameters of the relationship. It is understood by the Parties that subsidiary annexes, addenda or agreements will be required for all joint projects that may result from this MOU so as to ensure that the usual commercial concerns are duly resolved to the satisfaction of the Parties including but not limited to those involving financial and other commitments, as well as those involving intellectual property, copyright ownership and licensing of any existing or newly developed products.

For greater clarity, this MOU is not intended to, nor shall it, result in or create any binding legal obligations on the part of any Party and shall have no effect upon the governance or management of any Party.

It is essential that provinces, states, tribes, other federal agencies, local governments, citizens, and all interested parties have an opportunity to participate in the development of these information resources.

Under this MOU, the Parties seek to explore areas of mutual interest which may include:

- Identification of consistent data management standards and use of information technology tools to provide for an improved and more consistent data-network and exchange, including portals for public access.
- Capacity building, knowledge sharing and establishment of communities of practice in the areas of information technology and information management
- Coordination with existing data management entities and initiatives, for example with the Inter-Organizational Resource Information Coordinating Council (IRICC)
- Timely sharing of information system planning and plans for potential legislation

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- Pursuing the use of consistent and common data collection and monitoring procedures, metadata standards, data dictionaries, data quality assurance and control, data cataloguing, and document management and promoting the support and implementation of the agreed upon standards
- Pursuing joint projects and co-funding opportunities with a focus to non-commercial, public uses
- Fostering common approach and communications for sharing data and information with other local, state, provincial, national, and international initiatives, especially through the use of open source applications and technologies
- Establishing linkages to science and technical information collections supporting sustainable resource management
- Any other areas or activities of mutual interest that may be deemed appropriate by the Parties including the development of similar MOUs to include other jurisdictions

II. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

A. This MOU will be implemented by a Steering Committee to be established at the time of execution. An appointed designee from each signatory will serve as the lead representative for that Party on the Steering Committee. Parties signing as Co-chairs will lead the Steering Committee. Each signatory must appoint a designee within 30 days of signing the MOU.

B. The Steering Committee will be guided by this MOU and by corresponding Work Plans to be agreed on upon by the Steering Committee members.

C. Consistent with the enabling nature of this MOU the Parties will act to:

- Assemble working groups and other meetings as required
- Consider, and if needed, complete staff exchanges and joint training
- Exchange annual plans or master project lists
- Undertake collaborative projects and joint co-funding opportunities as appropriate, and
- Cooperate to make funding requests to further the purpose of this MOU

D. For specific projects undertaken related to this MOU, the Parties will commit key staff to work with one another on assigned projects as may be mutually agreed to in subsequent applicable memoranda of understanding or in addenda to this MOU.

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III. PROCEDURES

A. At a minimum bi-annual meetings will be completed by the NED Steering Committee to review and assess progress with the MOU and measured benefits will be reported to the signatories of this MOU. All decisions will be made by consensus.

B. The Steering Committee, will as needed develop a proposed budget, required staffing level, and cost-sharing proposal for implementing this plan. The plan, budget and cost sharing arrangement shall be presented to each signatory for executive approval.

IV. ADDITION OF OTHER PARTIES

Upon agreement of the Steering Committee, other parties may formally participate in the MOU by signing ATTACHMENT A: Form for Adding Additional Participants or Co-Chairs to the Northwest Environmental Data-Network. All organizations involved in gathering and managing environmental data are encouraged to participate in the purpose and commitments described in this MOU.

V. TERM

The term of this MOU will be for 36 months effective 12, October, 2004 and ending 12 October, 2007 unless terminated sooner as per the conditions of this MOU. Furthermore, with the concurrence of The Parties, this MOU is renewable for subsequent terms. Prior to extension, a report shall be prepared by the steering committee describing the extent to which the activities performed under this MOA have accomplished their objectives.

VI. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Signing of this MOU by the Parties does not, and shall not be deemed to impose on any Party any financial commitment to the other. Any financial commitment intended to bind any Party will first be approved by the Steering Committee, then reduced to writing and presented to the administrations of the Parties for their respective approval and subsequent mutual agreement.

VII. TERMINATION

Any Party may terminate its participation in this MOU at any time by giving the other Party(s) 60 days written notice to this effect.

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SIGNED CO CHAIRS:



Mr. D. Robert Lohn
Regional Director
NOAAF NWRO

Date 10/12/04



Dr Usha Varanasi
Director
North West Fisheries Science Center

Date 10/12/04



Judi Danielson
Chair NPCC

Date 10/13/04

Northwest Environmental Data-Network Memorandum of Understanding

ATTACHMENT A: FORM for ADDING ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS or CO-CHAIRS to the Northwest Environmental Data Network (NED)

The undersigned agree to participate in the Northwest Environmental Data-Network.

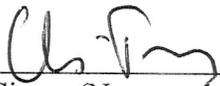


Mr. Stephen J. Wright
Administrator and Chief Executive Officer
Bonneville Power Administration

NOV 10 2004

Date

Participant



Signer (Name and Organization)
Chris Trumpy
Deputy Minister
Ministry of Sustainable
Resource Management

FEB 21 2005

Date

Signer (Name and Organization)

Date

Northwest Environmental Data-Network Memorandum of Understanding

Dr Usha Varanasi
Director
North West Fisheries Science Center

Date

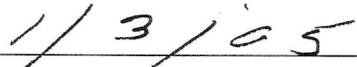
Judi Danielson
Chair NPCC

Date

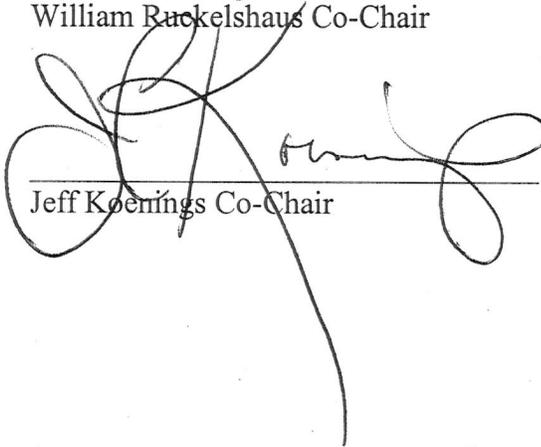
State Of Washington
Governor's Forum on Monitoring



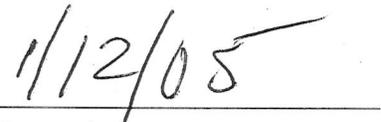
William Ruckelshaus Co-Chair



Date



Jeff Koenings Co-Chair



Date

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Michael Zanon, Chair
Oregon Geographic Information Council
State Chief Information Officer

12/1/05

Date



Larry Wright, Contract Manager
Oregon Dept. of Administrative Services

12/1/05

Date

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Signer (Name and Organization)



Randy Fisher
Executive Director
Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

12/02/05
Date

Description of responsibility of the signer's organization

Formed by Congress more than 50 years ago, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) helps resource agencies and the fishing industry sustainably manage our valuable Pacific Ocean resources in a five-state region. PSMFC's primary goal is to promote and support policies and actions to conserve, develop, and manage our fishery resources in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Alaska. The PSMFC headquarters office is located in Portland, Oregon with employees working in California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Alaska.

PSMFC administers multiple data management programs in support of decision making and management by a variety of regional and international bodies, agencies, councils and commissions.

April 11, 2006

Peter Paquet
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
USA

Re: Northwest Environmental Data-Network (NED) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

Peter,

Attached is a copy of the NED MoU signed by the Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Resource Information Management and Species at Risk Coordination Office Division of the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB). Our division includes the Chief Resource Information Office (CRIO) which Elaine Dawson and I are in. CRIO is responsible for governance of resource information managed by the provincial government. The governance bodies include representatives from the following ministries: Agriculture and Lands; Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources; Environment; Forests and Range; and Tourism, Sport and the Arts. CRIO is also responsible for the Land and Resource Data Warehouse which hosts business views from production datasets maintained by ILMB, the 5 resource ministries and others. The business views are available through several services for access by government, industry and the public.

I spoke with Dave Tredger in the Biodiversity Branch of the Ministry of Environment about their involvement in NED and Dave indicated that for now, ILMB can represent their interests.

Sorry that this took so long. I look forward to continuing to work with you and Stewart.

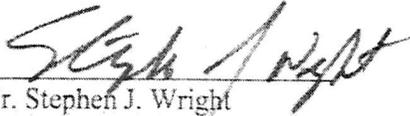


Angelo Facchin
A/Manager, Corporate Information Services
Chief Resource Information Office
Integrated Land Management Bureau

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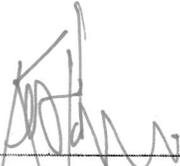


Mr. Stephen J. Wright
Administrator and Chief Executive Officer
Bonneville Power Administration

NOV 10 2004

Date

Participant



Mr. Kevin Jardine
Assistant Deputy Minister
Corporate Resource Information Management and
Species at Risk Coordination Office Division
Integrated Land Management Bureau
Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

March 28, 2002
Date

Participant

Signer (Name and Organization)

Date



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 10

1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

NOV - 5 2004

NWFSC

NOV 10 2004

RECEIVED

Reply To
Attn Of: EMI-095D. Robert Lohn
Regional Administrator
National Marine Fisheries Service
7600 Sand Point Way NE,
Seattle, Washington 98115Judi Danielson, Chairman
Northwest Power Planning and Conservation Council
450 West State
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0062Dr. Usha Varanasi
Science and Research Director
Northwest Fisheries Science Center
2725 Montlake Boulevard East
Seattle, Washington 98112-2097

Dear Mr. Lohn, Ms. Danielson, Dr. Varanasi:

This is to transmit the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) signature of agreement to participate in the Northwest Environmental Data Exchange. I would also request that EPA be included as a member of the steering committee formed under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

I look forward to working with you on this important effort to improve environmental data quality and information sharing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald A. Kreizenbeck".

Ronald A. Kreizenbeck
Acting Regional Administrator

FAX TO 503-820-2370

PETER PAQUET
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204
503-222-5161 or 800-452-5161

FROM

STEWART TOSHACH
Northwest Fisheries Science Center
2725 Montlake Blvd East
Seattle, WA 98112-2097
206 860 3495



MAR 21 2005

Peter J Paquet, Ph.D.
Manager, Wildlife & Resident Fish
Northwest Power & Conservation Council
Suite 1100 - 851 SW 6th Ave
Portland OR 97204
USA

Dear Peter Paquet:

I am pleased to have my division, Land Information BC, participate in the Northwest Environmental Data-Network (NED) and have enclosed a signed Memorandum of Understanding (the MOU) to formalize our participation.

As detailed in Section II A of the MOU, I have appointed Donna Humphries as the appointed designee to represent the Ministry on the Steering Committee. She will have the full support of my office and division in fulfilling our obligations and responsibilities under the agreement.

I look forward to positive collaborations, leading to improved collection, management and sharing of environmental data and information to benefit our respective jurisdictions.

Yours truly,

Allison Bond
Assistant Deputy Minister

Enclosure

pc: Evert Kenk, Executive Director, Business Solutions Branch
Donna Humphries, Senior Project Manager, Business Solutions Branch