

United States Government

Department of Energy
Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: September 26, 2002

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KEC-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-90)

TO: David Byrnes
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager, KEWL-4

Proposed Action: Naches River Water Treatment Plant Intake Screening Project

Project No: 2002-052-00

Wildlife Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Wildlife Mitigation Program EIS): 4.23 Intake and Return Diversion Screens, 9.23 Construction: Erosion and Sediment Control Structures.

Location: Yakima, Washington

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the City of Yakima

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA is proposing to fund the upgrade of the intake structure for the City of Yakima's Water Treatment Plant. The existing traveling water screen at the intake does not achieve the current fish screening criteria as defined by Washington State Law and as provided in guidance from the National Marine Fisheries Service. Permanent modifications to the intake system including installation of a fish screen and bypass system are necessary to eliminate mortality and take of ESA listed and non-listed salmonids, as well as resident fish at this location.

This project will include: modifications to bypass the existing intake system; the construction of a new intake structure with approved fish screens; installation of a 48-inch diameter pipeline connecting the new intake to the existing intake structure; a reduced intake channel separating PacifiCorp Powerhouse return water/ Naches River water from the irrigation and Wapatox waste ditch return water; modifications to the auxiliary headgates; increased height on the upstream end of the channel wall; and a new outfall structure with plunge pool and upstream migrant barriers.

Analysis: The NEPA compliance checklist for this project was completed by Dave Brown with the City of Yakima (August 29, 2002) and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed species that may occur in the general vicinity of the project area are bald eagle, bull trout, Ute ladies'-tresses, and Middle Columbia River steelhead. The project will also take place in Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for coho and chinook salmon. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, BPA submitted a Biological Assessment

(BA) for the Naches River Water Treatment Plant Intake Screening project to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) and to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) on August 19, 2002.

As part of the BA, BPA determined that the proposed actions may affect, but are not likely to adversely affect, Middle Columbia River steelhead, bull trout, bald eagle, and Ute ladies'-tresses. NOAA Fisheries concurred with these findings on August 28, 2002. USFWS concurred with these findings on September 18, 2002. Pursuant to Section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, NOAA Fisheries also evaluated EFH for chinook and coho salmon as part of the ESA Section 7 consultation process. No additional conservation recommendations specific to EFH were provided by NOAA Fisheries for this project (August 28, 2002).

BPA has determined that the proposed actions do not have the potential to cause effects on cultural and/or historic resources based on the nature of the actions and the project location. The facilities to be modified as part of this project were constructed in the late 1960's and early 1970's. The project area to be impacted involves the existing diversion stream channel (historically part of the Naches River streambed/floodplain) and associated facilities, and the disturbed and filled Highway 12 shoulder and easement. In the unlikely event that archaeological material is encountered during implementation of the project, an archaeologist will immediately be notified and work halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed.

Standard water quality protection procedures will be followed during the implementation of the Naches River Water Treatment Plant Intake Screening project. Permits and authorizations that have been obtained or are pending include: a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Hydraulic Project Approval, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 404 Permit, a Washington Department of Ecology 401 Water Quality Certification and Stormwater Management Permit, a Shorelines Permit from the Yakima County Planning Department, and a Washington State Environmental Policy Act Approval. No construction will be authorized to begin until the applicant has obtained all required local, state, and federal permits and approvals.

Public involvement has taken place as part of this project. The project was presented to the public through the City of Yakima's monthly Council meetings on three separate occasions. Public notices announcing the Council meetings and describing the proposed actions were published. A copy of the Council meeting resolutions including a brief project description and statement of need was also available to the public. The Council meeting agenda items are open for public comment, however no comments were received for this project. The City of Yakima is also planning a press release at the completion of project construction. The City of Yakima has consulted with the following parties concerning the proposed project: Yakima Indian Nation, Yakima County, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Department of Transportation, USFWS, and NOAA Fisheries.

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/ Shannon C. Stewart 9-26-2002

Shannon C. Stewart
Environmental Specialist

CONCUR:

/s/ James Kehoe for

Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer

DATE: 9-26-2002

Attachments:

NEPA Compliance Checklist

NMFS Letter, August 28, 2002

USFWS Letter, September 18, 2002

cc: (w/ attachments)

Mr. Dave Brown – The City of Yakima

Mr. Paul Walker – Carollo Engineers

Ms. Patty Michak – FishPro, Inc.