

Project Name	2016 Cowlitz Fisheries & Hatchery Management Plan Issue papers 4 -9, 11 – 14
Date Proposal Submitted	4/26/2016
Date of Requested Decision	5/3/2016
Completed By	Keith Underwood

FTC Decision and Justification

The Cowlitz FTC members approved the final versions of the below listed issue papers at the May 3rd, 2016 FTC meeting. The remaining issue papers 1 – 3, 10 will be considered for approval at the June 2016 FTC meeting.

Proposed Decision or Consideration

The eight (8) issue papers listed below have been drafted by the Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) and address topics to be included in the 2017 Fisheries and Hatchery Management Plan (FHMP). The recommendation section of each issue paper reflects the consensus of the FTC.

Background

The 2011 FHMP identified a number of issues that had not reached resolution by the FTC and therefore were deferred for future decision making. Prior to commencing work on the 2017 FHMP, Tacoma Power developed an initial list of 14 topics encompassing the unresolved issues as well as other key decision points needing FTC guidance. These topics were consolidated to 12 and nine of the issue papers are listed below. These papers were drafted by subcommittees of the FTC and following extensive consultation and review, the FTC has endorsed the recommendations listed in each paper. The nine papers subject to this decision are:

- 4. Hatchery Production Cap
- 5. Adult Disposition Plan
- 6. FHMP Goals and Objectives
- 9. FHMP: Prescriptive or Process?
- 11. Monitoring, Evaluation and Research
- 12. Juvenile Marking
- 13. Nutrient Enhancement
- 14. Resident Fish

Coordination Need

Tacoma Power will seek input on each of the issue papers from the public and from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Cowlitz Ad Hoc Committee. Additional opportunities for the public to provide input on the papers will be available during the 2016 Cowlitz Annual Project Review process, and during the 2016 FHMP update public meetings.

Summary of Potential Impacts

Issues left unresolved upon submission of the 2017 FHMP to FERC can invoke uncertainty for the FTC and resource agencies, and a lack of trust from the public.