October 2, 2014

RE: Aquatic Habitat Condition Assessment and Fish Population Monitoring RFP – Response to Questions

Who is doing the permitting for the project (state scientific permits, ESA permit)? Will it work under USFS or IDFG permit(s) or does the contractor have to apply for these?

The selected contractor and their crew lead will be added to the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests’ scientific collection permits.

The contract mentions temperature loggers that can be provided by the USFS. Is there any other equipment that can be loaned by the USFS for the project - such as GPS units, electroshocker, dry suits, stream flow meter, etc?

No. The contractor will be required to furnish all other equipment.

What is the expected accuracy of the GPS coordinates for the contract?

< 10 meters (33 feet)

What is the status of communications in the study area? Specifically, are there FS radio towers? cell towers, etc? Will USFS loan radios to the contractor for emergency communication?

There is very little cell coverage in the area. Incidental coverage may occur at the lower elevations, but due to topography and canopy cover, cell phones will not be a reliable form of communication while in the field. The Forest will be able to loan one radio per crew throughout the course of the work.
Since fish sampling is part of the scope of work, a State of Idaho Scientific Collecting Permit will be required. Additionally, since these streams contain listed anadromous salmonids, a scientific collecting permit will need to be obtained from NOAA/NMFS. The deadline for applying for the NOAA/NMFS Permit coincidentally falls on October 17, 2014, the same day that the proposal is due. Will the consultant be responsible for obtaining necessary permitting for electrofishing and snorkeling efforts or are such permits already in place that are utilized by the CRCDC?

The selected contractor and their crew lead will be added to the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests’ scientific collection permits.

**Additional Note – Modification to Request for Proposals**

Pursuant to the monitoring stations discussed on page 6 of the Request for Proposals, 3 of the 5 monitoring stations and associated data collection have been completed by the Nez Perce–Clearwater National Forests. Thus, the number of required monitoring stations in the contract will be reduced to 2. The remaining stations are the two located at the Forest boundary and the nearby West Fork of Clear Creek. All other specifications will remain the same. For additional clarification, the exact location of the 2 remaining sites will be identified and flagged in the field by the Forest Service prior to surveying by the contractor.