



Mooring Buoys Version: May 30, 2001

Location: This informal programmatic consultation applies to proposed actions in Washington State where the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have concurred that the project not likely to adversely affect listed fish species and designated critical habitat and will not jeopardize proposed fish species or destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat.

Implementation Conditions: To be covered by this informal programmatic consultation, all actions addressed herein shall comply with the Implementation Conditions outlined in ***Programmatic Consultation – Phase I: General Implementation Conditions***. In addition, each action shall comply with specific conditions outlined below.

Timing: The action shall only occur once within one “work season” (the approved work windows described in ***Programmatic Consultation – Phase I: Approved Work Windows***) for a single and complete project. For example, only a maximum of 18 piles shall be replaced on a single pier within the approved work window. The following year, up to 18 piles may be replaced on the same pier within the approved work window for that year.

Adjacent: For the purposes of this document, “adjacent” is defined as within 300 linear feet. This is used when restricting projects from impacting special aquatic sites (such as an eelgrass bed or wetland) and/or salmonid or forage fish spawning areas.

Mooring Buoys: Placement of mooring buoys for single boat, non-commercial use, provided that::

1. In Fresh Waters *excluding* the Columbia River mainstem:

- The anchor, buoy, and moored vessel are not located over or adjacent to vegetated shallows (except where such vegetation is limited to State-designated noxious weeds) or spawning habitat for listed or proposed fish species.
- Buoys do not exceed 4 per acre.
- Buoy anchors are installed so that the anchor line does not drag.
- Flotation shall be completely contained to prevent breakup.
- The vessel does not ground out at low water.

2. In the Columbia River mainstem including Snake River and Baker Bay:

- The anchor, buoy, and moored vessel are not located over or adjacent to vegetated shallows (except where such vegetation is limited to State-designated noxious weeds) or spawning habitat for listed, proposed or forage fish species.
- Buoys do not exceed 4 per acre.
- Buoy anchors are installed so that the anchor line does not drag.
- Flotation shall be completely contained to prevent breakup.
- The vessel does not ground out at low water.

3. For all Marine/Estuarine Waters excluding Baker Bay:

- The anchor, buoy, and moored vessel are not located over or adjacent to vegetated shallows or spawning habitat for forage species.
- Buoys do not exceed 4 per acre.
- Buoy anchors are installed so that the anchor line does not drag.
- Flotation shall be completely contained to prevent breakup.
- The vessel does not ground out at low water.