

**Bruce A. Measure**  
Chair  
Montana

**Rhonda Whiting**  
Montana

**W. Bill Booth**  
Idaho

**James A. Yost**  
Idaho



**Dick Wallace**  
Vice-Chair  
Washington

**Tom Karier**  
Washington

**Bill Bradbury**  
Oregon

**Joan M. Duker**  
Oregon

February 24, 2011

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Shirley Lindstrom

**SUBJECT:** Panel on Idaho Power planning issues

**Jim Tucker, Idaho Power Company: Update on Idaho Power Company's FERC Relicensing** – The Hells Canyon Complex includes the Brownlee, Oxbow and Hells Canyon projects, reservoirs and power plants. All of these facilities operate under the same license (No. 1971) granted by FERC. The existing license expired in July 2005. In preparation of the expiration Idaho Power filed the final license application for the Hells Canyon Complex on July 21, 2003. In December 2009, the company withdrew and resubmitted the Section 401 Water Quality Certification Application to the states of Oregon and Idaho, which must be obtained before a new license can be issued by FERC. The Swan Falls Project license expired June 30, 2010. Idaho Power filed the Swan Falls license application in June 2008 and is currently working through the relicensing process.

**Mark Stokes, Idaho Power Company: Update on Idaho Power Company's 2011 Integrated Resource Plan** – The process for preparing the 2011 Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) began in July 2010 and will conclude in June of 2011. During that time Idaho Power is working closely with the IRP Advisory Council which consists of members of the environmental community, major industrial customers, irrigation representatives, state legislators, public utility commission representatives and other interested parties.



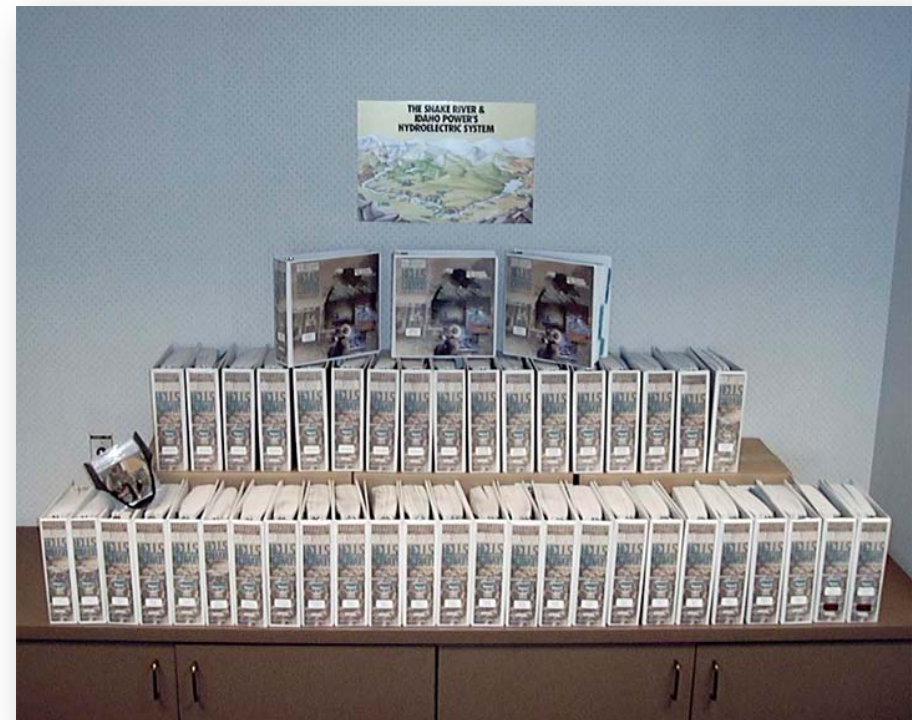
# Hells Canyon Complex-an Update; for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council

James C. Tucker, Esq.

March 8 - 9, 2011

# Hells Canyon Relicensing

- Preparation started in 1990's
- July 2003 - License application
  - 36,000 pages
- July 2005 – License expiration
  - Annual licenses
- FEIS - August 2007
- Significant Issues remaining –
  - CWA §401 certification
  - ESA formal consultation



**1992**  
**NOAA listed Snake River Fall,**  
**FCRPS**  
**Lower Snake Projects**

**1998**  
**FWS listed Bull Trout**  
**BoR**  
**Upper Snake Projects**

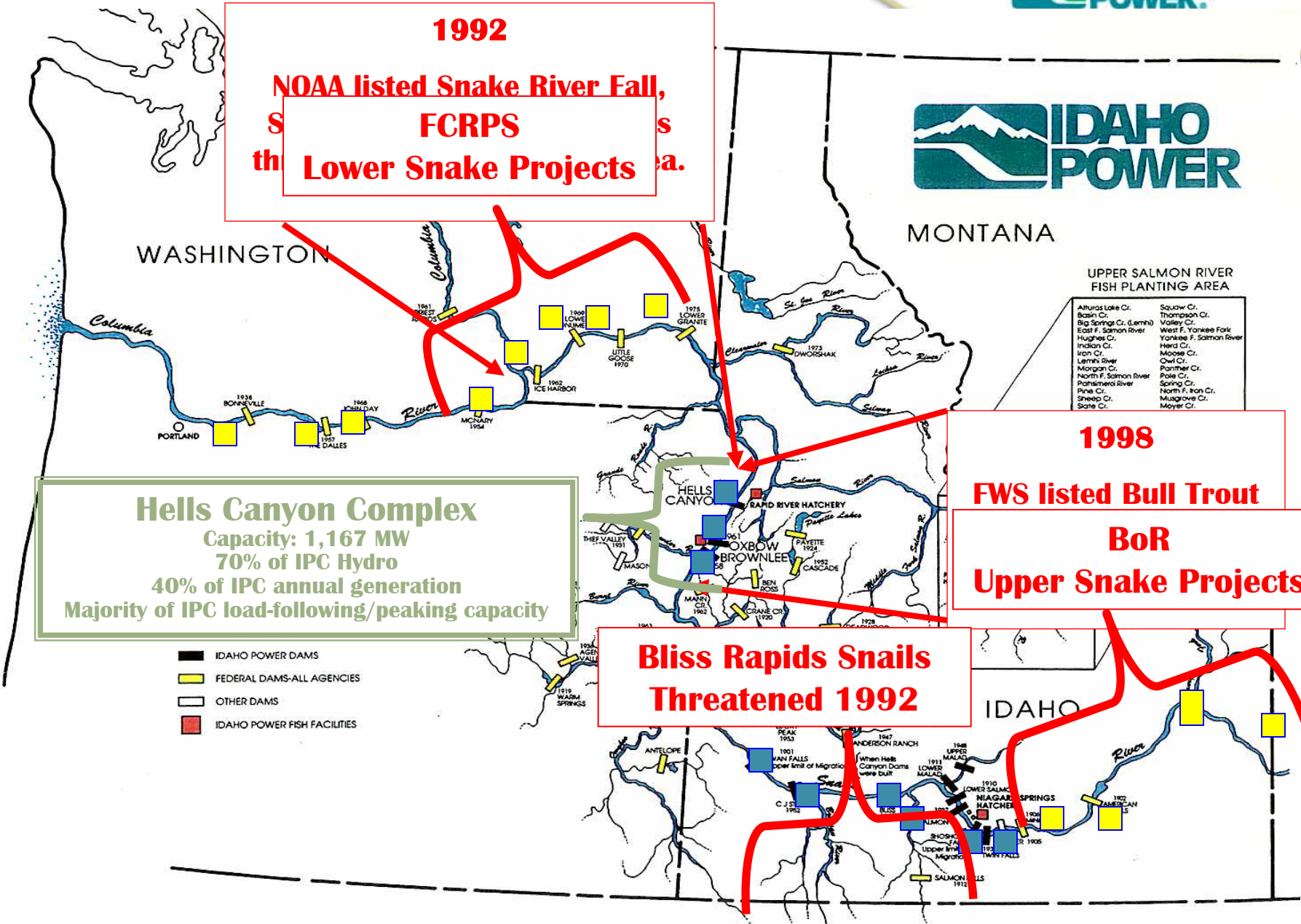
**Hells Canyon Complex**  
 Capacity: 1,167 MW  
 70% of IPC Hydro  
 40% of IPC annual generation  
 Majority of IPC load-following/peaking capacity

**Bliss Rapids Snails**  
**Threatened 1992**

UPPER SALMON RIVER FISH PLANTING AREA

Ahquos Lake Cr.	Squaw Cr.
Basin Cr.	Thompson Cr.
Big Springs Cr. (Lemhi)	Valley Cr.
East F. Salmon River	West F. Salmon River
Hughes Cr.	Yankee Fork
Indian Cr.	Yankee F. Salmon River
Iron Cr.	
Lemhi River	
Morgan Cr.	
North F. Salmon River	
Portlander River	
Pine Cr.	
Shoep Cr.	
Slate Cr.	
	North F. Iron Cr.
	Maugrove Cr.
	Moyer Cr.

- IDAHO POWER DAMS
- FEDERAL DAMS-ALL AGENCIES
- OTHER DAMS
- IDAHO POWER FISH FACILITIES



# Unresolved Issues

1. CWA §401 Water Quality Certifications – ID & OR
2. ESA §7 Consultation
  - NOAA
    - Anadromous Fish  
(Salmon and Steelhead)
  - USFWS Service
    - Bull trout



# ESA Consultation with NMFS

- Anadromous fish
  - Fall Chinook Plan
  - Spring stranding and entrapment monitoring
  - Flow augmentation
  - DO, TDG & temperature below HCD
  - Upriver spawning habitat studies for possible future reintroduction



# ESA Consultation with USFWS

- Bull trout
  - Hells Canyon fish trap
    - “Trap and haul” connectivity
  - Reintroduction into Pine Creek – OR
    - Weir (trap and haul)
  - Habitat improvements
    - Temperature & DO – HCC
    - Tributaries
  - Ongoing monitoring



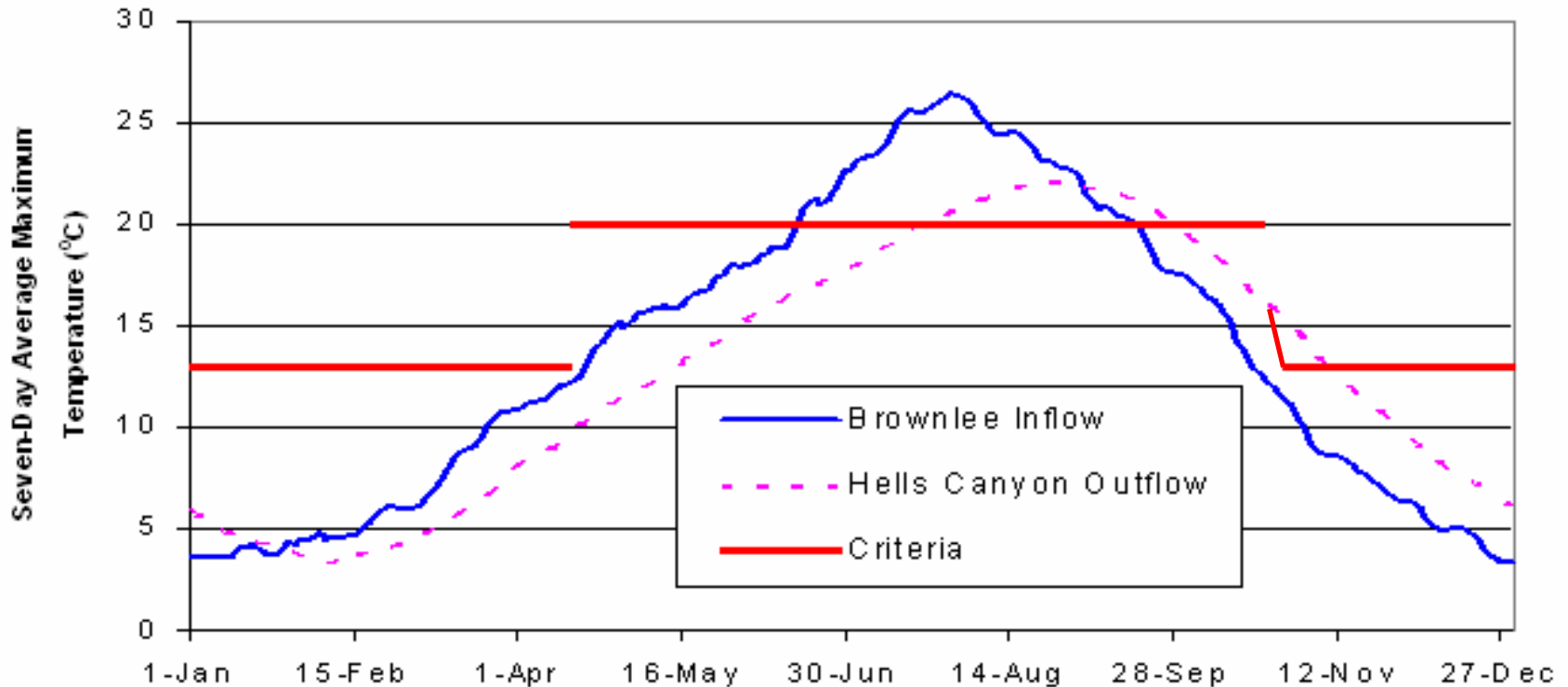
# CWA § 401- Certification

- July 2003 – 401 Applications filed Idaho & Oregon
- TDG – >110% - flow deflectors @ Brownlee, Oxbow & HCD
- DO – deficit by reservoir processes
  - Phosphorus trading/transition zone aeration
  - Aerating runners @ Brownlee, blowers @ HCD
- Temperature – 13 C Spawning
  - ??????





# HCC Temperature Load Allocation

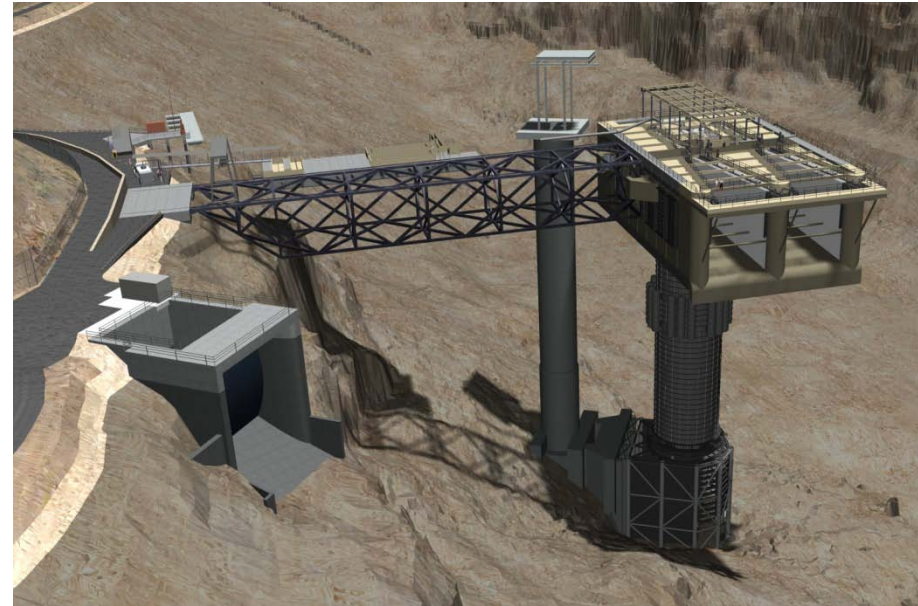


**April 15th to October 22nd - Aquatic Life and Salmonid Rearing**  
 - 7-day average maximum of 20°C

**October 23rd to April 15th - Salmonid Spawning**  
 - 7-day average maximum of 13°C.

# Two Options

## Watershed v.TCS



# Watershed Approach - TEMP

- Idaho Power's watershed plan (temperature enhancement management plan – TEMP) is an opportunity for all stakeholders including governments, land owners and water users to work together to improve water quality & habitat in the Snake River to support & sustain viable ecosystems for aquatic life.



# TCS Alternative

- Treats Symptom not Source
- TCS will move Anoxic H<sub>2</sub>O & toxics downstream
- Benefit to fall Chinook?



# Relicensing - On Schedule???

