IDAHO BLOCKED AREAS POLICY

ORIGINALLY DEVELOPED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COLUMBIA BASIN PARTNERSHIP

Blocked Areas Policy as Approved by Governor's Office February 24, 2020

1) The Task Force is advised that no reintroduction of ESA-listed fish to historical habitat upstream of the Hells Canyon Complex is supported by the State of Idaho.

2) The Task Force is advised that reintroduction of non-ESAlisted fish to historical habitat upstream of the Hells Canyon Complex needs to be consistent with Idaho state statutes (§ 67-302 and 67-818(5)), which requires approval by both legislative (§67-6302) and executive branches of Idaho government (§67-818(5) and is otherwise prohibited.

3) The Task Force is advised that reintroduction of non-ESA-listed fish to historical habitat upstream has to be consistent with Idaho's and Oregon's commitments in the 401 Water Quality Certification Settlement Agreement with Idaho Power Company pertaining to the FERC Application for Hells Canyon Complex Re-licensing (2019) Settlement Agreement).

Idaho will continue to focus the following funding sources to ESA-listed fish recovery and achieving mitigation objectives in connected areas: BPA's Fish and Wildlife Program, Idaho Fish Accord, NOAA's PCSRF Program, USFW's Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP), and/or other federal funding sources intended to implement the 2019 FCRPS BiOp or subsequent FCRPS BiOps. The intent is to ensure recovery of stocks and to meet LSRCP mitigation objectives in connected areas with the above referenced funding sources and not diminish these efforts by diverting from the above referenced funding sources to implement put and take fisheries in historical habitat above Hells Canyon Complex.

- 5) So long as the above conditions are met, Idaho supports put and take fisheries in historical habitat upstream of the Hells Canyon with the following provisions:
- a. A non-ESA listed hatchery stock must be identified and agreed upon among the parties intending to stock fish in historical habitat upstream of the Hells Canyon Complex with state fisheries managers.
- b. Locations and timing for stocking of non-ESA listed fish must be identified and agreed upon by the parties intending to stock fish in historical habitat upstream of the Hells Canyon Complex with state fisheries managers.
- c. Idaho does not support the collection or transport of any juvenile fish that may be produced by adult outplants intended for harvest in the agreed upon put and take fisheries.

Next Steps:

- Nez Perce Tribe Request to add NF of the Clearwater River
- Work with Governor's Salmon Workgroup to Explore Potential Policy Recommendations

- Continue to work with members of the Columbia Basin Partnership and the NOAA project team to finalize blocked area numerical goals and language contextualizing the goals for the Phase 2 document to be finalized in September, 2020.
- Wordsmith for "introduction" and SRBA Agreement and related items.