



# United States Department of the Interior

## U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



Washington Ecological Services  
1009 College St. SE, Ste. 215  
Lacey, Washington 98503

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

Todd Tillinger  
Chief Regulatory Branch  
Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
ATTN: K. Mahen  
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 August of 2023, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) again extended coverage for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) 2008 Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Programmatic (2008 Programmatic). On July 22, 2024, we received your letter requesting another extension and year of coverage. 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. With that said, the USFWS does have an interest in renewing programmatic coverage, and we will seek assistance from your staff (as needed) to advance this progress over the year ahead.

USFWS is extending the effective date of the 2008 Programmatic, for species under USFWS jurisdiction, until August 1, 2025. We expect that the Corps will continue to follow and implement the minimization measures, reasonable and prudent measures, terms and conditions, and monitoring and reporting requirements, as described in the 2008 Programmatic.

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### PACIFIC REGION 1

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

We have determined that extending coverage is not likely to result in effects beyond those analyzed in the 2008 Programmatic. Accordingly, 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 any take limit 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](mailto:ryan_mcreynolds@fws.gov)), or Molly Good ([molly\\_good@fws.gov](mailto:molly_good@fws.gov)).

Sincerely,

*For* Brad Thompson, State Supervisor  
Washington Fish and Wildlife Office