

United States Government

memorandum

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

DATE: November 14, 2006

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-285)

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

Proposed Action: Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program (YTAHP) – Diversion 31 Fish Screen Project, North Fork Ahtanum Creek

Project No: 2002-025-01

Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See

Appendix A of the Watershed Management Program EIS):

- 1.3 Restoration of Channelized River and Stream Reaches
- 1.5 Install Grade Control Structures and Check Dams
- 1.6 Install Large Woody Debris Structures
- 1.8 Bank Protection through Vegetation Management
- 1.9 Structural Bank Protection Using Bioengineering Methods
- 1.15 Fish Passage Enhancement - Fishways
- 2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities
- 2.11 Hand Pulling
- 3.7 Critical Area Planting
- 4.1 Irrigation Water Management
- 4.2 Water Measuring Devices
- 4.10 Water Conveyance: Pipeline
- 4.23 Intake and Return Diversion Screens

Location: Yakima County, Washington

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and North Yakima County Conservation District (NYCD)

Description of Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to fund a fish screen passage and habitat enhancement project with the NYCD. The proposed project involves:

1. Isolation of worksite using a coffer dam to temporarily isolate work area from flowing water;
2. Installation of screen and headgate: a Parshall flume and rotating wiper screen driven by a paddle wheel, meeting all Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and NOAA Fisheries design criteria, will be installed within the irrigation canal, just below the point of diversion, to allow legal users to divert up to 1.3 cfs during the irrigation season. Portland cement concrete for headgate structure is to be poured in total isolation from the flowing water;
3. Installation of bank armoring and root wads: approximately 30 cubic yards of large toe rock will be used to protect the fill material associated with the diversion structure, irrigation ditch, drum screen, and fish bypass, from erosion during the 100-year peak flow. Root wads will be keyed into the stream bank in accordance with WDFW Integrated Streambank Protection Guidelines;

4. Removal of temporary coffer dam; and
5. Revegetation of bank: all earth areas adjacent to the watercourse that have been disturbed or re-graded during construction are to be seeded with a suitable erosion control seed mix.

Analysis: The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Jennifer Scott, Fish and Wildlife Biologist with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

In complying with the requirements of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), listed species that may occur in the general vicinity of the project area include: bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) and its designated critical habitat, gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*), marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*), northern spotted owl (*Strix occidentalis*), Ute ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*), and Middle Columbia River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

BPA has determined that the actions for the YTAHP – Diversion 31 Fish Screen Project may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect bull trout and its critical habitat, gray wolf, bald eagle, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, and Ute ladies'-tresses, in association with this proposed project. In addition, BPA has determined that the project will have no effect on marbled murrelet. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with this determination in a letter dated September 28, 2006.

The proposed project has the potential to impact steelhead in the short term as a result of habitat modifications, sedimentation, and de-watering of the project area. However the proposed project will improve juvenile and adult mid-Columbia River steelhead survival by converting to a screened diversion thereby eliminating entrainment into an irrigation canal. BPA has determined that, if conducted in accordance with the applicable terms and conditions identified in the ESA Section 7 Consultation Biological Opinion (BO) and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for BPA's Habitat Improvement Program (HIP BO), the Diversion 31 Fish Screen Project meets the requirements of consistency and no further consultation is required.

In complying with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), a cultural resources inventory was conducted on the proposed Diversion 31 Fish Screen Project by Christopher Landreau of Reiss-Landreau Research. As a result of this inventory, no cultural and/or historic resources were identified within the project area. In a letter dated October 19, 2006, the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation concurred with this determination. In the unlikely event that archaeological material is discovered during project implementation, work will be halted in the vicinity of the findings until an inspection and assessment can be done.

Standard water quality protection procedures and Best Management Practices will be followed during the implementation of the Diversion 31 Fish Screen Project. No construction is authorized to begin until the proponent has obtained all applicable permits and approvals.

Public/stakeholder involvement has occurred as part of the Diversion 31 Fish Screen Project. The NYCD has proactively and cooperatively worked with landowners, tribal representatives, and local, state, and federal agencies to apprise them of the project scope and status. Individual consultation has been done with Jesse West (landowner) and Orland and Elizabeth Anderson (nearby landowners).

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/ Dawn R. Boorse

Dawn R. Boorse

Environmental Protection Specialist – KEC-4

CONCUR:

/s/ James M. Kehoe for

Katherine S. Pierce

NEPA Compliance Officer – KEC-4

Date: November 14, 2006

Attachment:

NEPA Compliance Checklist