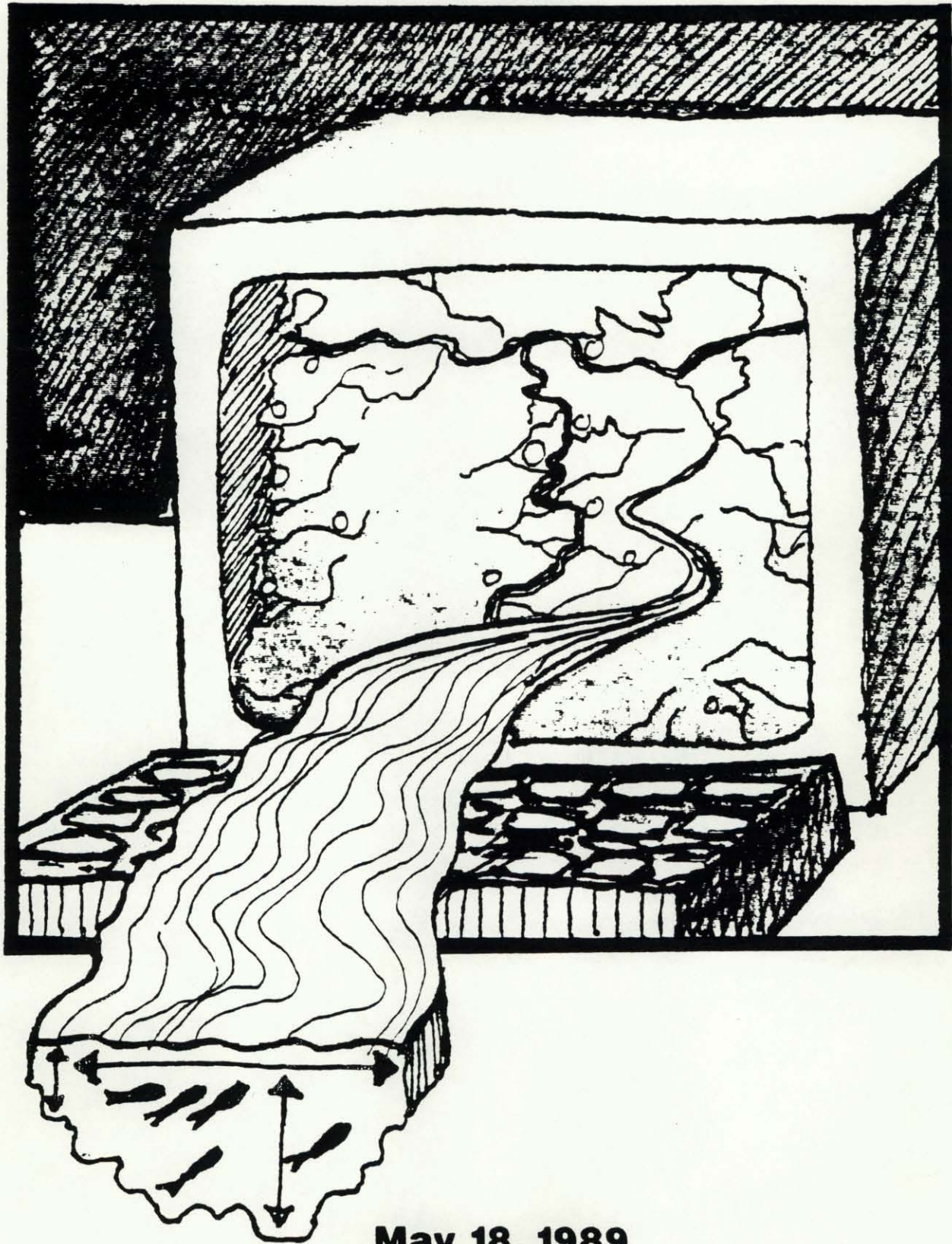# Technical Corrections to the Protected Areas Data Base
## and Response to Comments

**May 18, 1989**

NWPPC. 1989. Technical corrections to the protected areas data base and response to comments (89-19)

# Northwest Power Planning Council

# NORTHWEST POWER PLANNING COUNCIL

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Toll free number for Idaho, Montana & Washington: 1-800-222-3355
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May 18, 1989

To Interested Parties:

The Northwest Power Planning Council has adopted final amendments to the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program regarding the technical corrections to the protected areas data base. We enclose copies of the Federal Register notice describing the amendments and the Council's response to comments.

We particularly want to thank those who went to the trouble to submit comments in the process. The comments were of significant assistance to the Council's process.

Very truly yours,

Edward Sheets
Executive Director

Attachments

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NWPPC. 1989. Technical corrections to the protected areas data base and response to comments (89-19)

NWPPC. 1989. Technical corrections to the protected areas data base and response to comments (89-19)

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST ELECTRIC POWER AND CONSERVATION PLANNING COUNCIL

### PROTECTED AREAS AMENDMENTS

AGENCY:    Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Northwest Power Planning Council).

ACTION:    Notice of final amendments to the protected areas provisions of the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program and the Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan.

SUMMARY:    On November 15, 1982, pursuant to the Pacific Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act (the Northwest Power Act, 16 U.S.C. §839, et seq.) the Pacific Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Planning Council (Council) adopted a Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (program). The Council adopted the Northwest Conservation and Electric Power Plan (power plan) on April 27, 1983. The program and the power plan have been amended from time to time since then. Major revisions of the program were adopted in 1984 and 1987, and a major revision of the power plan was adopted in 1986. On August 10, 1988, the Council adopted amendments pursuant to section 4(d)(1) of the Northwest Power Act to amend the program and the power plan to incorporate measures to protect critical fish and wildlife habitat from new hydropower development. The protected areas provisions adopted in August require a vote of the Council to make corrections that "change the protected or unprotected status or the reason for protection of a river reach."

On March 27, 1989, the Council published notice of a proposed rulemaking to correct portions of the protected areas data base, changing the status of certain river reaches. This notice contains a brief description of the final amendments adopted in this rulemaking.

The Council held hearings on the proposed amendments on March 29 in Helena, Montana and Portland, Oregon, on March 30 in Boise, Idaho, on April 5 in Olympia, Washington, and on April 13 in Salem, Oregon. Written comment was received through April 12.

On April 13, the Council adopted all of the proposed corrections except those relating to Deep Creek in Idaho, Walker Creek in Oregon, and Canyon Creek in Washington. On May 10, the Council adopted a correction relating to Canyon Creek in Washington and adopted a response to comments concerning all the proposed corrections in the rulemaking.

Final amendments: The following is a summary, by state, of the final amendments adopted by the Council.

1. Idaho corrections.

A. Deep Creek in Adams County. The lower portion of Deep Creek outside the wilderness area, is now designated as being unprotected.

B. Deadwood River, a 15.7-mile-long tributary of the South Fork of the Payette River: The river is now designated as protected for resident fish.

2. Montana corrections.

A. Eddy Creek across from the Thompson River is now designated as unprotected. Eddy Creek along the north side of the Clark Fork River just upstream of Superior, Montana, between Second Creek and Deep Creek is now designated as protected.

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✓ B. <u>Mayo Gulch</u> near St. Regis is now designated as unprotected. <u>Mayo Gulch</u> on the lower Clark Fork just west of St. Regis, is now designated as protected.

✓ C. <u>Rock Creek</u> (a tributary to the lower Clark Fork across from O'Keefe Creek below Missoula) remains protected, and has been assigned the correct river reach identification number.

✓ D. The <u>East Fork, Rock Creek</u>, a tributary of the Rock Creek which joins the Clark Fork near the Bull River, is now designated as protected for resident fish.

3. Oregon corrections

✓ A. <u>Walker Creek</u>, a tributary which joins the Nestucca River near its headwaters, was proposed for a change in status. No changes were adopted by the Council in this rulemaking, but the status of the reach remains under study by the Council.
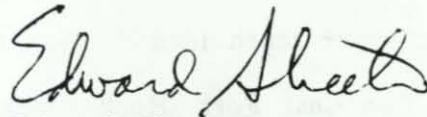
4. Washington corrections

B. <u>Wells Creek</u>, a tributary of the North Fork of the Nooksack River in the Puget Sound Basin: That portion of the reach within the area of the Wells Creek Hydroelectric Project, which is located within the 4.8 mile reach of Wells Creek between its mouth and Bar Creek, is now designated as unprotected.

A. <u>Canyon Creek</u>, a tributary to the Middle Fork of the Nooksack River in the Puget Sound Basin: That portion of the reach within the area of the Canyon Lake Hydroelectric project (from approximately river mile 1.9 to river mile 3.66) is now designated as unprotected.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: For further information, including river reach numbers for the affected reaches, please call Dr. Peter Paquet

in the Council's central office, at (503) 222-5161 (toll free 1-800-222-3355 in Idaho, Montana and Washington or 1-800-452-2324 in Oregon). For a copy of the Council's response to comments contact Judi Hertz at the Council's central office, 851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100, Portland, Oregon, 97204 or the above telephone numbers.

Edward Sheets
Executive Director

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