UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PROGRAM PLANNING AND INTEGRATION
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

OCT 15 2012

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an environmental review has been performed on the following action.

TITLE: Finding of No Significant Impact for the Environmental Assessment to Analyze Impacts of a NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Issuance of two Permits for the Hatchery Genetic Management Plans Submitted by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Nez Perce Tribe Under Section 10 of the Endangered Species Act

LOCATION: Snake River Basin, in Oregon, Washington, and Idaho

SUMMARY: The permit holders propose to continue the operation of the Lyons Ferry Hatchery and Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery programs rearing and releasing Chinook salmon of the Snake River Fall-run Chinook Salmon Evolutionarily Significant Unit. The permit holders applied for direct take permits under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the Endangered Species Act. The issuance of these permits will not result in any significant impacts on the human environment.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Barry Thom
Deputy Regional Administrator, Northwest Region
NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service
7600 Sand Point Way, N.E.
Seattle, WA 98115-0070

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact (FONSI) including the supporting environmental assessment (EA) is enclosed for your information.

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Although NOAA is not soliciting comments on this completed EA/FONSI, we will consider any comments submitted that would assist us in preparing future NEPA documents. Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above.

Sincerely,

Patricia A. Montanio
NOAA NEPA Coordinator

Enclosure