

United States Government
memorandum

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

DATE: October 23, 2006

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-283)

TO: Mr. Jay Marcotte - KEWL-4
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

Project Title: Barnes Road Diversion Site - Manastash Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Screening Project

Project No: 2003-001-00

Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement

Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS): 1.5 Install grade control structures; 1.8 Bank protection through vegetation management/planting; 1.15 Fish passage enhancement-fishways; 4.2 water measuring devices; 4.23 Intake and return diversion screens

Location: Manastash Creek, west of Ellensburg, Kittitas County, Washington

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD), and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA, in cooperation with the KCCD and WDFW, propose to fund an unscreened irrigation diversion replacement project at the Barnes Road project site. The Barnes Road diversion structure replacement project is part of the *Manastash Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Screening Project* that will potentially, in two phases, replace and/or consolidate up to seven different diversion sites along Manastash Creek. Disputes over water rights and landowner agreements are delaying implementation of the other projects. The Barnes Road project site is located downstream from the other proposed project sites and currently poses a seasonal barrier for fish passage.

The specific activities proposed for the Barnes Road diversion replacement project include:

- Remove and replace the existing diversion with a new screened diversion;
- Rock placement along fishway and downstream of fishway for bank protection;
- Construct small shed to house new pressurized air screen cleaning system to be installed;
- Construct a fishway and install new grade control sill within the stream;
- Piped conveyance of Manastash Creek water downstream during construction activities.

Analysis: The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Carol Ready, KCCD and Patty Michak, MarineView Fisheries Consulting, and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program EIS and Record of Decision (ROD).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)-listed endangered and threatened species with the potential to occur within the proposed project area include bull trout and bald eagle. BPA initiated Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 informal consultation with USFWS on September 20, 2005. On February 3, 2006, BPA received concurrence with the determination that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect bald eagle and bull trout. Adverse effects are not anticipated to either bull trout or bald eagle habitat.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)-listed threatened species with the potential to occur within the proposed project area includes Mid-Columbia Steelhead ESU. The proposed project area is designated critical habitat. In 2003, NOAA issued a programmatic ESA Section 7 Biological Opinion for BPA's Habitat Improvement Program (HIP BO) and corresponding activities. The Manastash Creek Restoration Project—Phase One, inclusive of the Barnes Road diversion replacement project described above, is one of the activities analyzed and approved under the HIP BO. HIP BO customized terms and conditions apply that will minimize potential negative impacts to Mid-Columbia Steelhead and designated critical habitat. Attached please find the HIP BO Terms and Conditions Custom Report for the Manastash project—Phase One; HIP BO Form 1 Consistency Form and supporting materials; the HIP BO Form 2 Request for Minor Deviation; and the NOAA approval e-mail for the minor deviations. The Manastash Creek Restoration *Project Pollution and Erosion Control Plan* and the *Site Rehabilitation Plan*, as required by the HIP BO, are also attached.

KCCD and BPA contracted with archaeologists at Central Washington University to conduct a cultural resources survey for the proposed project site and surrounding area of potential effect. Background research included archival research and landowner interviews. A field inventory was conducted on June 28, 2004. The project area has been extensively modified by human activity related to agriculture, flood control, and transportation-related construction. Survey results did not indicate any prehistoric or historic properties at any of the proposed ground-disturbing locations. The Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) concurred with this finding on August 8, 2006. BPA also consulted with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation as well as the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

If, during project construction, any culturally or historically significant material is encountered, work activities will halt immediately in the vicinity of the find, and a BPA archaeologist will be notified immediately.

A Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) was obtained in June 2006 from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The proposed project received exemptions from both the Shorelines Permit and the Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit, issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers. All terms and conditions outlined in the environmental compliance package must be strictly adhered to.

Irrigators with a total of approximately 66 separate water right claims and several landowners are immediate stakeholders in the Manastash Creek Fish Barrier Removal and Screening Project. Water rights holders, irrigators and landowners have been actively involved in the evolution and development of this project. Since 2004, numerous meetings have been held discussing the Manastash irrigation consolidation project. Some of the other stakeholders and/or planning

participants include: the Washington Environmental Council, Yakama Nation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Ecology, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Kittitas County Planning and Public Works, Kittitas County Commissioners, Kittitas Reclamation District, Kittitas County Water Purveyors. Monthly Manastash Project Steering Committee meetings are held and advertised.

Findings: The project is generally consistent with the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program, as well as BPA's Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD. This Supplement Analysis finds that: 1) implementing the proposed action will not result in any substantial changes to the Watershed Management Program that are relevant to environmental concerns; and 2) there are no significant new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the Watershed Management Program or its impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Kelly Mason

Kelly Mason

Environmental Specialist - KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ Katherine S. Pierce

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer - KEC-4

DATE: October 25, 2006

Attachments:

SA Checklist

HIP BO Forms I and II

Pollution and Erosion Control Plan

Site Rehabilitation Plan

HIP Approval Ltr w/ 120 day monitoring and T&C

cc: (with attachments)

Ms. Anna Lael - KCCD

Ms. Patty Michak - MarineView Fisheries Consulting