



United States Department of the Interior



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Greg Apke
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive
Salem, Oregon 97302

May 7, 2021

Subject: Fish and Wildlife Service's Comments on Fish Passage Administrative Rule Revision

Dear Mr. Apke:

By this letter, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provides our comments on the draft rule revisions for fish passage requirements proposed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Our review comments considered passage provisions for native fish species and the importance of stream simulation design to provide passage for multiple species and life stages that have a diverse range of swimming abilities. Our passage review focused on recommendations for lamprey and other native fish species, and links to specific management guidelines. We also provided comments and guidelines for salvage of fish, including larval lampreys, and freshwater mussel species when dewatering or conducting work in stream beds. Freshwater mussels and larval lamprey are benthic organisms and require special attention during salvage efforts.

Please see the enclosed table, which reiterates our comments submitted on May 3, 2021, using the online Public Comment Form provided by ODFW. We appreciate your efforts to update the fish passage rules, particularly those components that are more inclusive of the full complement of native fish and other aquatic species in Oregon. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Ann Gray (ann_e_gray@fws.gov) or Chris Allen (chris_allen@fws.gov) of my staff at 503-231-6179.

Sincerely,

Chris Allen for,

Paul Henson, Ph.D.
State Supervisor

INTERIOR REGION 9
COLUMBIA-PACIFIC NORTHWEST
IDAHO, MONTANA*, OREGON*, WASHINGTON

*PARTIAL

Enclosure: Table: USFWS comments on ODFW fish passage rule revisions

ecc: Apke, Clemens, ODFW.Passagerules@odfw.oregon.gov (ODFW)
Horstman, Renner, Skalicky (USFWS)