



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington Fish and Wildlife Office
500 Desmond Dr. S.E.
Lacey, Washington 98503



In Reply Refer to:
FWS/R1/3410-2008-F-0209

August 2, 2023

Todd Tillinger
Chief Regulatory Branch
Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
ATTN: Kristina G. Tong
4735 E. Marginal Way South, Building 1202
Seattle, Washington 98134-2388

Dear Mr. Tillinger:

Subject: Extension of the USFWS Biological Opinion for the 2008 Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Programmatic

In July 2022, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) extended coverage for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) 2008 Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Programmatic (2008 Programmatic). As you are aware, formal consultation to renew and update the Programmatic is still in progress. Due to current workload, limited resources, and competing priorities, the 2008 Programmatic will require another one-year extension, so as to continue providing coverage until formal consultation is completed, and the Programmatic can be renewed and updated with issuance of a new Biological Opinion (Opinion).

The 2008 Programmatic provides an efficient and streamlined process for addressing activities that restore habitat and contribute to the recovery of listed species throughout Washington State. Extending coverage will streamline consultations for actions that restore habitat and support recovery, while we complete formal consultation and issue a new Opinion.

The USFWS is extending the effective date of the 2008 Programmatic, for species under USFWS jurisdiction, until August 1, 2024. We expect that the Corps will continue to follow all original reasonable and prudent measures, implementing terms and conditions, minimization measures, as well as monitoring and reporting described in the 2008 Programmatic.

PACIFIC REGION 1

IDAHO, OREGON*, WASHINGTON,
AMERICAN SAMOA, GUAM, HAWAII, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
*PARTIAL

We have determined that the proposed extension is not likely to result in effects beyond those analyzed in the 2008 Programmatic. Subsequently, the Incidental Take Statement included in the 2008 Programmatic remains unchanged. The Corps should notify the Washington Ecological Services Office if the Corps is approaching the take limits described in the Incidental Take Statement.

If you have any questions about this letter, or our shared responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act, please contact Ryan McReynolds (ryan_mcreynolds@fws.gov), or Curtis Tanner (curtis_tanner@fws.gov).

Sincerely,

for Brad Thompson, State Supervisor
Washington Fish and Wildlife Office