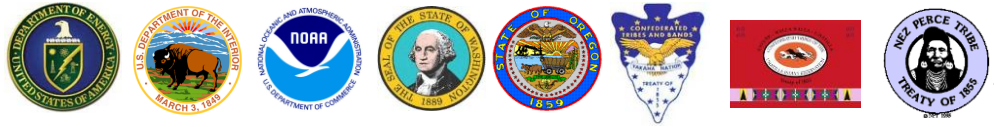




Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council



March 30, 2015

**COUNCIL MEMBERS &
REPRESENTATIVES:**

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Tammy Ash –
Chair

Nez Perce Tribe
Jack Bell – Vice Chair

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Department of Ecology
Nancy Uziemblo

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
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State of Oregon
Department of Energy
Paul Shaffer

Yakama Nation
Leah Aleck

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Troy Baker
(non-voting)

Ms. Stacy Charboneau
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352

RE: *FY 2017 HNRTC Budget Recommendation and Project Execution Plan Update*

Dear Ms. Charboneau:

The Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council's fiscal year 2017 (FY 2017) budget recommendation is \$7.839 million, based on our Project Execution Plan (PEP).

As you know, the Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council (HNRTC or Council) is conducting a Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) for the Hanford Site as required by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). In that effort last year, we developed and approved the PEP (May 2014). The PEP provides DOE with a funding baseline and milestones for completion of the NRDA by 2024. Attached is the recommended FY 2017 HNRTC Budget Summary, along with the approved updated PEP (March 2015), which updates the funding baselines found in the PEP Table 4.1.

In updating the PEP we focused on HNRTC accomplishments in FY 2014 and actual funding received in FY 2015. The FY 2015 funding to the HNRTC was more than \$3 million below the FY 2015 Council budget request. To account for this budget shortfall, the HNRTC chose to implement a "bow-wave" approach to updating the funding baseline for the PEP, which is the basis for the FY(+2) funding request for this year. The Council agreed to conduct a detailed review of the injury study costs documented in Table 4.2 this summer. This analysis and continued discussion with DOE will guide a more robust update of the PEP in FY 2016.

Planned work in FY 2017 continues the iterative process of completing ongoing injury studies and implementing new injury studies identified in the Hanford NRDA Injury Assessment Plan (IAP), and Technical Work Group (TWG) work plans. The FY 2017 scope also includes planning for early restoration projects. FY 2017 scope includes assessment planning, injury and service loss studies, restoration planning, technical analysis, project management, information

management and administration. The PEP provides further information regarding the scope, schedule and cost estimates for these activities.

We appreciate your continued support of the HNRTC and look forward to working with you and your staff in conducting the NRDA for the Hanford Site. Please contact me at (509) 893-8033 or by email at Tammy.Ash@fws.gov if you have feedback, questions or want to schedule a meeting. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tammy Ash,
Chair, Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council

Attachments:

1. Project Execution Plan (Updated March 2015)
2. FY 2017 HNRTC Budget Summary

cc: Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council
Pam Zimmerman, DOE-RL

FY 2017 HNRTC Budget Summary	
FY 2017 Activities	FY 2017 Budget Request
Assessment Planning	
Technical Support Contractor	\$652,900
Assessment SubTotal	\$652,900
Injury & Service Loss Studies	
New and Continued studies	\$2,844,400
Injury Study SubTotal	\$2,844,400
Restoration Planning	
Project development/	\$200,000
Restoration Planning SubTotal	\$200,000
Project/Technical Management - Trustees**	
USDOE*	---
USFWS	\$515,000
NOAA	\$360,500
CTUIR	\$618,000
Nez Perce	\$515,000
Yakama	\$927,000
Oregon	\$288,400
Washington	\$287,400
Project Management SubTotal **	\$3,511,300
Information Management	
Data Management	\$429,000
Information Management SubTotal	\$429,000
Administration	
Facilitation	\$200,900
Administration SubTotal	\$200,900
TOTAL	\$7,838,500.00
* DOE participation is not funded via the HNRTC.	
**These costs were estimated by each Trustee for their respective participation in the Hanford NRDA, were not subject to negotiation, and do not reflect agreement or endorsement by other Trustees or the HNRTC as a whole.	