

**FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Washington D.C. 20426**

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 2381-058--Idaho
Ashton-St. Anthony Hydro Project
PacifiCorp

R.A. Landolt, Managing Director
Hydro Resources
PacifiCorp
825 N.E. Multnomah, Suite 1500
Portland, OR 97232

FEB - 8 2007

Subject: 2006 Annual Fish Salvage Report per license article 404

Dear Mr. Landolt:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your annual Fish Salvage Report, filed November 15, 2006, for the Egin Canal of the Ashton-St. Anthony Project. Your filing was made pursuant to ordering paragraph (B) of the Order Modifying and Approving Fish Salvage Plan.¹

The report stated that following the closing of the Egin Irrigation Canal on October 31, 2006, a crew of six biologists and technicians collected salmonids from the first mile of the canal using backpack electroshockers and dip nets. The report stated that 1,458 salmonids were captured and released into the adjoining river. The data indicated that the 1,458 salmonids were comprised of 1016 mountain whitefish, 125 rainbow trout, 264 brown trout, and 53 cutthroat trout hybrids. The report added that no non-salmonid species were relocated although numerous Utah sucker, speckled dace, redbside shiner, and sculpin were observed.

The report indicated that the total number of fish salvaged was somewhat higher than the numbers collected during the past years' efforts, and that the number of fish collected exceeded the minimum required 300 salmonids approved in the mitigation plan. The report stated that in comparison to previous year's data, the current data indicates that the proportions of salmonids encountered in the canal were somewhat different from those reported in recent years (2001 and 2004), but similar to last year's data with whitefish being the predominant species collected. The report notes that there were very few Utah suckers encountered in

¹ 80 FERC ¶ 62,001 (1997).

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the canal in 2006. Also noted was that the 2006 water year more closely reflected normal hydrologic conditions in the Henry's Fork compared to the drought conditions and warmer temperatures in previous years.

The report stated that there were 48 fish mortalities observed at the time of release which represents about 3 percent of the total fish relocated. The report indicated that 46 of the 48 mortalities were whitefish in the size category of 100-150 millimeter length and the two remaining mortalities were a rainbow trout and a brown trout. The report also indicated that in order to minimize fish mortality the team continues to: collect the fish during the last week of October when air temperatures are cooler; using multiple holding barrels with bagged ice to cool the water; minimize holding time; and use oxygenated holding tanks. The report stated that these techniques help reduce fish mortality and will continue to be used.

Lastly, the report included species, size and sample data for 2006 along with relative abundance data for the each species captured since the program began in 1992. The report indicated that copies of the 2006 fish salvage report were provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Your November 15, 2006 report adequately fulfills the annual reporting requirements of ordering paragraph (B) of the Order Modifying and Approving Fish Salvage Plan. Thank you for your cooperation and if you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact me at (202) 502-8900.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. LoVullo".

Thomas J. LoVullo
Senior Technical Expert
Division of Hydropower Administration
and Compliance

c. Jess Foss
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