Bonneville Power Administration
Fish and Wildlife Program FY99 Proposal

Section 1. General administrative information

Prevent Mortality In Methow Endangered And Proposed Fish

Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 9025

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding
USDA Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest, Methow Valley Ranger District

Business acronym (if appropriate) FS

Proposal contact person or principal investigator:

Name Ardis Bynum
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Subcontractors.

Organization	Mailing Address	City, ST Zip	Contact Name
competitive bid			

NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.
Provide Passage and Protective Screens on Tributaries; Bull Trout Mitigation; Implement Resident Fish Policies; Sorry, do not know measure numbers.

NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses.
The Endangered Species Act prohibits taking of listed species. This project would comply by saving the lives of Upper Columbia summer steelhead and bull trout.

Other planning document references.
Chewuch Watershed Analysis (Forest Service, Methow Valley Ranger District, 1994) page 168 “Two inadequately screened ditches on Forest Services lands are causing some

mortality to juvenile salmonids." The Eightmile Ditch is one of the two ditches. This project is consistent with the objectives of the draft Methow River Basin Plan (Methow Valley Water Pilot Planning Committee, 1993) which envisions enhancement of fisheries in the Methow Valley sub-basin and the improvement of irrigation facilities throughout the valley (Executive Summary, basin-wide recommendations, page 2).

Subbasin.
Methow River Subbasin--Chewuch River, Eightmile Creek

Short description.
Replace (lethal) fish screen with adequate, safe screen

Section 2. Key words

Mark	Programmatic Categories	Mark	Activities	Mark	Project Types
X	Anadromous fish	X	Construction	X	Watershed
*	Resident fish		O & M		Biodiversity/genetics
	Wildlife		Production		Population dynamics
	Oceans/estuaries		Research		Ecosystems
	Climate		Monitoring/eval.	*	Flow/survival
	Other		Resource mgmt		Fish disease
			Planning/admin.		Supplementation
			Enforcement		Wildlife habitat en-
			Acquisitions		hancement/restoration

Other keywords.
anadromous fish, fish screens, Aquatic Conservation Strategies, irrigation, Endangered Species Act

Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship
0	None	

Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules

Objectives and tasks

Obj		Task	

1,2,3	Objective	a,b,c	Task
1	remove Endangered Species Act non-compliant structure	a	dismantle, haul away existing structure
2	comply with Endg. Spc. Act	b	purchase new screen
		c	install new screen structure

Objective schedules and costs

Objective #	Start Date mm/yyyy	End Date mm/yyyy	Cost %
1	6/1999	7/1999	16.00%
2	7/1999	8/1999	84.00%
			TOTAL 100.00%

Schedule constraints.
Extreme high water would delay the project start date

Completion date.
1999

Section 5. Budget

FY99 budget by line item

Item	Note	FY99
Personnel	overseer, and some labor	$5,500
Fringe benefits		
Supplies, materials, non-expendable property	fish screen and installation supplies	$14,000
Operations & maintenance		
Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)		
PIT tags	# of tags:	
Travel		
Indirect costs		
Subcontracts	main demolition and installation	$5,500
Other		

TOTAL		$25,000

Outyear costs

Outyear costs	**FY2000**	**FY01**	**FY02**	**FY03**
Total budget	$ 0			
O&M as % of total				

Section 6. Abstract

The screen for the USFS diversion structure on Eightmile Creek, used for irrigation of the Forest Service's Eightmile Ranch, is inadequate, and anadromous and resident fish -- including fish listed and proposed in the Endangered Species Act--are killed as a result. The goal is simple: stop this fish mortality with an adequate screen structure. This could be accomplished in one summer season. The design of such structures is standard and would pose no unusual difficulty, nor would its construction. Monitoring and maintenance of the new screen is the responsibility of the Forest Service, and would be carried out regularly as part of the irrigation of the Eightmile Ranch.

Section 7. Project description

a. Technical and/or scientific background.

The Eightmile Ranch was a Forest Service Ranger Station in 1910, then was for many years a hay-growing Forest Service ranch before being named a 'remount' station. Now, as then, it is used for pasture for Forest Service mules and horses. The pastures of the ranch are irrigated with gravity-flow open ditches, using water from Eightmile Creek. The old structures that divert water from Eightmile Creek were not designed with the protection of fish in mind. While there is a fish screen in place, the screen is too coarse and small fish are carried into the irrigation ditch and die.

The project lies in Township 36 North, Range 21 East, Section 23.

The Forest Service's eventual goal for this project is to pipe the irrigation water now running in open ditches. But the first order of business is to protect the anadromous and resident fish. Then we will look to conserving water in Eightmile Creek. The proposal before you is designed with that long-term goal in mind. The structure that will hold the new screen will accommodate the eventual change.

b. Proposal objectives.

1. replace an inadequate, lethal fish screen with an adequate screen

2. build the new diversion structure to ensure fish safety and accommodate eventual changes to the irrigation system

c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

A main goal of the FWP is the protection and preservation of fish and wildlife. Preventing mortality in Endangered Species Act listed and proposed species will further that goal.

d. Project history

This is a new project.

e. Methods.

The first step will be to remove the old, too coarse (screen size) and otherwise inadequate screen.

The second step is to install a new screen of proven technology (DOW Yakima Fish Screen Shop), and rebuild the diversion structure so that fish aren't trapped and can return to the creek if they do accidentally pass into the ditch. The new structure would accommodate later change to the irrigation system (from open ditch to closed pipe) proposed for water conservation.

We assume that with the new screen and structure, no fish die as a result of the irrigation of the Eightmile Ranch.

Because this is maintenance and will entail little disturbance, no National Environmental Policy Act documentation would be required. The risk to habitat is minimal.

The structure and its effectiveness would be regularly monitored and reported on by Forest Service employees.

f. Facilities and equipment.

The fish screen would likely be built at the Yakima Fish Screen Shop (Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 9155, Yakima 98909) Construction and demolition equipment is standard, and would be supplied either by the Forest Service or the subcontractor. Any pipe used would be UV protected.

g. References.

Forest Service, Okanogan National Forest. 1989. (as amended) Land and Resource Management Plan (called Okanogan Forest Plan).

Forest Service, Winthrop Ranger District. November 1994. (Okanogan National Forest) Chewuch River Watershed Analysis

Methow Valley Water Planning Pilot Project. 1993. Draft Methow Valley River Basin Plan. Report prepared by the Planning Committee, with the assistance of Roundtable, Associates, Olympia, Washington

Section 8. Relationships to other projects

Section 9. Key personnel

Ardis Bynum, full-time GS-11 Resource Leader, Methow Valley Ranger District would be the manager for this project.

Ardis Byum earned a Bachelor of Arts General Studies degree from the University of Washington in 1971, followed by a Bachelor of Science degree in Soil Science from Oregon State University in 1977.

Her responsibilities would be management of the money, both Forest Service and BPA, which would fund this project; supervision of Forest Service employees who work on this project; administration of any contract associated with this project; and purchasing of materials required.

Ardis Bynum instigated the award-winning “Respect the River” program. She has lead many watershed restoration projects as the district’s resource forester and has served as the leader of the Chewuch Watershed team for the Forest Service.

Section 10. Information/technology transfer

Only proven technologies will be used for this project. The fish screen will be in monitoring reports and watershed analyses routinely prepared by the Forest Service.