

United States Government

Department of Energy

Bonneville Power Administration

memorandum

DATE: June 5, 2001

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: KECN-4

SUBJECT: Supplement Analysis for the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265/SA-53)

TO: John Piccininni
Fish and Wildlife Project Manager

Proposed Action: Lake Billy Shaw O&M

Project No: 1995-015-06

Work Order No: 0002934

Watershed Management Techniques or Actions Addressed Under This Supplement Analysis (See App. A of the Watershed Management Program EIS): 1.8 Bank Protection through Vegetation Management, 2.1 Maintain Healthy Riparian Plant Communities, 6.7 Water Supply: Trough, 6.10 Access: Fencing, 10.4 Outdoor Education Programs, 10.5 Fencing Sensitive Areas from Recreationists.

Location: Lake Billy Shaw, Elko County, Nevada.

Proposed by: Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Indian Reservation.

Description of the Proposed Action: BPA proposes to fund an operation and maintenance project for the Lake Billy Shaw Reservoir located on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation in Elko County, Nevada. The work to be completed includes maintenance of the lake and its shorelines, fencing the reservoir to exclude domestic stock, and installing water troughs (gravity feed) near areas that are fenced to provide water to wild and domestic stocks. This project will also include the maintenance of the delivery system to fill/maintain the reservoir, which will involve hauling and compacting soil at low and/or disturbed sections of the system and operation of the dam and associated structures. In addition, this project will incorporate an outreach component with the local community that will consist of water quality monitoring of the lake and associated wells, riparian plantings of native forage, shrubs and trees, work on intermittent tributaries, and construction of informational signs.

Construction of Lake Billy Shaw dam and reservoir was completed in November 1998. Lake Billy Shaw was intended to become a self-sustaining fishery within 7 to 10 years after construction. The proposed activities will provide the necessary habitat and water quality for fish and will also provide habitat for raptors and mammals in the area. The Lake Billy Shaw operation and maintenance project will complement the Tribes' Habitat Enhancement/Protection project and the Joint Culture Facility project with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Analysis: The compliance checklist for this project was completed by Guy Dodson with the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes Duck Valley Indian Reservation and meets the standards and guidelines for the Watershed Management Program Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Record of Decision (ROD).

No plant or animal species listed under the Endangered Species Act will be affected by the activities proposed as part of this project. This information was verified by Selena Werdon at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Reno, Nevada office on May 3, 2001.

Cultural resource surveys were conducted by the Shoshone-Paiute Tribes Cultural Resource Department. In a letter dated April 30, 2001, Ted Howard, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes Cultural Resource Director, verified that no cultural or historic resources were discovered as a result of these inventories. The department will continue to work closely with the Tribes Fish and Game Office in order to ensure the protection of cultural resources that may be discovered in conjunction with this work in the future.

Public involvement associated with this project included public meetings with the Tribal Council and the public to discuss projects and status. In addition, newspaper articles concerning the project were published in the local papers and in the Boise, Idaho papers.

Findings: The project is generally consistent with Section 7.6A.2, 7.6B.3, & 7.8E.1, of the Northwest Power Planning Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. This Supplement Analysis finds 1) that the proposed actions are substantially consistent with the Watershed Management Program EIS (DOE/EIS-0265) and ROD, and, 2) that there are no new circumstances or information relevant to environmental concerns and bearing on the proposed actions or their impacts. Therefore, no further NEPA documentation is required.

/s/ Shannon C. Stewart
Shannon C. Stewart
Environmental Specialist

CONCUR: */s/ Thomas C. McKinney* DATE: *6-5-2001*
Thomas C. McKinney
NEPA Compliance Officer

3 Attachments:
NEPA Compliance Checklist
Cultural Resource Survey Letter
ESA Letter

cc: (w/o attachments)
Guy Dodson – Shoshone-Paiute Tribes Duck Valley Indian Reservation

bcc: (w/attachments)

L. Croff - KEC-4

N. Weintraub - KEC-4

P. Key - LC-7

Official File - KEC (EQ-14)

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