



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE**  
West Coast Region  
1201 NE Lloyd Boulevard, Suite 1100  
Portland, OR 97232

August 13, 2019

Bureau of Land Management  
Northwest Oregon District  
Wild and Scenic River Planning Comments  
Attn: Whitney Wirthlin,  
1717 Fabry Road SE  
Salem, Oregon 97306

Re: NOAA Fisheries' scoping comments on the USDA Forest Service's proposed adoption of a comprehensive river management plan for nine rivers as part of the Wild and Scenic River Planning project.

Dear Ms. Wirthlin:

This letter responds to a request for scoping comments on the U.S. Forest Service's proposed adoption of a comprehensive river management plan for nine rivers including the South Fork Clackamas, which is within this NOAA Fisheries office's area of jurisdiction. We understand the proposed action would include updates to the wild and scenic river corridor boundaries including that of the South Fork Clackamas, installation of interpretive signs, and the development of recreational facilities with recreational use controls.

NOAA Fisheries is supportive of comprehensive river management plans that include controls for uses that could ultimately impact federally designated threatened and endangered species and their designated critical habitat. Though our agency is not providing action-specific comments at this time, we request the U.S. Forest Service include NOAA Fisheries on the list of interested parties to ensure receipt of the draft Environmental Assessment when it is released for public comment. Additionally, any specific actions implemented under the comprehensive plan that could affect species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or critical habitat under NOAA Fisheries' purview will require consultation with this office under section 7 of the ESA.



If you have any questions regarding this letter or the ESA section 7 consultation process, please feel free to contact Kate Wells of my staff at 503-230-5437 or [Kathleen.Wells@noaa.gov](mailto:Kathleen.Wells@noaa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marc Liverman". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Marc Liverman,  
Branch Chief  
Willamette Branch  
Oregon/Washington Coastal Area Office

cc: Marc Liverman

## **References**

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). 2008. Endangered Species Act Section 7(a)(2) Consultation Biological Opinion & Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation on the Willamette River Basin Flood Control Project. FINWR12000/02117, July 11, 2008.

