



The following questions have been posed by Commissioners prior to the scheduled Board Meeting on April 2, 2024. Staff responses are included below and are sorted by Agenda topic.

Consent Calendar

CONTRACTS

Wildish Building Company - for a Construction Task Order (CTO) for Habitat Enhancements in the Carmen-Smith Spawning Channel; \$315,000. (KELLEY/KRENTZ)

Wildish Building Company - for a Construction Task Order (CTO) for Habitat Installation in the Carmen-Smith Spawning Channel, Trail Bridge Reservoir and Smith Reservoir; \$823,000. (KELLEY/KRENTZ)

The spawning habitat contract is for both below and above the Trail bridge dam, correct?

RESPONSE: There are two separate contracts. One is for habitat in the spawning channel below Trail Bridge dam that will provide both spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and bull trout. The other contract is for rearing and cover habitat in Trail Bridge and Smith Reservoirs, primarily for juvenile Chinook and bull trout.

If above the dam, what species are we creating spawning habitat for? As unless I have missed something, we don't know if it will be trap & haul or a ladder.

RESPONSE: The 2024 work above Trail Bridge dam is for rearing habitat and to provide cover, not spawning habitat. Regardless of the ultimate method of permanent fish passage (trap and haul or ladder) there will be Chinook salmon and bull trout above Trail Bridge dam and additional spawning habitat improvements are a requirement of the license that will be implemented in the future. In 2023 we completed a temporary trap and haul facility at the spawning channel, primarily to move Chinook salmon, but also bull trout that may enter the trap. In addition, bull trout have been moved from the tailrace to above the dam for many years.

Along those lines the \$823,000 contract appears to be all for habitat above Trail Bridge, and if so, is that just for bull trout? If we create habitat above Smith, is there any passage for fish to migrate above Smith?

RESPONSE: The habitat in Trail Bridge dam is primarily intended for Chinook salmon and bull trout but will also benefit other native trout. The habitat in Smith Reservoir is primarily for native cutthroat trout but will also benefit other fish species. Fish passage at Smith Dam is not a requirement of the Settlement Agreement or License – a fish passage waiver for Smith Dam was signed by EWEB and ODFW during the Settlement Agreement negotiations in 2007. However, habitat in Smith Reservoir for native resident species is a requirement of the Settlement Agreement and License.