

Packwood Lake Hydroelectric Project
Water Quality and Aquatic Resources Committee
September 19, 2006
Meeting Summary¹

Presentations

A presentation on the options considered for the permanent barrier was provided by HDR/Fish Pro. (Available at: <http://www.energy-northwest.com/downloads/gen/packwood/relicensing/TailraceFishBarrierOptions.pdf>)

Handout

There were no handouts.

Summary of Discussions

Ed Donahue and John Nelson with HDR/Fish Pro provided a summary of the options reviewed for the permanent barrier. These included an inclined traveling screen, rotating drum screen, vertical picket, and inclined picket. Laura Schinnell stated that Energy Northwest was leaning towards the inclined picket because of concerns related to potential flooding with the drum screen, but that Energy Northwest wanted input from the agencies.

The various options, guideline of 1 ft/sec through the gross area of the pickets or screen, hydrology considerations, range of flows for Packwood operations, frequency of flooding, and fish species and age that could be expected were discussed. No fatal flows were determined for either the inclined picket or rotating drum screen barriers. However, the preference is the rotating drum screen barrier, as it would provide better protection and exclusion of juveniles. If the barrier is overtopped, a recovery plan would be needed.

HDR/Fish Pro will proceed with a rotating drum screen barrier design. The guideline of 1 ft/sec should be met; however, there is some flexibility provided it is met at least up to 120 cfs of plant flow, which is the upper range for normal plant operations. The location can take into account flood frequency, but should be as close to the Cowlitz River as possible.

Actions from the Meeting

- Laura will provide HDR/Fish Pro with the link to the hydrology report (done).
- HDR/Fish Pro will provide Energy Northwest with the Powerpoint presentation for posting to the website (done).
- HDR/Fish Pro will obtain the FEMA map for the area. (This was completed, and HDR/Fish Pro reports that the flood elevation for this area is 1042 ft.)

¹ These meeting summary notes are not verbatim. They do not reflect formal decisions by Energy Northwest, any agency, tribe, non-governmental organization, or interested stakeholder.

- John Blum will provide HDR/Fish Pro with the current regression analysis (done).
- HDR/Fish Pro will complete the drum screen preliminary design by October 19. An interim step with information on the drum screen will be completed by October 4, followed by completion of the hydrology. This package will be sent out via email to agencies and tribes for review and comment.
- EES Consulting will prepare the monitoring/recovery plan and biological assessment.
- The package including construction drawings, biological assessment, and monitoring/recovery plan will be provided to agencies and tribes for review in mid-December. The target to submit to FERC will be by the end of January 2007.

Tentative Dates for Meetings

No next meeting has been scheduled. It was decided to review the preliminary design via email, and then if needed, schedule a conference call.

Attendance

Laura Schinnell, Energy Northwest
Gary Sprague, WDFW
John Blum, EES Consulting
Brian Peck, USFWS
Dan Ross, Energy Northwest
Doug Coleman, Energy Northwest
Bernice Kasko, Energy Northwest
Bryan Nordlund, NMFS
Ed Donahue, HDR/Fish Pro
John Nelson, HDR/Fish Pro