

From: Mads Ledet  
Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2007 2:59 PM  
To: O'Toole, Patty  
Subject: Comment on document ISRP 2007-9

This comment is for proposal 200752400 by Smith-Root.

I fully support this proposal and, while they have not commented, several of my friends are aware of the proposal and are supportive of it, too. This proposal should be funded because it is a good, non-lethal solution to the serious sea lion/seal predation we are facing in the Columbia River and tributaries. Testing may show that some seal lions are not stopped by this barrier and, if so, the very few of these will have to be destroyed. This is a far better solution than to destroy all of them.

I am pleased with their decision to use the Willamette River just below the falls for the testing period. It is easily accessible by the public so they can become aware of the technology and approach. One friend objected and wants it to be at the lower Willamette River, requiring two barriers. One of the problems in testing is to minimize the variables and the lower Willamette River would only increase them. But, no matter where the test is conducted, it is vitally important this project be funded. We must find a solution to the predation that is socially acceptable.

A test is a test. I am certain Smith-Root do not know the answers to all the questions but I believe the approach is viable and well thought out.

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