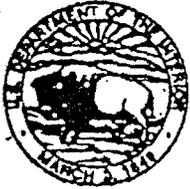


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United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FISH AND WILDLIFE ENHANCEMENT

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OCT 18 1993

Mr. James K. Hartman
Assistant Manager for Transition
and Environmental Restoration
Department of Energy
Rocky Flats Office
P.O. Box 928
Golden, Colorado 80402-0928

Dear Mr. Hartman:

As you requested, the Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) reviewed the proposed outline for the Standley Lake Protection Project (Project) Biological Assessment (Assessment). Overall, based on the headings, the outline appears to include the necessary information. We are providing you with handwritten margin comments on the document and we emphasize the following:

- See 50 CFR 402.12 (f) for a description of items which should be considered for inclusion in the Project Assessment.
- A written request for a list of threatened or endangered species which may occur in the proposed Project area should be made to the Colorado State Office (50 CFR 402.12 (c).).
- The Service cannot overemphasize the value of a very complete Project description.
- The Assessment should include description of potential impacts from construction activities as well as potential impacts from contaminant exposure.
- The Service supports proposed activities and/or projects which encourage species to utilize "uncontaminated" areas. However, "uncontaminated areas" should be supported by data which indicate that habitats and prey are uncontaminated.
- The Service supports the emphasis to sever exposure pathways for threatened and endangered species. A thorough description of how or why specific pathways are severed or eliminated will be necessary to determine the value of these actions.

Mr. James K. Hartman

The Service appreciates the opportunity to review this document, and we look forward to reviewing the Project Assessment. In the interim, if you have questions regarding these comments or would like additional information, please contact Andrew Archuleta at (303)231-5280.

Sincerely,



for LeRoy W. Carlson
Colorado State Supervisor

enclosure (BA outline w/comments)

cc: Project File (BC:NPL:Rocky Flats:Standley Lake)
Reading File

cc\andrew\RFBAout.com

**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
COMMENTS ON STANDLEY LAKE PROTECTION PROJECT (SLPP)
BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OUTLINE**

Sections 1.3 and 1.4: See 50 CFR 402.12(f) for contents to be considered for inclusion in a biological assessment. Also, on Note: Sections 1.3 and 1.4 should also relate to the operation of the project facilities and components.

Section 2.0: The more complete and detailed description, the better. This section should also include a description of the expected T&E species habitat impacts from construction activities.

Section 3.4: Include a description of seasonal discharge flow scenarios.

Section 4.0: See 50 CFR 402.12(c). DOE/RFO is sending a written request for the species or proposed species of concern to the Colorado state office.

Section 4.3.2.4: Possible species include: Whooping crane, and whooping crane critical habitat in Nebraska; Interior Least Tern; Piping Plover; Pallid Sturgeon; Prairie White-Fringed Orchid; American Burying Beetle; Peregrine Falcon; and Bald Eagle.

Section 5.2: Include a description of potential routes and pathways of exposure, and consider effects to T&E species as well as in the prey bases. Also include biotic and abiotic data that show uncontaminated habitats and/or prey bases to the extent they currently exist, and to what extent this is expected to change (for the better, i.e., positive impacts as a result of the project).

Section 5.3: Include bald eagle eaglets, as well as adults. (This is to show that the prey bases to be fed to bald eagle chicks will not become contaminated as a result of the project; hopefully, the prey base will be improved thru the habitat enhancement plan.)

Section 6.1: Are there any typical or seasonally routine activities that may increase a species exposure?

Section 6.2: Also describe seasonal activities/movements of species of concern that will affect this scheduling. (Bald eagles, peregrines, maybe Preble's jumping mouse)

Section 6.3: Describe route of exposure during this period. If these conditions are expected during certain times of the year, describe the species activities at these times (i.e., present or about breeding season, etc., and probably a statement that the cities will manage the project components to preclude adverse effect to T&E.)

Section 7: The wildlife habitat enhancement plan is to encourage T&E use of uncontaminated or other habitat areas in the vicinity of Standley Lake. Because these areas may be in OU 3, the Service encourages data that supports the claim that "enhanced" areas are not contaminated. (Rather than saying the areas are not contaminated, the Cities should focus on the idea that they don't pose a threat to the health and well-being of T&E species. We suggest that Jeffco Open Space be contacted to see if they have records on the open space lands to be used for enhancement areas, and use the information on prior land use to make assumptions for this. Also, some OU-3 rad data may be available to support this.)

**Standley Lake Protection Project
(SLPP)
Proposed "Biological Assessment"**

Outline

September 29, 1993

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Project Description
- 3.0 System Operations
- 4.0 Federal and State Species of Concern
- 5.0 Potential Contaminants of Concern
- 6.0 Project Features Limiting Exposure To Selected Species
- 7.0 Wildlife Habitat Enhancements
- 8.0 Summary
- 9.0 Literature References

Standley Lake Protection Project
"Biological Analysis" Outline

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the SLPP

1.2 Proposed Facilities and Project Components

1.2.1 Facilities

- 1.2.1.1 Woman Creek Reservoir
- 1.2.1.2 WCR-GWR Pipeline
- 1.2.1.3 Kinnear Ditch Pipeline
- 1.2.1. n (Other Facilities as appropriate)

1.2.2 Components

- 1.2.2.1 Water Rights Sales and Arrangements (Other)
- 1.2.2.2 Land Use (e.g. Acquisitions, Leases, etc.)/changes
- 1.2.2.3 Relationships to OU3

1.3 Objectives and Scope of "Biological Analysis"

1.4 Components of "Biological Analysis"

} see 50 CFR 402.12
for contents to be
considered for inclusion
in a Biological Assessment

*(Note: §§1.3 and 1.4 should relate to the Project Facilities and Components)

2.0 Project Description

— The more complete & detailed description the better → operation

2.1 Description of Project Purpose

2.2 Description of Project Facilities

2.2.1 Woman Creek Reservoir

- 2.2.1.1 Pump Station
- 2.2.1.2 WCR-GWR Pipeline

2.2.2 Kinnear Ditch Pipeline

- 2.2.2.1 Water Intakes and Headgates
- 2.2.2.2 Water Discharge Outlet(s)
- 2.2.2.n (Other)

- Description of expected THE Wbtt. impacts from construction activities

3.0 System Operations

3.1 Low Flows (stagnant water issues, etc.)

3.2 Typical-Moderate Flows

3.3 High Flows

3.4 Expected Operational Flow Scenarios - Description of seasonal flow scenarios

3.5 Routine Operational Activities

4.0 Federal and State Species of Concern - See CFR 50 402.12(c).
A written request for the species of proposed sp. should be made to the Colorado state office

4.1 (Reproduce the Federal listed species of concern from EG&G's updated version of, "Sensitive Species With Potential To Occur At RFP," post-3 August 93)

4.2 (Reproduce State Candidate species of concern from EG&G's updated version of, "Sensitive Species With Potential To Occur At RFP," post-3 August 93)

- Whooping Crane
- Whooping Crane Crit. hbH
- interior Least Tern
- Spiny Plover
- Bald Sturgeon
- rainie White Flinged Orchid
- American Barging Beetle
- Peregrine falcon
- Bald Eagle

4.3 Potential For Adverse Effects to Selected Federal and State Species of Concern

4.3.1 Selection Criteria

Is this criteria to be used to eliminate species from the list of potentially occurring species?

4.3.2 Selected Federal/State Species of Concern

4.3.2.1 Ute ladies tresses orchid

4.3.2.2 Peregrine falcon

4.3.2.3 Bald eagle

4.3.2.4 Platte River Species of Concern

4.3.2.5 Mexican spotted owl

4.3.2.6 Preble's meadow jumping mouse

4.3.2.7 Southwestern willow flycatcher

4.3.2.n (Others...?)

Determine fr
FW's list

*(NOTE: Mexican spotted owl, Preble's, and Southwestern willow flycatcher may be able to be eliminated from consideration; however, there may also be additional species that cannot yet be eliminated from consideration based on the route of Kinnear Ditch Pipeline and the habitats it may traverse)

5.0 Potential Contaminants of Concern

5.1 Potential Contaminants

5.1.1 Radionuclides

5.1.2 Inorganics

5.1.3 Organics

5.2 Potential for Exposure and Adverse Ecological Effects

- Description of potential routes & pathways of exposure

5.3 Potential Toxicity To Selected Species of Concern

↳ For bald eagles, adults + eaglets

↳ Consider effects to T+E species as well as prey

← in which ot.2/abiot.2 rich show contaminated #s. for prey cons.

6.0 Project Features That Limit Exposure To Selected Species of Concern

6.1 Typical Receptor Activities That Routinely Limit Exposure

- Are there any "typical activities" that may increase sp. exposure?

6.1.1 Bald eagle

6.1.n (Others...?)

- Describe seasonal activities/movements of species of concern

6.2 Construction Activities and Scheduling That Limit Exposure To Selected Species of Concern

6.2.1 Typical Flows and Water Quality That Restrict Exposure

6.2.1.1 Bald eagle

- Physical
- Chemical/Radiological
- Biological

6.2.1.n (Others ...?)

6.2.2 Typical Human Activities Leading To Restricted Exposures

6.2.2.1 Bald eagle

6.2.2.n (Others ...?)

6.3 Potential or Suspected contamination or Low Flow Conditions -

6.3.1 (Typical) Responses

- Describe route of exposure during this period(s).

6.3.1.1 Bald eagle

- Physical
- Chemical/Radiological
- Biological

- If these conditions are expected during certain times of year describe species activity.

6.3.n (Others ...?)

6.3.2 Human Responses

6.3.2.1 Bald eagle

6.3.2.n (Others ...?)

6.4 (Responses) To Known System Contamination

6.4.1 (Typical) Responses

6.4.1.1 Bald eagle

- Physical
- Chemical/Radiological
- Biological

6.4.n (Others ...?)

6.4.2 Human Responses

6.4.2.1 Bald eagle

6.4.2.n (Others ...?)

could be moved to paragraph 7.0.

7.0

Measures to prevent Exposure
Wildlife Habitat Enhancement -

7.1 Wetlands

7.2 Grassland (Prairie dog and other terrestrial habitats)

7.3 Standley Lake Area

8.0 Summary

Potential impacts to T&E from SLAP

8.1.1 Project Features Limiting Exposure

8.1.2 Exposure Assessment

8.1.3 Risk Assessment

9.0 Literature References

→ TO encourage T&E use of uncontaminated or of the habitat areas in the vicinity of Standley L. Because these may be on or near service enclosures. data which supports the claim that "enhanced" areas are contaminated.