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

JUL 3 2013

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 NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service Issuance of an Endangered Species Act Section 10(a)(1)(A) Research/Enhancement Permit for the Nason Creek Spring Chinook Salmon Hatchery Program

LOCATION: Nason Creek, Wenatchee River basin, Washington state

SUMMARY: The purpose of this program is to enable Grant PUD to comply with the terms of the Priest Rapids Project Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement and its FERC license for the operation of the Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project. The hatchery program would collect adult spring Chinook salmon; spawn, incubate, hatch, and rear the resulting progeny; release juvenile Chinook salmon into Nason Creek; and manage natural and hatchery adult returns.

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.

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

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