



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
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June 29, 2015

Dana Hall
Low Impact Hydropower Institute
P.O. Box 194
Harrington Park, NJ 07640

Re: Letter of Support for Recertification with the Low Impact Hydropower Institute, Pelton Round Butte Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2030)

Dear Ms. Hall:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is writing in support of the Low Impact Hydropower Institute's (LIHI) recertification of the Pelton Round Butte Hydroelectric Project (Project), located on the Deschutes River near Madras, Oregon. The Service is a Department of Interior agency with authority under section 18 of the Federal Power Act to prescribe fishways, and filed its fishway prescription for the Project with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on November 8, 2002. The Service has reviewed the LIHI questionnaire and has the following responses.

Section C Fish Passage and Protection: The Service finds that the Project satisfactorily meets the pertinent LIHI criteria, as listed below.

1. Is the Facility in Compliance with Mandatory Fish Passage Prescriptions for upstream and downstream passage of anadromous and catadromous fish issued by Resource Agencies after December 31, 1986?

Yes, the Project is in compliance with the Service's September 30, 2004, fishway prescription.

2. Is the Facility in Compliance with Mandatory Fish Passage Prescriptions for upstream and/or downstream passage of Riverine fish?

Yes, the Project is in compliance with the Service's September 30, 2004, fishway prescription.

3. Is the Facility in Compliance with Resource Agency Recommendations for Riverine, anadromous and catadromous fish entrainment protection, such as tailrace barriers?

Yes, the Project is in compliance with the Service's September 30, 2004, fishway prescription.

Section E Threatened and Endangered Species Protection: The Service finds that the Project satisfactorily meets the pertinent LIHI criteria, as listed below.

1. If the Facility has received authorization to incidentally Take a listed species through having a relevant agency complete consultation pursuant to ESA Section 7 resulting in a biological opinion, a habitat recovery plan, and/or (if needed) an incidental Take statement, is the Facility in Compliance with conditions pursuant to that authorization?

Yes, the Project is in compliance with the Service's November 1, 2004, biological opinion.

The Service's mandatory Section 18 fish passage prescriptions for upstream and downstream passage of anadromous and resident fish were incorporated into the new license for the Project, which was issued on June 1, 2005. Based on the Project licensee's successful efforts to implement those prescriptions and to comply with the terms of the Service's biological opinion, the Service supports the LIHI recertification for the Project.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this letter or if we can be of additional assistance, please contact Peter Lickwar of my staff at (541) 383-7146.

Sincerely,



Nancy Gilbert
Field Supervisor

Cc: Scot Lawrence, PGE, 121 SW Salmon St, Portland OR 97204