Local Sediment Management Group (LSMG)
Charter and Operating Rules for the Snake River Programmatic Sediment Management Plan

I. Introduction

The U.S Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has established a Local Sediment Management Group (LSMG) for coordinating technical input in preparing the Lower Snake Programmatic Sediment Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (PSMP/EIS).

The purpose of the PSMP/EIS is to develop a long-term (20+ year), comprehensive, watershed-level approach for managing the sediment movement and deposition in the lower Snake River reservoirs where sediment interferes with commercial navigation, irrigation withdrawals, recreation and flow conveyance.

Sediment enters the lower Snake River reservoirs from the upstream Snake[1] and Clearwater rivers, and the Salmon, Grande Ronde and Imnaha rivers. The sediment originates from the surrounding lands, and is carried into the tributaries by stormwater runoff, natural or unnatural bank erosion, or wind. Landslides and unstable slopes can also directly contribute sediment. Land disturbing activities such as development, logging, fire, and agriculture can increase the sediment load entering the rivers and tributaries.

Historically, the Corps has used periodic dredging to manage sediment as part of operating and maintaining the federal navigation channel. The Corps dredged the accumulated sediment from the problem causing areas, and disposed of the material either upland or, more recently, in water within the reservoirs, creating additional aquatic habitat.

By addressing sediment management for the lower Snake River and contributing drainage areas, this planning effort will improve understanding and causes of the sediment sources in the contributing watersheds, and in the rivers, and identify and /or confirm the opportunities to manage sediment over the near and long term. Applying an adaptive management approach to sediment management will help to update and refine plan strategies and data needs over time.

The Corps recognizes that for sediment reduction efforts to be successful, it will need to rely on resource managers and landowners outside Corps' jurisdiction. The Corps manages only a small part (<1%) of the more than 32,000 square miles in the study

[1] Includes the Snake River up to the Hells Canyon Dam complex.

area (see Attachment 1). The Corps is committed to working with its regional partners to develop a comprehensive, long-term sediment management plan that will meet Corps requirements but can also serve as a regional plan.

The LSMG Charter and Operating Rules describe the purpose, goals and objectives, organization and participation, and operating rules on how the group will conduct its activities.

II. Purpose

The LSMG's purpose is to provide early and continued input to the Corps in its efforts to prepare and implement a 20-year sediment management plan for the Lower Snake River and EIS, and to provide input to other resource management agencies with responsibilities for sediment management. LSMG will also provide ongoing input during plan execution.

During plan development, LSMG will provide input on two primary fronts: 1) Improving the understanding of the Lower Snake River and contributing drainage areas regarding the causes and sources of sediment; and 2) Identifying near- (1-5 years), mid- (6-10 years),and long-term (11 – 20 years) opportunities to manage sediment to maintain commercial navigation, irrigation withdrawals, recreation, and flow conveyance, including alternatives to dredging that reduce the amount of source material entering from contributing drainage areas and improve water quality and aquatic habitat conditions.

III. Principles and Goals

a. Understand sediment movement in the Snake and Clearwater river systems as it affects commercial navigation, irrigation withdrawals, recreation, and flow conveyance (referred to as "sediment problem areas").
b. Develop and implement environmentally sensitive near-, mid- and long-term strategies to prevent sediment accumulation in problem areas, considering sediment source reduction, in-river sediment management, and system management.
c. Share information through open communication regarding sediment management and existing conditions
d. Take a comprehensive look – the plan will need to account for many needs and considerations, including economic, biologic, navigation, recreation, geomorphology, and upland land uses.
e. Develop strategies based upon clear, scientifically based rationale
f. Identify those strategies most cost-effective for implementation
g. Develop a detailed understanding of sediment processes where possible, and build adaptive management program for areas of uncertainty
h. Develop the administrative, regulatory, scientific, economic and logistical support to develop and implement the plan.

i. Work cooperatively with interested and affected agencies, tribes, municipalities, ports and other stakeholders to produce a comprehensive, defendable regional sediment management plan.
j. Gain the agreement and support of regulatory and/or resource management agencies to assist in implementing the final plan.
k. Effectively leverage local, state, federal and tribal resources through regional consensus for projects and programs.

In addition, the plan will seek to answer the following questions:

- What are the primary causes and sources of sediment deposition in the Lower Snake river system?
- Does sediment deposition appear to be increasing, decreasing or staying the same?
- What is the "natural" or baseline sediment amount contributed to the lower Snake River?
- How much of the problem is attributed to new sediments entering streams compared to existing streambed sediments?
- What is the relative contribution and sediment transport rates from different watersheds?
- What are the relative sediment contributions from different land cover types?
- What are the most effective measures to manage sediment accumulation in problem areas?
- What are the likely environmental impacts (both positive and negative) of potential management measures?

IV. Organization and Participation

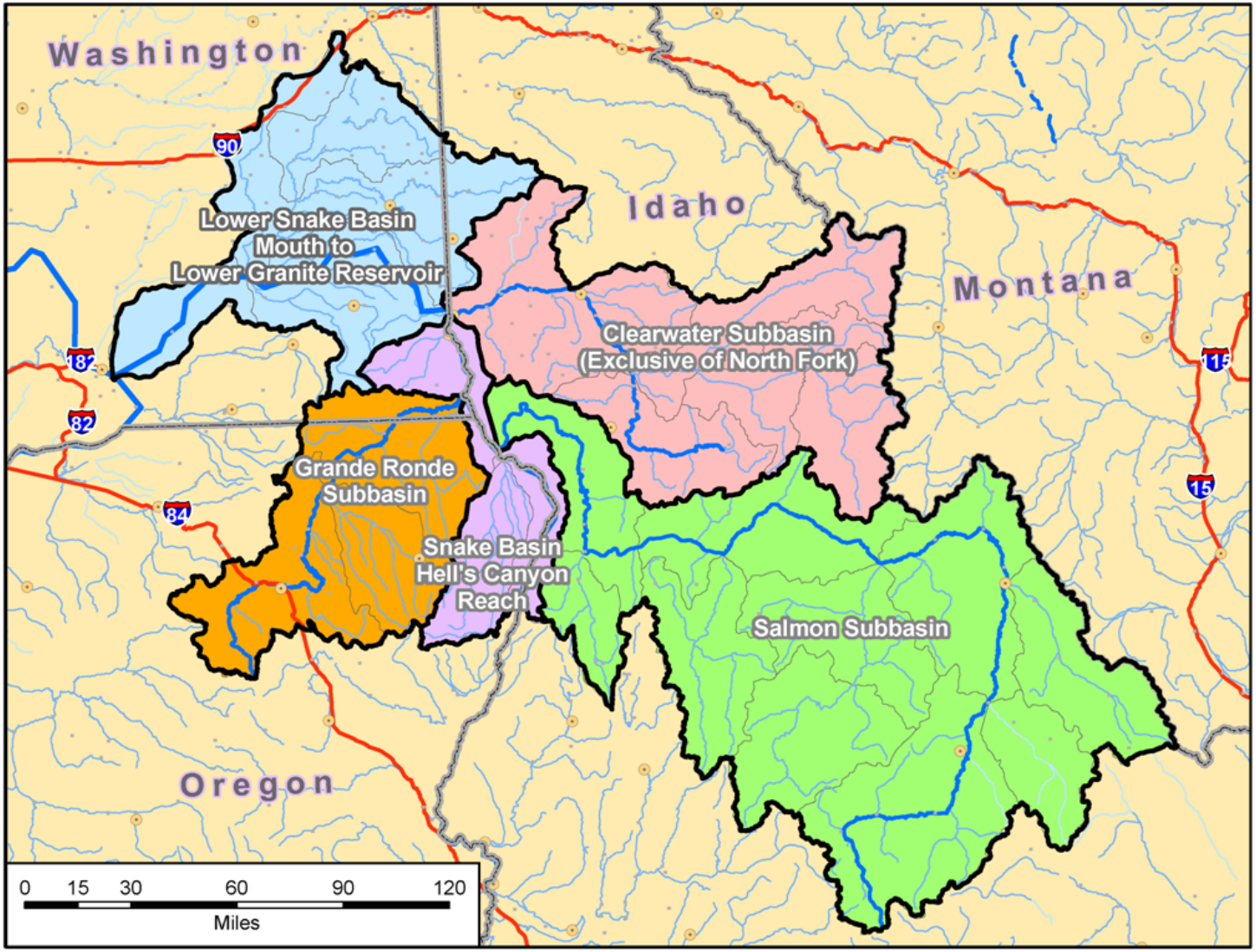
a. General Membership
   - Comprised of other federal agencies, tribal governments, state agencies, local agencies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (see Attachment 2 for list of invited agencies and tribal governments)
   - Meet at least semi annually to discuss status of studies, PSMP/EIS development and early action implementation opportunities
   - Act as a sounding board on studies, potential actions, public involvement/targeted outreach strategies

b. Ad hoc technical committees
   - Organized as necessary to address topic or watershed-specific sediment conditions and opportunities
   - Comprised of LSMG general membership and others, as appropriate
   - Avoid duplication of effort by coordinating ad hoc committee activities through existing organizations such as watershed councils or technical committees.

V. Operating Principles and Procedures

a. Agencies voluntarily participate within the constraints of their available individual organization resources.
b. General meetings will be chaired by the USACE Project Manager, with facilitation support as necessary.
c. All meetings will be noticed and held as public meetings.
d. Work collaboratively. Focus discussions on the goals of the group and avoid discussion on issues and concerns beyond scope.
e. Recognize LSMG participants represent a broad range of interests. Recognize and respect the legitimacy of individual interests, concerns and input.
f. Foster a climate that encourages candid and open discussion.
g. Draft notes will be prepared for each meeting and finalized after review and comment by the LSMG. All meeting notes will then be posted to the project website.
h. Maintain a flexible management structure, adaptive to emergent needs and/or changed conditions.
i. Project management and communications (USACE)
    - Develop scopes of work, commission studies and direct activities
    - Manage funding and schedules
    - Draft reports and other documents
    - Work collaboratively with LSMG in completing technical studies and plan development
    - Value and consider LSMG input
    - Schedule meetings
    - Develop and maintain project website with up to date information, and advise LSMG as new information is posted

ATTACHMENT 1
STUDY AREA



ATTACHMENT 2
LSMG INVITED PARTICIPANTS

Asotin County Conservation District
Clarkston, WA

Bonneville Power Administration
Portland, OR

City of Lewiston
Lewiston, ID

City of Moscow
Moscow, ID

Clearwater Soil and Water Conservation District
Orofino, ID

Columbia Conservation District
Dayton, WA

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Portland, OR

Columbia River Towboat Association
Vancouver, WA

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation
Toppenish, WA

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Nespelem, WA

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Pendleton, OR

Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division
Portland, OR

Corps of Engineers, Portland District
Regulatory Branch
Portland, OR

Corps of Engineers, Seattle District
Dredged Material Management Office
Seattle, WA

Corps of Engineers, Seattle District
Regulatory Branch
Seattle, WA

Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District
Regulatory Branch
Walla Walla, WA

Earthjustice
Seattle, WA

Environmental Protection Agency
Idaho Operations
Boise, ID

Environmental Protection Agency
NEPA Review Unit
Seattle, WA

Environmental Protection Agency
Oregon Operations Office
Portland, OR

Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
La Grande, OR

Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10
Seattle, WA

Grande Ronde Model Watershed Program
La Grande, OR

Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts
Moscow, ID

Idaho Department of Agriculture
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Lewiston Regional Office
Lewiston, ID

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Boise Office
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Idaho Falls Office
Idaho Falls, ID

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
State Office
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Salmon, ID

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Clearwater Region
Lewiston, ID

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Headquarters Office
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Southwest Region
Nampa, ID

Idaho Department of Lands
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Lands
Southern Operations
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Eastern Regional Office
Idaho Falls, ID

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Idaho Water Center
Boise, ID

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Northern Regional Office
Coeur D'Alene, ID

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Southern Regional Office
Twin Falls, ID

Idaho Department of Water Resources
Western Regional Office
Boise, ID

Idaho Rivers United
Boise, ID

Idaho Rivers United
Spokane, WA

Idaho Soil Conservation Commission
Moscow, ID

Idaho Soil Conservation Commission
Boise, ID

Idaho Steelhead and Salmon Unlimited,
Salmon Advocates for the
Economy
Lewiston, ID

Idaho Wildlife Federation
Boise, ID
Institute for Fisheries Resources
Eugene, OR

Latah Soil and Water Conservation District
Moscow, ID

Lewis Soil Conservation District
Nezperce, ID

National Marine Fisheries Service
Moscow, ID

National Marine Fisheries Service
Graingeville, ID

National Marine Fisheries Service
La Grande, OR

National Park Service
Spalding, ID

National Wildlife Federation
Western Natural Resource Center
Seattle, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Pomeroy, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Boise, ID

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Asotin County Conservation District
Clarkston, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Dayton Service Center
Dayton, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
East Palouse Team
Colfax, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Snake River Team
Clarkston, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Snake River Team/Walla Walla/Dayton Service Center
Walla Walla, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
State Office
Spokane, WA

Natural Resources Conservation Service
Wallowa County
Joseph, OR

Nez Perce Soil and Water Conservation District
Culdesac, ID

Nez Perce Tribe
Lapwai, ID

National Marine Fisheries Service
Boise Field Office
Boise, ID

National Marine Fisheries Service
Eastern Washington Habitat Branch
Ellensburg, WA

National Marine Fisheries Service
Habitat Conservation Division
Lacey, WA

Oregon Department of Agriculture
Baker City, OR

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Portland, OR

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Baker City Office
Baker City, OR

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Bend Office
Bend, OR

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Eastern Region Office
Hermiston, OR

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Pendleton Office
Pendleton, OR

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
La Grande, OR

Oregon Department of State Lands
Bend, OR

Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations
Northwest Regional Office
Eugene, OR

Pacific Northwest Waterways Association
Portland, OR

Palouse Conservation District
Pullman, WA

Port of Clarkston
Clarkston, WA

Port of Columbia
Dayton, WA

Port of Garfield
Pomeroy, WA

Port of Kahlotus
Pasco, WA

Port of Lewiston
Lewiston, ID

Port of Pasco
Pasco, WA

Port of Walla Walla
Walla Walla, WA

Port of Whitman County
Colfax, WA

Save Our Wild Salmon
Spokane, WA

Save our Wild Salmon Coalition
Seattle, WA

Save our Wild Salmon Coalition
Portland, OR

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Fort Hall, ID
U.S. Geological Survey
Boise, ID

Union Soil and Water Conservation District
LaGrande, OR

US Bureau of Land Management
Baker Field Office for Vale District
Baker City, OR

US Bureau of Land Management
Idaho Falls District
Idaho Falls, ID

US Bureau of Land Management
Idaho State Office
Boise, ID

US Bureau of Land Management
Salmon Field Office
Salmon, ID

US Bureau of Land Management
Spokane District Office
Spokane, WA

US Bureau of Reclamation
Salmon Office
Salmon, ID

US Fish and Wildlife Service
La Grande, OR

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Ahsahka, ID

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Snake River Fish and Wildlife Office
Boise, ID

US Fish and Wildlife Service
Upper Columbia Fish & Wildlife Office
Spokane, WA

US Forest Service
Clarkston, WA

US Forest Service
Portland, OR

US Forest Service
Clearwater National Forest
Orofino, ID

US Forest Service
Hells Canyon NRA Ranger District
Enterprise, OR

US Forest Service
Nez Perce National Forest
Grangeville, ID

US Forest Service
Pomeroy Ranger District
Pomeroy, WA

US Forest Service
Region 1
Missoula, MT

US Forest Service
Region 4
Ogden, UT

US Forest Service
Region 6
Portland, OR

US Forest Service
RNRS 7354 Air & Water
Moscow, ID

US Forest Service
Rocky Mountain Research Station
Boise, ID

US Forest Service
Salmon-Challis National Forest
Salmon, ID

US Forest Service
Sawtooth NRA
Stanley, ID

US Forest Service
Umatilla National Forest
Pendleton, OR

US Forest Service
Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Baker City, OR

US Geological Survey
Idaho Water Science Center
Boise, ID

US Geological Survey
Oregon Water Science Center
Portland, OR

US Geological Survey
Washington Water Science Center Office
Tacoma, WA

Wanapum Community
Beverly, WA

Washington Department of Ecology
Spokane, WA

Washington Department of Ecology
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program
Olympia, WA

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Walla Walla, WA

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Spokane Valley, WA

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Dayton, WA

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Region 3
Yakima, WA

Washington Department of Natural Resources
Ellensburg, WA

Washington Department of Natural Resources
Aquatic Resources
Olympia, WA

Washington Wildlife Federation
Olympia, WA

Water Resource Inventory Areas
WRIA #34 Palouse Watershed
Pullman, WA

Water Resource Inventory Areas
WRIA #35 Middle Snake
Clarkston, WA

Whitman Conservation District
Colfax, WA

United States Senate
Honorable Maria Cantwell
Washington, DC

United States Senate
Honorable Maria Cantwell
Spokane, WA

United States Senate
Honorable James Risch
Lewiston, ID

United States Senate
Honorable James Risch
Washington, DC

United States Senate
Honorable Mike Crapo
Lewiston, ID

United States Senate
Honorable Mike Crapo
Washington, DC

United States Senate
Honorable Patty Murray
Washington, DC

United States Senate
Honorable Patty Murray
Spokane, WA

United States Senate
Honorable Gordon Smith
Pendleton, OR

United States Senate
Honorable Gordon Smith
Washington, DC

United States Senate
Honorable Ron Wyden
LaGrande, OR

United States Senate
Honorable Ron Wyden
Washington, DC

House of Representatives
Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings
Washington, DC

Representative in Congress
Honorable Richard (Doc) Hastings
Pasco, WA

House of Representatives
Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Washington, DC

Representative in Congress
Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Walla Walla, WA

House of Representatives
Honorable Bill Sali
Washington, DC

Representative in Congress
Honorable Bill Sali
Lewiston, ID

House of Representatives
Honorable Mike Simpson
Washington, DC

Representative in Congress
Honorable Mike Simpson
Boise, ID

House of Representatives
Honorable Greg Walden
Washington, DC

Representative in Congress
Honorable Greg Walden
La Grande, OR

Governor of Idaho
Honorable C. L. "Butch" Otter
Boise, ID

Governor of Oregon
Honorable Ted Kulongoski
Salem, OR

Governor of Washington
Honorable Christine Gregoire
Olympia, WA

ATTACHMENT 3
SCHEDULE