

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20426  
May 15, 2007

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2149-131 – Washington  
Wells Hydroelectric Project  
Public Utility District No. 1 of  
Douglas County, Washington

**Subject: Revised Scoping Document for Wells Hydroelectric Project (P-2149-131)**

To the Party Addressed:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is conducting National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) scoping on the anticipated relicense application for the Wells Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2149). The project is located on the Columbia River near the towns of Pateros and Brewster in Okanogan County, Washington. Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington (Douglas PUD), licensee for the Wells Project, is using the Commission's Integrated Licensing Process and plans to file a license application for the continued operation of the project on or before May 31, 2010.

Pursuant to NEPA, the Commission staff intend to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will be used by the Commission to determine whether, and under what conditions, to issue a new license for the project. We have conducted the public scoping process to ensure that all pertinent issues are identified and analyzed.

We held two scoping meetings for the Wells Project to receive input on the scope of the EA. A daytime meeting took place Wednesday, February 28, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Douglas County PUD Auditorium, 1151 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, Washington. An evening meeting was also held Wednesday, February 28, 2007, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Columbia Cove Community Center, 601 West Cliff Avenue, Brewster, Washington. We also visited the project site on Tuesday, February 27, 2007. Based on the meetings and the submission of written comments, we have updated Scoping Document 1 to reflect our current view of issues and alternatives to be considered in the EA.

Please direct any questions about the scoping process to Bob Easton at (202) 502-6045 or [robert.easton@ferc.gov](mailto:robert.easton@ferc.gov). Additional information about the Commission's licensing process and the Wells Project may be obtained from our website, <http://www.ferc.gov> or Douglas PUD's website, <http://www.douglaspud.org>.

Enclosure: Scoping Document 2

cc: Mailing List  
Public Files

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SCOPING DOCUMENT 2  
WELLS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT

WASHINGTON

PROJECT NO. 2149-131

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Office of Energy Projects  
Division of Hydropower Licensing  
Washington, DC

May 2007

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## SCOPING DOCUMENT 2

### Wells Hydroelectric Project, No. 2149

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC), under the authority of the Federal Power Act (FPA),<sup>1</sup> may issue licenses for terms ranging from 30 to 50 years for the construction, operation, and maintenance of non-federal hydroelectric projects. On December 1, 2006, Public Utility District No. 1 of Douglas County, Washington (Douglas PUD) filed a Notice of Intent to seek a new license for the Wells Project (Project No. 2149-131) and a Pre-Application Document (PAD).<sup>2</sup> The project is located on the Columbia River near the towns of Pateros and Brewster in Okanogan County, Washington (figure 1). There are 232.7 acres of federal lands located within the project boundary that are administered by the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or the Bureau of Reclamation. *The lands of the Confederated Tribes of the Coleville Reservation border the Wells Project along the eastern edge of the Okanogan River and along the north and east side of the Columbia River upstream from the confluence of the Okanogan River.*

The Wells Project is a run-of-river project operated in coordination with five other regional hydroelectric projects on the mid-Columbia River. With limited active storage at the Wells Reservoir, daily inflow equals daily outflow and fluctuations and power generation are largely driven by the discharge from two upstream federal projects: Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee.

The project has a water right for 220,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) for power production and an impoundment right for 331,200 acre-feet. *In the PAD, Douglas PUD indicated that the normal operating range for the Wells Reservoir is between elevations of 771 and 781 feet above mean sea level. In comments on Scoping Document 1 (SD1), Douglas PUD provided additional information indicating that for flood control purposes, the reservoir elevation may range from 767 to 791 feet above mean sea level.*

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<sup>1</sup>16 U.S.C. § 791(a)-825(r).

<sup>2</sup> The current license for the Wells Project was issued on July 12, 1962, for a term of 50 years; the current license expires on May 31, 2012.

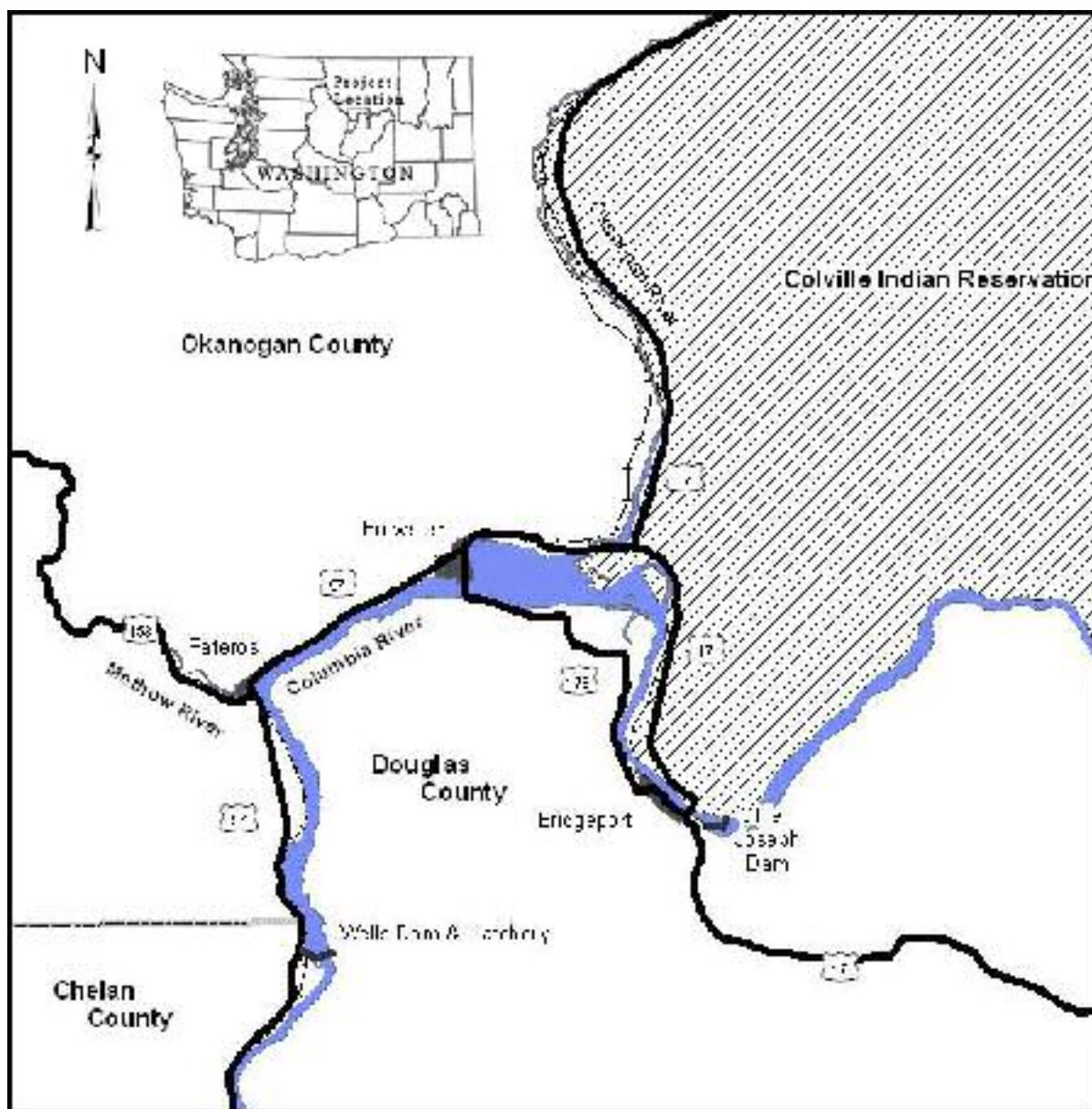


Figure 1. Location map of the Wells Hydroelectric Project (Source: Pre-Application Document and Staff).

The powerhouse has 10 generating units each housed individually in a 95-foot-wide and 172-foot-long concrete structure. The total installed capacity of the project is 774.3 megawatts (MW) with a maximum generating capacity of 840 MW. The average annual energy production for the period 2001 through 2005 was 3,870,169 megawatt-hours (MWh), with an average monthly generation ranging from 250,742 MWh in September to 398,796 MWh in June.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969,<sup>3</sup> the Commission's regulations, and other applicable laws require that we independently evaluate the environmental effects of relicensing the Wells Project as proposed, and also consider reasonable alternatives to Douglas PUD's proposal. At this time, we intend to prepare a draft and final environmental assessment (EA). The EAs will describe and evaluate the probable effects, including any site-specific and cumulative effects, of the proposed action and alternatives.

## 2.0 SCOPING

### 2.1 Purposes of Scoping

Scoping is the process used to identify issues, concerns, and opportunities for enhancement or mitigation associated with a proposed action. According to NEPA, the process should be conducted early in the planning stage of the project. The purposes of the scoping process are as follows:

- invite participation of federal, state and local resource agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the public to identify significant environmental and socioeconomic issues related to the proposed project;
- determine the depth of analysis and significance of issues to be addressed in the EA;
- identify how the project would or would not contribute to cumulative effects in the project area;
- identify reasonable alternatives to the proposed action that should be evaluated in the EA;

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<sup>3</sup> National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended (Pub. L. 91-190. 42 U.S.C. § 4321-4347, January 1, 1970, as amended by Pub. L. 94-52, July 3, 1975, Pub. L. 94-83, August 9, 1975, and Pub. L. 97-258, § 4(b), Sept. 13, 1982).



- solicit, from participants, available information on the resources at issue, including existing information and study needs; and
- determine the resource areas and potential issues that do not require detailed analysis during review of the project.

## 2.2 Comments and Scoping Meetings

*We issued SD1 on January 29, 2007. The site visit to the Wells Project was held on February 27, 2007. We conducted two scoping meetings during the daytime and evening of February 28, 2007. The daytime meeting was held at the Douglas County PUD Auditorium in East Wenatchee, Washington and the evening meeting was held at Columbia Cove Community Center in Brewster, Washington. Announcement of these meetings was published in local newspapers and in the Federal Register. A court reporter recorded the scoping meetings.*

*During the meetings and the following comment period, we received comments on Douglas PUD's PAD and the Commission's SD1. In addition, participants filed study requests. SD1 was revised to address only comments relating directly to the scope of environmental issues; comments on the applicant's PAD and study requests are not discussed here but will be considered during study plan development and the ensuing study plan meetings. This document, SD2, presents our current view of issues and alternatives to be considered in the EA and reflects comments suggested during scoping, excluding those indicated below. Key changes to SD1 are identified in bold and italic type.*

*The general concerns raised by participants during scoping are summarized below by topic.*

### *Cumulatively Affected Resources*

*Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Washington DFW) indicates that all fish species, not just migratory species, may be cumulatively affected by the proposed continuation and maintenance of the Wells Project. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) indicates that white sturgeon, resident fish, aquatic and wetland plant communities, aquatic invasive species, aquatic habitats, and terrestrial resources can be cumulatively affected. BIA also indicated that cultural resources could be cumulatively affected by erosion and by increased and improved access to cultural resource sites.*

*Response: Our analysis of effects on environmental resources will address direct and indirect project effects and will consider the existing environment, including non-project-related factors. There is no evidence to suggest that significant cumulative effects are occurring to any of the resources presented by Washington DFW or BIA. Washington DFW did not describe any potential cumulative effects on non-migratory fish species or provide any basis for their recommendation. BIA did not describe any potential cumulative effects on white sturgeon, resident fish, aquatic and wetland plant communities, or aquatic invasive species or provide any basis for their recommendation. BIA's justification for addressing cumulative effects on aquatic habitat and terrestrial resources stated that these resources can be cumulatively affected by project-related erosion, noxious weeds, and aquatic nuisance species. As indicated by section 4.2, we will address project-related effects on both of these resources; however, it does not follow that because project-related effects may exist, cumulative effects on those resources may occur and should be evaluated. Therefore, we find there is no need to include non-migratory fish species (including white sturgeon and resident fish), aquatic and wetland plant communities, aquatic invasive species, aquatic habitats, and terrestrial resources as resources to be addressed by our cumulative effects analysis.*

*We did not include cultural resources as a resource that could be cumulatively affected because we associated all potential effects to cultural resources with present and future project-related effects. This would include all primary and secondary effects such as erosion and recreational activities. In consultation with us, the Colville Tribe, State Historic Preservation Officer, and other participating parties, the applicant will be conducting cultural resource studies that will identify and address these particular kinds of effects, in addition to any other project-related effects that may occur.*

#### *Geographic Scope of the Cumulative Effects Analysis*

*Washington DFW, BIA, and the City of Brewster suggested that the geographic scope of the cumulative effects analysis should include reaches of inundated tributaries to Wells reservoir, including the lower portions of the Methow and Okanogan rivers. Washington DFW also suggested that the geographic scope include the tailrace of Chief Joseph Dam upstream of the State Highway 17 bridge.*

*Douglas PUD recommended that FERC retain the geographic scope as described in SD1 since the Chief Joseph Project tailrace is primarily controlled and influenced by Chief Joseph Dam.*

***Response: We have added language to the scoping document to clarify that our cumulative effects analysis would include portions of the tributaries that are inundated by the impoundment of the Columbia River behind Wells Dam. We have no evidence to suggest that the Wells Project has any effects on conditions in the Chief Joseph tailrace and Washington DFW did not provide any evidence that this area is influenced by the Wells Project. Therefore, we did not revise the upstream extent of the geographic scope of our cumulative effects analysis to include the Chief Joseph tailrace.***

### **Temporal Scope of the Cumulative Effects Analysis**

***BIA requested that the historical perspective of the temporal scope be clarified to ensure that ongoing impacts are identified.***

***Response: As indicated in section 4.1.3, the temporal scope will address past effects to the extent that available information allows. Our treatment of ongoing effects is described below.***

### **Reservoir Fluctuations**

***Washington DFW recommended that the effects of Wells Reservoir fluctuations should be evaluated for effects on the ecosystem, including effects on aquatic and wetland plant communities, fish use, and benthic macroinvertebrates. Washington DFW specified that the evaluation of reservoir fluctuations should include fluctuations caused by system-wide energy requirements.***

***Response: Effects of the project on aquatic and wetland plant communities, which would include effects of reservoir fluctuations, was identified as an issue under Aquatic Resources in SD1. The effects of reservoir fluctuations on wetland communities was also identified under terrestrial resources in SD1. We have revised the description of the resident fish issue to include benthic macroinvertebrates and indicate this issue would include the effects of reservoir fluctuations.***

### **Water Temperature as a Separate Water Quality Issue**

***Washington DFW suggested that water temperature should be addressed as a primary, stand-alone issue.***

***Response: Whether water quality parameters are listed in a single issue statement or along with several other parameters, the treatment (i.e., analysis) of each parameter will be scaled to the magnitude of the issue, available information, and any associated effects of the project. We find no reason to list water temperature as a separate issue for analysis in the EA.***

### **Other Hydroelectric Projects**

***Washington DFW provided language suggesting that the analysis of effects on water temperatures should include effects of the Wells Project and other hydroelectric projects.***

***Response: Our analysis will include a description of the existing environment, which accounts for the effects of other hydroelectric projects. We intend to discuss cumulative effects on water temperature, which would consider the effects of the Wells Project and other hydroelectric projects within the Columbia River basin.***

### **Nuisance Wildlife**

***Washington DFW suggested revising the issue that would address the effectiveness of the nuisance wildlife control program. Washington DFW's states that there is a need to understand the effect of the northern pikeminnow removal program on native resident fish populations.***

***Douglas PUD indicated that the issue should not be revised and that the intent of the issue is to determine if the existing nuisance wildlife control program is targeting the correct wildlife species to provide appropriate protections to listed species at the project tailrace and hatchery. Douglas PUD also indicated that this is a terrestrial issue, not an aquatic issue.***

***Response: We have moved the nuisance wildlife issue from the aquatic section to the terrestrial section and we have added a new issue under Aquatic Resources to address Washington DFW's concern regarding the effects of the northern pikeminnow removal program on native resident fish populations. We have revised the description of the nuisance wildlife issue to reflect the intent and concerns of the parties, as described during scoping.***

### **Stream, Riparian, and Wetland Habitat**

***BIA recommended that the effects on stream, riparian, and wetland habitat, including habitats that will continue to be inundated by the project, be addressed.***

***Response: The effects of the project on stream, riparian, and wetland habitats is included in the existing list of issues described under aquatic and terrestrial resources. Because the Commission's environmental baseline for evaluation of effects is the existing environment, our analysis will not treat past inundation of stream, riparian, and wetland habitats as an effect of relicensing the project and we have not included past inundation as an issue in this Scoping Document.***

### **Purpose of Scoping**

***BIA stated that section 2.1 of the scoping document should discuss direct and indirect effects and differentiate between past effects and ongoing effects.***

***Response: The first bullet in this section invites stakeholders to identify significant issues related to the proposed project. This statement is a clear solicitation of input on direct and indirect effects of the proposed project, including ongoing effects. Past effects would be addressed by cumulative effects and comments on this aspect of the analysis are solicited in the third bullet in section 2.1.***

### **Evaluation of Replacement Power**

***BIA requested that we revise section 3.2 to elaborate on the evaluation of replacement power.***

***Response: We have added language to section 3.2 to describe how we would address replacement power.***

### **Evaluation of Ongoing Effects**

***BIA stated that it does not foresee any objections to the Commission's baseline definition as long as the environmental analysis includes ongoing effects and is not limited to an evaluation of only "additive" effects.***

***Response: Evaluation of any action alternative would address ongoing effects such as fish entrainment or production of total dissolved gases. However, because the existing environment serves as the Commission's environmental baseline, past effects such project construction and inundation of project lands would not be considered ongoing effects.***

**Methow River Spring-run Chinook Salmon**

*Lee Bernheisel indicated that an environmental impact statement should be prepared to address the hatchery and escapement protocols used to manage spring-run Chinook salmon in the Methow River subbasin.*

*Response: As indicated in section 4.0 of this document, we will address the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of the Wells Project on salmon and steelhead in an EA. This analysis would include effects of the project on spring-run Chinook salmon that inhabit the Methow River. However, it is beyond the scope of this proceeding to evaluate the hatchery and escapement protocols used by state, federal, and tribal fisheries agencies to manage spring-run Chinook salmon in the Methow River subbasin. Additionally, because no one has identified any significant effects on the human environment from relicensing the Wells Project that would warrant preparation of an environmental impact statement, we intend to prepare a draft and final EA.*

**Historic Lamprey and White Sturgeon Habitat**

*BIA recommends that the environmental analysis for lamprey and white sturgeon discuss historic habitat for these species in order to define the appropriate sideboards for mitigation.*

*Response: As indicated above, the existing environment will serve as the environmental baseline for evaluation of any action alternatives. Past effects such as the inundation or modification of historic lamprey and white sturgeon habitat will not be presented as an ongoing effect of any alternative for relicensing the Wells Project.*

**The Type of Information Solicited During Scoping**

*BIA states that the Commission's solicitation of information should specify information that would help to characterize continuing project effects.*

*Response: The fourth bullet in section 5.0 of SD1 solicited information that would help us to characterize the existing environmental conditions and habitats. This information would include any information related to continuing project effects; therefore, we find that there is no need to modify our standard language. Additionally, because scoping ended on April 2, 2007, the section soliciting information has been deleted from SD2.*

**Suggested Revisions to Statements Describing Project Operations**

*Douglas PUD indicated that the “per year” distinction should be removed from the statement indicating that Douglas PUD has an impoundment right of 331,200 acre-feet. Douglas PUD also indicated the reservoir operating range may exceed 771 to 781 feet above mean sea level for flood control purposes.*

*Response: We have made the suggested revisions to SD2. However, because the language presented in SD1 was taken directly from the PAD, we suggest that Douglas PUD review page 29 of section 3.5 of the PAD and consider making similar revisions if this information is to be included in the final license application. Additionally, Douglas PUD should consider referencing the specific order language that authorizes such operations.*

**Federal Takeover**

*Douglas PUD indicated that under section 3(7) of the Federal Power Act Douglas PUD would be classified as a municipality and, therefore, federal takeover is not a potential alternative to relicensing.*

*Response: We have added this information to SD2.*

**Recreation Resources**

*In order to restore and enhance the Fort Okanogan Interpretive Center, the Friends of Fort Okanogan (Friends) stated that Douglas PUD could assist Friends with financial support in that endeavor (e.g., increase the size of the center, interpretive trails, wildlife observation facilities) and provide funds for educational/re-enactment programs.*

*Ms. Gail Howe (City of Pateros) stated that an opportunity exists for a partnership between the City of Pateros and Douglas PUD to develop interpretive services of interest to the community and visitors at a proposed new visitor information center in the city. Development of an operations and maintenance plan for the city parks would assess the operational impacts and identify opportunities for the City of Pateros and Douglas PUD to work cooperatively over the term of a license.*

*The City of Brewster raised concerns that there is a lack of public access and recreational facilities (e.g., moorage of boats, campsites), which could be met by developing a recreation vehicle park, with water access and trails, at the Foyle property. There is a need for additional interpretive sites and support for existing sites (e.g., Fort Okanogan). A marina at the site of Gamble Mill Pond should be considered.*

*In response to comments on the scoping meetings, Douglas PUD stated that it has established over 30 access sites and use areas along both sides of the Wells Project reservoir and on the Methow and Okanogan Rivers. In addition, Douglas PUD has funded and developed major parks and recreation facilities along the Wells Project reservoir in Pateros, Brewster, and Bridgeport. Since 1974, Douglas PUD's contributions toward recreation facilities have been in excess of \$8.9 million.*

*Response: This issue will be addressed in the staff's EA for the Wells Project under Recreation Resources and Land Use.*

### Land Use

*Washington DFW recommends that Douglas County PUD's Land Use Policy be amended to address concerns, such as permits, ownership or transfer of project lands, and project land management activities (e.g., disturbance of habitat and establishment of invasive plant species). The City of Brewster and Mr. Mark Miller (resident) commented that the licensee's Land Use Policy is restrictive and appears to constrict the city's economic growth.*

*In response to comments on the scoping meetings, Douglas PUD clarified its land acquisition policies. In addition, Douglas PUD stated that it has developed and continues to implement a comprehensive Land Use Policy, which allows for private use of Wells Project lands if an applicant acquires all the necessary permits prior to receiving a land use permit from Douglas PUD.*

*Response: Issues related to Douglas County PUD's Land Use Policy will be addressed in the staff's EA for the Wells Project under Land Use.*

### Dock Use and Boater Access

*Ms. Betty Wagoner raised a concern regarding her permitted dock and her ability to continue to use the dock and water access.*

*Response: This issue will be addressed in the staff's EA for the Wells Project under Land Use because such permits are related to Douglas PUD's Land Use Policy.*



**Railroad Right-of-Way**

*Ms. Gail Howe (City of Pateros) stated that Douglas PUD recently secured an interest in the Cascade-Columbia River Railroad right-of-way between Wells dam and the City of Brewster. Should the railroad abandon its interest, the City of Pateros proposes that Douglas PUD include alternatives for use of the property, including trails and links to urban parks.*

*Response: This issue will be addressed in the staff's EA for the Wells Project under Land Use.*

**Socioeconomics**

*The City of Pateros, Mayor Lee Webster (City of Brewster), Councilman Jerry Tretwold (City of Brewster), Messrs. Ron Oules, Tom Benner, Mark Miller, and Steve Jenkins raised a concern that Douglas PUD has not compensated or assisted the communities of Pateros, Brewster, and Bridgeport after the Wells Hydroelectric Project was constructed, resulting in a loss of land and associated tax base, including potential development that would support the economic recovery of the area. Further, neither recreation enhancement measures nor economic benefits to the communities occurred as a result of Douglas PUD raising the Wells Hydroelectric Project impoundment 2 feet (from 779 feet to 781 feet mean sea level) and thereby, generating additional power for sale.*

*Mr. Steve Jenkins stated that recreation and its associated tourist dollars are important to the City of Bridgeport community. Costs associated with mitigation measures could impact the community's fair and reasonable power rates.*

*The City of Brewster stated that Chief Joseph State Park would have provided an economic benefit to the area if its land was not sold and the associated profits transferred to a distant locale.*

*In response to comments on the scoping meetings, Douglas PUD provided a summary of its tax obligations and how its taxes are incorporated into Washington State's general fund to be dispersed to the counties and cities adjacent to the Wells Project reservoir. Furthermore, Douglas PUD noted the economic and electric benefits of the Wells Project to the Okanogan County residents. Because of the Wells Project output, Okanogan PUD is able to provide its customers with lower electric rates.*

***Response: We have revised section 4.0 of the scoping document to indicate that we will address the socioeconomic effects of relicensing the Well Project (see section 4.2.6 Socioeconomics).***

### **Comprehensive Plans**

***Bureau of Indian Affairs stated that the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the Wells Hydroelectric Project should be included on the List of Comprehensive Plans.***

***The City of Brewster stated that three documents (shoreline master plan, park and recreation plan, and comprehensive plan) should be added to the list of Comprehensive Plans.***

***Response: For a document to be considered as a comprehensive plan, pursuant to section 10(a)(2)(A) of the FPA, a federal or state agency must file with the Secretary of the Commission a letter that transmits the document and request the document be considered as a comprehensive plan. The Commission has not received any such request for the Habitat Conservation Plan for the Wells Hydroelectric Project or for the City of Brewster documents. The staff, therefore, will consider the suggested documents, as it considers all relevant studies and recommendations, in its public interest analysis, pursuant to section 10(a)(1) of the FPA.***

### **Foyle Property**

***The City of Brewster commented that it would like to have access to and retain the water rights that have historically belonged to the Foyle property.***

***Response: As explained at our public scoping meetings on February 28, 2007, the Commission staff does not address certain aspects of a State regulation, which in this case would be water rights, because it is outside the Commission's purview. We focus on issues associated with project purposes, project generation, and project-related environmental, recreation, and cultural resources.***

## **3.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES**

In accordance with NEPA, the EA will consider the following alternatives, at a minimum: (1) the applicant's proposed action, (2) alternatives to the proposed action, and (3) no action.

### **3.1 Douglas PUD's Proposed Action**

#### **3.1.1 Description of Existing Project Facilities**

The Wells Project consists of: (1) a 1,130-foot-long and 168-foot-wide concrete hydrocombine dam with integrated generating units, spillways, switchyard and fish passage facilities; (2) a 2,300-foot-long and 40-foot-high earth and rock-filled west embankment; (3) a 1,030-foot-long and 160-foot-high earth and rock-filled east embankment; (4) eleven 46-foot-wide and 65-foot-high ogee-designed spillway bays with 2 vertical lift gates (upper leaf is 46 feet by 30 feet and lower leaf is 46 feet by 35 feet); (5) five spillways modified to accommodate the juvenile fish bypass system; (6) 10 generating units each housed in a 95-foot-wide and 172-foot-long concrete structure with an installed capacity of 774.3 MW and maximum capacity of 840 MW; (7) five 14.4-kilovolts (kV) power transformers each connected to 2 generating units converting the power to 230 kV; (8) two 41-miles-long 230-kV single-circuit transmission lines running parallel to each other; and (9) appurtenant facilities.

#### **3.1.2 Description of Existing Project Operation**

The Wells Project is operated run-of-river with daily outflows to the Wells Reservoir equaling daily inflows. The limited active storage of the reservoir is only sufficient to regulate flow on a daily basis. Reservoir fluctuations and power generation are largely driven by the discharge of water from the two hydroelectric projects upstream on the mid-Columbia River.

Currently, the project has a water right for 220,000 cfs for power production and an impoundment right for 331,200 acre-feet per year. The Wells Reservoir *is typically* maintained between elevations of 771 and 781 feet above mean sea level for power and non-power purposes.

Daily operation of the project is influenced by many factors including: existing FERC license requirements, natural stream flows, regulation of upstream storage reservoirs in the US and Canada, regulation of water releases from upstream hydro projects on an hourly basis to meet changing power demands, actions in response to fish, wildlife and other environmental regulations, and variable power demands from power sales contracts. Douglas PUD has also entered into many settlements and agreements that affect the management of environmental resources as well as operation/generation of the Wells Project.

The project normally generates its maximum output during periods of high river

flows, usually May through August. Regional electric loads typically peak during the summer months for home air conditioning and irrigation pump usage. Regional peak loads also occur during winter months for heating and lighting purposes.

### **3.1.3 Proposed Project Facilities and Operations**

Douglas PUD is not proposing any new facilities or operations at the Wells Project.

## **3.2 Alternatives to the Proposed Action**

We will consider and assess all alternative recommendations for operational or facility modifications, as well as protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures identified by us (Commission staff), the agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public. To the extent that modifications would reduce the power production of the proposed project, we will evaluate costs and contributions to airborne pollution related to generation of replacement power by fossil fuel stations.

*Since the North American Electric Reliability Council reports that there is a need for power in the region, we evaluate the replacement power needed when the project's generation is affected by proposed environmental measures. The project low-cost replacement power would most likely come from non-renewable, fossil-fired generation, which contributes to air pollution through the production of nitrogen oxides and sulfur oxides.*

## **3.3 No Action**

Under the no-action alternative, the Wells Project would continue to operate as required by the current project license (*i.e.*, there would be no change to the existing environment). No new environmental protection, mitigation, or enhancement measures would be implemented. We use this alternative to establish baseline environmental conditions for comparison with other alternatives.

## **3.4 Alternatives Considered But Eliminated from Detailed Study**

At present, we propose to eliminate the following alternatives from detailed study in the EA.

### 3.4.1 Federal Government Takeover

In accordance with § 16.14 of the Commission's regulations, a federal department or agency may file a recommendation that the United States exercise its right to take over a hydroelectric power project with a license that is subject to sections 14 and 15 of the FPA.<sup>4</sup> We do not consider federal takeover to be a reasonable alternative. Federal takeover of the project would require congressional approval. While that fact alone would not preclude further consideration of this alternative, there is currently no evidence showing that federal takeover should be recommended to Congress. No party has suggested that federal takeover would be appropriate and no federal agency has expressed interest in operating the project.<sup>5</sup>

### 3.4.2 Nonpower License

A non-power license is a temporary license the Commission would terminate whenever it determines that another governmental agency is authorized and willing to assume regulatory authority and supervision over the lands and facilities covered by the non-power license. At this time, no governmental agency has suggested a willingness or ability to take over the project. No party has sought a non-power license, and we have no basis for concluding that the Wells Project should no longer be used to produce power. Thus, we do not consider a non-power license a reasonable alternative to relicensing the project.

### 3.4.3 Project Decommissioning

Decommissioning of the project could be accomplished with or without dam removal. Either alternative would require denying the relicense application and surrender or termination of the existing license with appropriate conditions. There would be significant costs involved with decommissioning the project and/or removing any project facilities. The project provides a viable, safe, and clean renewable source of power to the region. With decommissioning, the project would no longer be authorized to generate power.

No party has suggested project decommissioning would be appropriate in this case, and we have no basis for recommending it. Thus, we do not consider project

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<sup>4</sup> 16 U.S.C. §§ 791(a)-825(r).

<sup>5</sup> *In comments filed on March 30, 2007, Douglas PUD indicates that because Douglas PUD is a municipality, the Wells Project is not subject to federal takeover.*

decommissioning a reasonable alternative to relicensing the project with appropriate environmental enhancement measures.

## **4.0 SCOPE OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS AND RESOURCE ISSUES**

### **4.1 Cumulative Effects**

According to the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing NEPA (50 C.F.R. 1508.7), an action may cause cumulative effects if its effects overlap in space and/or time with the effects of other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time, including hydropower and other land and water development activities.

#### **4.1.1 Resources That Could Be Cumulatively Affected**

Based on our review of the PAD and preliminary staff analysis, we have identified water quality and migratory fish as aquatic resources that could be cumulatively affected by the proposed continued operation and maintenance of the Wells Project.

#### **Aquatic Resources**

The operation of the Wells Project and other mainstem Columbia River dams can influence water quality conditions and fisheries resources in the mid-Columbia River. During periods of high flows, spillway releases at these dams can increase total dissolved gas levels throughout the river. Additionally, impoundment of water behind the dams and fluctuating reservoir levels and project releases may influence water temperatures, dissolved oxygen levels, pH, and turbidity within the basin. In regard to migrating fish species, the dams inhibit upstream and downstream fish movements and alter spawning and rearing habitat within the mainstem Columbia River. Other factors that may cumulatively affect aquatic resources in the basin include non-native fish introduction, human development, agricultural practices, timber harvest, and mining operations.

#### **4.1.2 Geographic Scope**

Our geographic scope of analysis for cumulatively affected resources is defined by the physical limits or boundaries of: (1) the proposed action's effect on the resources, and (2) contributing effects from other hydropower and non-hydropower activities within the

Columbia River Basin. Because the proposed action can affect resources differently, the geographic scope for each resource may vary.

At this time, we have tentatively identified the geographic scope for aquatic resources to encompass the Columbia River from the tailrace of the Chief Joseph Project to the downstream end of the Wells Project tailrace (i.e., the beginning of the Rocky Reach Project reservoir). *This area would include inundated portions of tributaries to the Wells reservoir, such as the lower Methow and Okanogan rivers.*

#### **4.1.3 Temporal Scope**

The temporal scope of our cumulative effects analysis in the EA will include a discussion of past, present, and future actions and their effects on each resource. Based on the potential term of a new license, the temporal scope will look 30-50 years into the future, concentrating on the effect to the resources from reasonably foreseeable future actions. The historical discussion will, by necessity, be limited to the amount of available information for each resource.

## **4.2 Resource Issues**

In this section, we present a list of environmental issues to be addressed in the EA. We have identified these issues, which are listed by resource area, by reviewing the PAD, the Commission's record, and comments received during scoping. This list is not intended to be exhaustive or final, but contains those issues raised to date that could have substantial effects. Those issues identified by an asterisk (\*) will be analyzed for both cumulative and site-specific effects.

### **4.2.1 Aquatic Resources**

- Effects of the project on the input, movement, accumulation, and retention of toxins (i.e., DDT and PCBs) originating in the Okanogan River *subbasin* and the potential effects of these toxins on aquatic organisms and humans.
- Effects of the project on total dissolved gas levels in the Wells tailrace and Rocky Reach forebay.\*
- Effects of the project on water temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and turbidity.\*

- Effects of the project on aquatic and wetland plant communities.
- Effects of the project on the spread of aquatic invasive species.
- Effects of the project and ongoing actions, including the Habitat Conservation Plan, on salmon and steelhead.\*
- Effects of the project on juvenile lamprey dam passage and reservoir survival.\*
- Effects of the project on adult lamprey habitat use and *behavior related to ladder passage, timing, drop back, and upstream migration*.\*
- Effects of the project on white sturgeon spawning, rearing, recruitment, movements, and abundance.
- Effects of the project on bull trout survival and habitat.\*
- Effects of the project, *including reservoir fluctuations*, on resident fish *and benthic macroinvertebrates*.
- *Effects of the northern pikeminnow removal program on native resident fish.*

#### 4.2.2 Terrestrial Resources

- Whether the project transmission line represents an avian electrocution or collision hazard.
- Effects of transmission line right-of-way management practices (e.g. weed control and road maintenance) on wildlife and botanical resources.
- Effects of Douglas PUD's land management practices (weed control, soil erosion control) and permitting policies (installation of docks, water systems, fences, landscaping, and agricultural uses) on wildlife and wildlife habitats.
- Effects of project-related recreation on wildlife and wildlife habitats (e.g. disturbance to wildlife and alteration and modification of habitats).
- Effects of the frequency, timing, amplitude and duration of reservoir fluctuations on riparian and wetland habitats *and wildlife (amphibians and*



*waterfowl) dependent on these habitats.*

- Effects of the project reservoir as a migration and movement barrier to mule deer.
- Adequacy of the existing wildlife management program in reducing project effects on wildlife.
- *Whether the nuisance wildlife control program is targeting the appropriate birds and mammals that may be preying on listed salmon and steelhead juveniles and whether there are more effective control actions.*

#### **4.2.3 Threatened and Endangered Species**

- Effects of project operations (reservoir fluctuations) and project-related recreation on federally listed bald eagle and Ute ladies'-tresses.
- Effects of project operations (reservoir fluctuations), land management practices, and project-related recreation on the following state-listed rare species: little bluestem, chaffweed, northern sweet grass, brittle prickly-pear, American white pelican, *sage grouse*, and sharp-tailed grouse.
- Effects of the project on Upper Columbia River spring-run Chinook salmon, Upper Columbia River steelhead, and bull trout.

#### **4.2.4 Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetics**

- Effects of project operations (reservoir fluctuations) on access to and use of public boat launches and docks.
- Effects of aquatic vegetation and sediment conditions (transport and deposition) on public access to and use of the project waters.
- Adequacy of existing recreation facilities and public access within the project boundary in meeting current and future (over the term of a new license) recreational demand, including barrier-free access needs.

#### **4.2.5 Archaeological and Historic Resources**

- Effects of continued project operations or changes in project operation or

facilities on historic, archeological, and traditional resources that may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.<sup>6</sup>

#### **4.2.6 Socioeconomics**

- *Effects of the Wells Hydroelectric Project on local, tribal and regional economies.*

#### **4.2.7 Developmental Resources**

- Effects of protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures on project economics.

### **4.3 Proposed Protection and Enhancement Measures and Potential Studies**

Douglas PUD, working with the consulted entities, has identified measures to protect and enhance environmental resources of the project area. Douglas PUD proposes to continue operating the Wells Project with the following environmental protection and enhancement measures:

- Continue to implement the Habitat Conservation Plan for salmon and steelhead species inhabiting the project area.
- Periodically (every 5 years) provide an update to its Public Use Plan (next update is scheduled for 2007).
- Continue to implement its Land Use Policy to provide guidance for land use management decisions regarding project lands and waters.

Depending upon the findings of studies completed by Douglas PUD and the recommendations of the consulted entities, Douglas PUD will consider, and may propose certain other measures to enhance environmental resources affected by the project as part of the proposed action. The following is Douglas PUD's initial study proposals to fill information gaps to address the above issues and determine appropriate environmental measures. Further studies may need to be added to this list based on comments provided to FERC from interested participants, including Indian tribes. Douglas PUD proposes to:

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<sup>6</sup> *This would include a re-assessment of the present-day project-related effects on the historic Fort Okanogan site (45OK64).*

### *Aquatic Resources*

- Conduct a review of existing information describing the survival and rates of predation for juvenile Pacific lamprey migrating through Columbia River hydroelectric projects. Also, implement a field study to assess the occurrence of juvenile lamprey in the diets of predatory fish and birds present in the Wells Project forebay and tailrace.
- Conduct a study to locate suitable adult lamprey spawning habitat within the Wells Project area and conduct surveys to identify active spawning by adult lamprey.
- Conduct a radio-telemetry study to examine the effects of the Wells Project on adult lamprey migration and dam passage.
- To address human health concerns, sample sediments and fish tissues for DDT and PCBs in the lower Okanogan River within the Wells Project boundary.
- Continue to study and examine total dissolved gas production dynamics at the Wells Project.
- Develop a water temperature model that assesses the effects of the Wells Project on water temperature.
- Conduct additional sampling to monitor dissolved oxygen, pH, and turbidity within the Wells Project.

### *Terrestrial Resources*

- Conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of and identify alternatives to the predator control program on listed and recreationally important fish stocks.
- Conduct plant and wildlife surveys and develop a cover type map for the Wells Project 41-mile-long 230 kV transmission line in order to assess rare and noxious plant communities in the transmission line right-of-way, evaluate potential avian collision problems, and evaluate the extent of use and dependency of habitats in the transmission line corridor by sage and sharp-tailed grouse.

### *Recreation Resources and Land Use*

- Conduct a study to evaluate whether Wells Project recreation facilities, such as boat launches and docks, can be reasonably accessed under various reservoir operating scenarios. Assess how aquatic vegetation and sediment conditions affect public access to project waters. (In 2005 Douglas PUD conducted aquatic macrophyte identification and distribution study, and a detailed bathymetric survey of the Wells Project reservoir and tailrace).
- Conduct a recreation needs analysis to identify current and future recreation needs within the project boundary, including the possibility of trails and trail linkages. Public access to project lands and waters would be identified and assessed. The study would also determine whether adequate demand exists to justify the construction of new recreation facilities.

### *Cultural Resources*

- Conduct a cultural resources investigation to resolve existing gaps in knowledge of cultural resources in the area of potential effect.

## **5.0 EA PREPARATION SCHEDULE**

At this time, we anticipate the need to prepare a draft and final EA. The draft EA will be sent to all persons and entities on the Commission's service and mailing lists for the Wells Project. The EA will include our recommendations for operating procedures, as well as environmental protection and enhancement measures that should be part of any new license issued by the Commission. All recipients will then have 30 days to review the EA and file written comments with the Commission. All comments on the draft EA filed with the Commission will be considered in preparation of the Final EA.

The major milestones, including those for preparing the EA, are as follows:

<u>Major Milestone</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
Scoping Meetings	February 2007
License Application Filed	May 2010
Issue Ready for Environmental Analysis Notice	July 2010
Deadline for Filing Comments, Recommendations and Agency Terms and Conditions/Prescriptions	September 2010
Draft EA Issued	May 2011
Deadline for Filing Modified Agency Recommendations	August 2011
Final EA Issued	November 2011

A copy of Douglas PUD's process plan, which has a complete list of relicensing milestones for the Wells Project, including those for developing the license application, is attached as Appendix A to this *SD2*.

## **6.0 PROPOSED EA OUTLINE**

The preliminary outline for the Wells Project EA is as follows:

### **SUMMARY**

- 1.0 APPLICATION**
- 2.0 PURPOSE OF ACTION AND NEED FOR POWER**
  - 2.1 Purpose of Action
  - 2.2 Need for Power
- 3.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES**
  - 3.1 Applicant's Proposed Action
    - 3.1.1 Project Facilities and Operation
    - 3.1.2 Proposed Protection, Mitigation, and Enhancement Measures
  - 3.2 Staff-recommended Alternative
  - 3.3 No-Action Alternative
  - 3.4 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study
- 4.0 CONSULTATION AND COMPLIANCE**
  - 4.1 Consultation
    - 4.1.1 Scoping
    - 4.1.2 Interventions
    - 4.1.3 Comments on the Application
  - 4.2 Compliance
    - 4.2.1 Water Quality Certification
    - 4.2.2 Section 18 Fishway Prescriptions
    - 4.2.3 Endangered Species Act
    - 4.2.4 Section 106 Consultation
- 5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS**
  - 5.1 General Description of the River Basin
  - 5.2 Cumulative Effects Analysis
    - 5.2.1 Geographic Scope
    - 5.2.2 Temporal Scope
  - 5.3 Proposed Action and Action Alternatives
    - 5.3.1 Aquatic Resources
    - 5.3.2 Terrestrial Resources
    - 5.3.3 Threatened and Endangered Species
    - 5.3.4 Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetics

- 5.3.5 Archaeological and Historic Resources
- 5.3.6 *Socioeconomics*
- 5.4 No-Action Alternative
- 6.0 DEVELOPMENTAL ANALYSIS
  - 6.1 Power and Economic Benefits of the Project
  - 6.2 Cost of Environmental Measures
  - 6.3 Economic Comparison of Alternatives
- 7.0 COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT AND RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE
- 8.0 FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCY RECOMMENDATIONS
- 9.0 CONSISTENCY WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLANS
- 10.0 FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
- 11.0 LITERATURE CITED
- 12.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

## 7.0 CONSISTENCY WITH COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Section 10(a)(2) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. section 803(a)(2)(A), requires the Commission to consider the extent to which a project is consistent with federal or state comprehensive plans for improving, developing, or conserving a waterway or waterways affected by a project. The staff has identified and reviewed the plans listed below that may be relevant to the Wells Project. If there are other comprehensive plans that should be considered for this list that are not on file with the Commission or if there are more recent versions of the plans already listed, they can be filed for consideration with the Commission according to 18 CFR section 2.19 of the Commission's regulations. Please follow the instructions for filing a plan at

<http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/gen-info/complan.pdf>.

Comprehensive Plan	Agency
Fisheries USA: The Recreational Fisheries Policy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. No date.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, DC
An Assessment of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State: A State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning (SCORP) Document 2002-2007. October 2002.	Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, Olympia, WA

Voices of Washington: Public Opinion on Outdoor Recreation and Habitat Issues. November 1995.	Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, Olympia, WA
State of Washington Outdoor Recreation and Habitat: Assessment and Policy Plan, 1995-2001. November 1995.	Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, Tumwater, WA
Washington State Trails Plan: Policy and Action Document. June 1991.	Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, Tumwater, WA
The Fifth Northwest Electric Power and Conservation Plan. Council Document 2005-07.	Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council, Portland, OR
Columbia River Basin Fish & Wildlife Program. Council Document 2000-19.	Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council, Portland, OR
Mainstem Amendments to the Columbia River Basin Fish & Wildlife Program. Council Document 2003-11.	Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council, Portland, OR
Protected Areas Amendments and Response to Comments. Council Document 88-22.	Northwest Power and Conservation Planning Council, Portland, OR
Resource Protection Planning Process- Paleoinian Study Unit. 1987	Washington State Dept. of Community Development, Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, Olympia, WA
Water Resources Management Program - Methow River Basin. November 1977.	Washington Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA
Water Resources Management Program - Okanogan River Basin. February 1978.	Washington Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA
State Wetlands Integration Strategy. December 1994.	Washington Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA

Application of Shoreline Management to Hydroelectric Developments. September 1986.	Washington Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA
Hydroelectric Project Assessment Guidelines. 1987.	Washington Department of Fisheries, Olympia, WA
Strategies for Washington's Wildlife. May 1987.	Washington Department of Game, Olympia, WA
State of Washington Natural Heritage Plan. 1987.	Washington Department of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA
Final Habitat Conservation Plan. September 1997.	Washington Department of Natural Resources, Olympia, WA
Settlement Agreement pursuant to the September 1, 1983, Order of the U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon in Case No. 68-513. Columbia River Fish Management Plan. November 1987.	State of Washington, State of Oregon, State of Idaho, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Nez Perce Tribe, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Indian Nation.
A Resource Protection Planning Process Identification Component for the Eastern Washington Protohistoric Study Unit. 1987.	Washington Dept. of Community Development, Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, Olympia, WA
Washington State Hydropower Development/Resource Protection Plan. December 1992.	Washington State Energy Office, Olympia, WA
North American Waterfowl Management Plan. May 1986.	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Canadian Wildlife Service. U.S. Department of the Interior. Environment Canada.



Eighth Amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for Commercial and Recreational Salmon Fisheries off the Coasts of Washington, Oregon, and California. January 1988.

Pacific Fishery Management Council,  
Portland, OR

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## 8.0 FERC OFFICIAL MAILING LIST.

The list below is the Commission's official mailing list for the Wells Project (FERC No. 2149). If you want to receive future mailings for the Wells Project from the Commission and are not included in the list below, please send your request by email to [efiling@ferc.gov](mailto:efiling@ferc.gov) or by mail to: **Kimberly D. Bose**, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, DC 20426. All written and emailed requests to be added to the Commission's mailing list must clearly identify the following on the first page: Wells Project No. 2149-131. You may use the same method if requesting removal from the mailing list below.

Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscribenow.htm> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659

### Mailing List

BRETT SWIFT AMERICAN RIVERS 320 SW STARK STREET SUITE 412 PORTLAND, OR 97204	JENNIFER L. O'CONNOR PUGET SOUND ENERGY, INC. PO BOX 97034 BELLEVUE, WA 98009	CHAIRMAN, COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE COMMISSION PO BOX 730 WHITE SALMON, WA 98672
Gary Dahlke Paine, Hamblen, Coffin, Brooke & Miller LLP 717 W. Sprague, Suite 1200 Spokane, WA 99201	Stanley Speaks US Department of the Interior 911 NE 11th Ave. Portland, OR 97232	Steve S. Parker Confederated Tribes & Bands of Yakama P.O. Box 151 Toppenish, WA 98948

Robert C. Lothrop Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission 729 NE Oregon St. Suite 200 Portland, OR 97232	Ren Lohofener U.S. Department of the Interior 911 NE 11th Ave. Portland, OR 97232	Joe Peone Confederated Tribes Colville Reservation PO Box 150 Nespelem, WA 99155
Timothy R. Weaver Confederated Tribes & Bands of the Yakama Indians PO Box 487 Yakima, WA 98907	Mark Miller U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 215 Melody Lane #119 Wenatchee, WA 98801	Carl Merkle Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla PO Box 638 Pendleton, OR 97801
Michael E Marchand Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation PO Box 150 Nespelem, WA 99155	Bill McDonald U.S. Department of the Interior 1150 N. Curtis Rd. Suite 100 Boise, ID 83706	Douglas County Chairman PO Box 747 Waterville, WA 98858
Stephen H. Suagee Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation PO Box 150 Nespelem, WA 99155	Estyn R. Mead U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 911 NE 11th Ave. Portland, OR 97232	Regional Engineer Federal Energy Regulatory Commission 101 SW Main St. Suite 905 Portland, OR 97204
Christopher Fontecchio National Marine Fisheries Service 7600 Sand Point Way NE Seattle, WA 98115	Brian V. Faller Washington Office of Attorney General PO Box 40117 Olympia ,WA 98504	Electric Section Specialist Washington Utilities and Transportation PO Box 47250 Olympia,WA 98504

<p>Bill Miller PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah St Portland, OR 97232</p>	<p>Derek Sandison Washington State Department of Ecology 15 W Yakima Ave. Suite 200 Yakima, WA 98902</p>	<p>Keith R. Kirkendall National Marine Fisheries Service 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd. Suite 1100 Portland, OR 97232</p>
<p>Carol A. Wardell PUD #1 of Chelan County 327 N. Wenatchee Avenue P. O. Box 1231 Wenatchee, WA 98801</p>	<p>Jeff Koenings Washington Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife 600 Capitol Way N. Olympia, WA 98501</p>	<p>Bryan Nordlund National Marine Fisheries Service 510 Desmond Drive SE, Suite 103 Lacey, WA 98503</p>
<p>Ken A. Pflueger PUD #1 of Douglas County 1151 Valley Mall Pkwy East Wenatchee, WA 98802</p>	<p>Robert J. Masonis American Rivers 4005 20th Ave W. Suite 221 Seattle, WA 98199</p>	<p>FERC Energy Coordinator Okanogan National Forest 1240 2nd Ave. S. Okanogan, WA 98840</p>
<p>Garfield R. Jeffers Jeffers, Danielson, Sonn &amp; Aylward, P.S. PO Box 1688 Wenatchee, WA 98807</p>	<p>Kevin R. Colburn. American Whitewater 1035 Van Buren St. Missoula, MT 59802</p>	<p>Okanogan County Chairman PO Box 232 Okanogan, WA 98840</p>
<p>William J. Madden Winston &amp; Strawn LLP 1700 K Street, N.W. 2nd Floor Washington, DC 20006</p>	<p>Ron Peterson Avista Corporation PO Box 3727 Spokane, WA 99220</p>	<p>William G. Laitner Olympic National Park 600 E. Park Ave. Port Angeles, WA 98362</p>
<p>Ray A. Foianini Foianini &amp; Sears 120 1st Avenue NW Ephrata, WA 98823</p>	<p>Bonneville Power Administration, Director PO Box 3621 Portland, OR 97208</p>	<p>Virgil Moore Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife 3406 Cherry Ave NE Salem, OR 97303</p>

John P Sample PacifiCorp 825 NE Multnomah St. Suite 1500 Portland, OR 97232	James Lobdell Portland General Electric 121 SW Salmon St. Portland, OR 97204	Keith Truscott PUD #1 of Chelan County PO Box 1231 Wenatchee, WA 98807
Douglas R. Nichols Portland General Electric 121 SW Salmon St. Portland, OR 97204	Rich Riazzi PUD #1 of Chelan County PO Box 1231 Wenatchee, WA 98807	Gregg Carrington PUD #1 of Chelan County PO Box 1231 Wenatchee, WA 98807
William Dobbins PUD #1 of Douglas County 1151 Valley Mall Pkwy East Wenatchee, WA 98802	Tim Culbertson PUD #2 of Grant County PO Box 878 Ephrata, WA 98823	Donald E. Kempf Stillaguamish Tribe PO Box 277 Arlington, WA 98223
Maria Cantwell, Honorable U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20515	Paul Wiegand Puget Sound Energy, Inc. PO Box 97034 Bellevue, WA 98009	Brian C. Cates U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 7501 Icicle Rd Leavenworth, WA 98826
Dept. of the Army Secretary U.S. Army Corps of Engineers PO Box 2870 Portland, OR 97208	Dept. of the Interior, Director U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs 911 NE 11th Ave. Portland, OR 97232	State Director U.S. Bureau of Land Management PO Box 2965 Portland, OR 97208
Dept. of the Interior Director U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs PO Box 48 Aberdeen, WA 98520	State Director U.S. Bureau of Land Management PO Box 2965 Portland, OR 97208	Jennifer Frozena U.S. Department of the Interior 911 NE 11th Ave. Portland, OR 97232

Nolan Shishido US Department of the Interior 500 NE Multnomah St Suite 607 Portland, OR 97232	Susan Martin U.S. Department of the Interior 11103 E Montgomery Dr. Spokane, WA 99206	FERC Coordinator Wenatchee National Forest 215 Melody Ln. Wenatchee, WA 98801
Richard Hastings, Honorable U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515	Dan Haas U.S. National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior 909 1st Ave. Seattle, WA 98104	Lee Van Tussenbrook Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife 2108 Grand Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98661
Craig Hansen U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 510 Desmond Drive S.E. Lacey, WA 98503	Washington Dept. of Agriculture 406 General Administration Building Olympia, WA 98504	Habitat Division Chief Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife 600 N. Capitol Way Olympia, WA 98504
SHPO PO Box 48343 Olympia, WA 98504	William Frymire Washington Office of Attorney General PO Box 40100 Olympia, WA 98501	Forest Practice Coordinator Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources 950 Farman St. N. Enumclaw, WA 98022
Jay J. Manning Washington State Department of Ecology PO Box 47600 Olympia, WA 98504	Carmen Andonaegui Washington State Dept. of Fish & Wildlife 1550 Alder St. NW Ephrata, WA 98823	SEPA Center Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources PO Box 47015 Olympia, WA 98504
Secretary Washington Utilities and Transportation PO Box 47250 Olympia, WA 98504	John P. Williams 19815 NW Nestucca Dr Portland, OR 97229	Bill Koss Washington State Dept. of Parks & Recreation PO Box 42668 Olympia, WA 98504

**APPENDIX A - PROCESS PLAN AND SCHEDULES****WELLS ILP PROCESS PLAN AND SCHEDULE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Pre-Filing Milestone</b>	<b>Responsible party</b>
12/1/2006	File Notice of Intent and Pre-Application Document	Douglas PUD
12/1/2006	Issue public notice of NOI and PAD	Douglas PUD
1/30/2007	Notice NOI/PAD and issue Scoping Document I (SD1)	FERC
3/1/2007	Hold scoping meeting and site visit	FERC
4/2/2007	Comment on PAD and SD1; request studies	Participants
5/17/2007	Scoping Document No. 2 (SD2) issued	FERC
5/17/2007	File proposed study plan	Douglas PUD
6/18/2007	Hold study plan meeting	Douglas PUD
8/15/2007	Comment on proposed study plan	Participants
9/14/2007	File revised study plan	Douglas PUD
<b>10/1/2007</b>	File reply comments (to revised study plan)	Participants
10/15/2007	Issue study plan determination	FERC
<b>11/5/2007</b>	Filed study dispute notice	Agencies with mandatory conditioning authority
11/19/2007	Third panel member selected	FERC
<b>11/26/2007</b>	Convene dispute resolution panel (if necessary)	FERC
<b>11/30/2007</b>	File comments and information regarding dispute	Douglas PUD
12/4/2007	Technical conference held	FERC
<b>12/26/2007</b>	Determination on study dispute	Panel/FERC
<b>1/14/2008</b>	Study dispute determination filed	FERC
2008	Conduct studies and gather information (first season)	Douglas PUD
10/15/2008	File initial study report	Douglas PUD
10/30/2008	Hold initial study report meeting	Douglas PUD
11/14/2008	Meeting summary and study plan modifications (if necessary)	Douglas PUD
12/15/2008	Comments on meeting summary	Participants
1/14/2009	Response to meeting summary comments	Douglas PUD
2/13/2009	Director's study plan determination	FERC
2009	Conduct studies and gather information (second season as necessary)	Douglas PUD
10/15/2009	Update study report (as needed) and Notice of Intent to File a Draft License Application (if so selected)	Douglas PUD
10/30/2009	Hold updated study report meeting (as needed)	Douglas PUD
11/16/2009	Updated study report meeting summary	Douglas PUD
<b>12/16/2009</b>	Comments on meeting summary	Participants
12/31/2009	File Preliminary Licensing Proposal or Draft License Application	Douglas PUD
<b>1/15/2010</b>	Response to meeting summary comments	Douglas PUD
2/15/2010	Director's study plan determination	FERC
3/31/2010	Comment on Preliminary Licensing Proposal	FERC/Participants
5/31/2010	File Application for New License	Douglas PUD