State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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December 8, 2011

RE: Revised Proposal for PSRFE Funded Hatchery Programs

Dear Oversight Committee Members:

I would like to thank you for your helpful letter of November 1, 2011, and for our productive meeting of November 4, 2011. The letter indicated that the Puget Sound Recreational Fisheries Enhancement Oversight Committee (OC) supported the proposals for the Wallace Hatchery summer Chinook, Hupp Springs Hatchery spring Chinook, Minter Creek Hatchery fall Chinook, and Voights Creek Hatchery fall Chinook programs. I believe that our recent discussions, review, and reshaping of hatchery programs funded by the Puget Sound Recreational Fisheries Enhancement account will result in a substantial step forward in our efforts to address the intent of RCW 77.105 to "improve recreational salmon fishing in Puget Sound".

Our discussions on November 4th focused primarily on the value of the Garrison Springs Hatchery program and funding options to maintain this program. I apologize for the delay in responding, but it has taken more time than I anticipated to sort through the logistic and funding issues. However, I believe I have good news on two key topics:

1) **Chinook Production at Garrison Springs Hatchery**. The OC supported the maintenance of Garrison Springs subyearling Chinook releases based on the relatively good survival rates and cost-effectiveness of the program. I indicated that I would work with staff to: a) ensure that we could allow the adult passage requested by Mr. Schmauder; and b) identify funding for this program. We believe that with the assistance of local volunteers and Mr. Schmauder, we have found a solution to allow adult passage through the second ladder at the Chambers Creek dam and found funding to maintain the Garrison Springs Hatchery program (see bullet 2).

2) **PSRFE Account Funding of Soos Creek Hatchery**. The OC suggested that we reduce PSRFE funding of the Soos Creek Hatchery to offset the additional cost of maintaining the Garrison Springs Hatchery program. We evaluated this option and will reduce the PSRFE funding of the Soos Creek Hatchery program by $125,000 per biennium.

The revised proposal for PSRFE funded hatchery programs is summarized in Table 1.

I am pleased by our respective efforts to work collaboratively through these issues to achieve our common goals. Your enthusiasm, knowledge, and positive approach to problem solving have resulted in a significant improvement in the PSRFE program. Thank you for your time and effort in assisting us in improving the Puget Sound recreational fishing experience.

Sincerely,

James B. Scott, Jr.
Assistant Director
Fish Program

Enclosure

cc: Annette Hoffmann, Region 4 Fish Program Manager
Ron Warren, Region 6 Fish Program Manager
Heather Bartlett, Hatcheries Division Manager
Tara Livingood, Puget Sound Recreational Salmon Manager

Table 1. Revised proposal for PSRFE annual funding of Chinook salmon hatchery programs.

Facility	Target Production	Annual Budget
Wallace River (summer yearling)	500,000	$215,500
Icy Creek (fall yearlings)	300,000	$88,000
Soos Creek (fall subyearling)	2,350,000 [1]	$173,250
Garrison Springs (fall subyearling)	850,000	$131,500
Hoodsport (fall yearling)	120,000	$88,750
Minter Creek/Gorst (fall subyearling)	1,000,000	$33,000
Minter Creek (fall yearling)	120,000	$18,000
Minter Creek (fall subyearling)	1,400,000	$43,000
Voights Creek (fall subyearling)	1,200,000	$50,000
Hupp Springs (spring subyearling)	400,000	$51,000 [2]
Glenwood Springs (fall subyearling)	550,000	$80,000

1/ Target reflects only PSRFE funded production; total subyearling production will remain 3.2 million.

2/ Increased cost relative to previous proposal incorporates cost of tagging all production to avoid broodstock contamination by fall Chinook.