



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Columbia-Cascades Area Office
1917 Marsh Road
Yakima, WA 98901-2058



CCA-1604
2.4.1.17

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Ms. Lisa Wood
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way
Olympia, WA 98501

Subject: Categorical Exclusion / Roza Diversion Dam Fish Screen Replacement Project

Dear Ms. Wood:

The Roza Diversion Dam Fish Screen Replacement Project (Project) was determined to be an action categorically excluded under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The actions of the Project do not individually or cumulatively have a significant impact on the environment.

In addition to the actions listed in the Department of the Interior categorical exclusions specified in 43 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 46.210, many of which the Bureau of Reclamation also performs, the following Reclamation actions are designated categorical exclusions in the **Department of the Interior Department Manual Part 516, Chapter 14.6** unless one or more of the extraordinary circumstances listed at 43 CFR § 46.215 applies:

C.(3) – Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

and

D.(1) – Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location, and/or operation.

If you have any questions about the information in this letter, please contact Ms. Elizabeth Heether, Environmental Protection Specialist, by email at ehether@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Teresa Hauser
Acting Yakima Field Office Manager

INTERIOR REGION 9 • COLUMBIA-PACIFIC NORTHWEST

IDAHO, MONTANA*, OREGON*, WASHINGTON

* PARTIAL



Project Information:

Project Title: Roza Diversion Dam Fish Screen Replacement Project

Date: 12/9/2022 **Office:** Yakima Field Office

Proposed Action: During the non-irrigation seasons of 2023 and 2024, Reclamation proposes to convert the Roza Canal headworks and fish screen structure, consisting of large rotating drum screens (that do not meet fish passage criteria and are beyond their service life) located in five trash rack protected bays that terminate in a fish collector and bypass system, to a new system of in-river submerged, rotating, self-baffling, and self-cleaning T-screens.

Location: Sections 32 and 33 of Township 15 North Range 19 East (46.75024, -120.46615)

Exclusion Category Part 516 Chapter 14.5 C. (3): Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities, **AND D (1)** Maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing facilities which may involve a minor change in size, location, and/or operation.

Background, Maps, Sketches, Drawings:



Modifications proposed to the screening area include saw-cutting the existing concrete headwalls and placing new concrete support structures for the slide gates and tracks associated with the new screens. Ten 8-foot diameter by 31.5-foot long stainless steel, wedge-wire T-screens would be installed in-river for this project.



All equipment operation would occur in the dry. All construction would use conventional techniques, such as cofferdamming, dewatering, forming, concrete pumping, etc. and the contractor would be obligated to use construction and demo techniques that ensure there are no discharges into the river of any kind. Cofferdammed areas and the existing bays would be dewatered by pumping water into the Roza Canal, due to lack of upland areas that could handle the volume of water expected. Staging would be in areas already previously disturbed.

The construction for the fish screen would take place in two stages—there would be two years of construction, anticipated to be 2023/24 and 2024/25, which would each take place within an October 15 through March 31 in-water work window. All Construction would take place in the existing facility footprint with only minor in-water work occurring to manage river flows to facilitate construction activities. In-water work would begin with silt screeding for the cofferdam placement footprint area (approximately 6-feet from the existing structure), and installing a sheet-pile and whaler cofferdam that would be located parallel to and approximately 5-feet out from the existing right bank Roza Dam fish screen and diversion abutment wall. Once the cofferdam is sealed, pumice filled gabion baskets would be lowered over prepared silt line within the cofferdam, and tremie would be installed in phases to act as ballast, prevent seepage, and to provide a ledge for workers to stand on during the forming, concrete placement, and screen installation. All pool drawdowns, if needed, will be coordinated with YFO staff. All heavy equipment needed to install the cofferdam, modify the right bank fish screen abutment wall, and to construct and install the new T-screens and operating infrastructure would occur from atop the right bank abutment (i.e. between the right bank abutment wall and the existing fish screen bays). At the conclusion of each in-water work window, the sheet pile cofferdam would be cutoff at top of the tremie (approximately el. 1, 206.75), the upper sheet piles removed, and the remaining edges would be ground smooth.

In the first year of construction, the first two fish screen bays would be decommissioned and 4 new in-river T-screens covering those bays installed. The following Roza diversion canal operational season, spring and summer of 2024, would therefore result in half of the Roza screens of the new T-screen variety and half of the existing 27-ft diameter drum screen variety in operation. Finally, in the second year of construction, the remaining 6 in-river T-screens would be installed and the 3 remaining fish screen bays would be decommissioned. At that point the existing fish bypass system would be decommissioned, and the old drum screens would be raised out of the water and removed to be scrapped sometime in the future as time and money allow. After being decommissioned the drum screen bays and concrete infrastructure would remain in place without being removed after the construction and beginning of operation of the 10 new in-river T-screens in the spring and summer of 2025.

Extraordinary Circumstances Exist for This Action Which May:		No	Yes	Uncertain
1	This action would have a *significant effect on the quality of the human environment (40 CFR 1501.4(a)). *Please note, per 1501.4 (b)(1) of the NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS (revised September 2020): "If an extraordinary circumstance is present, the agency nevertheless may categorically exclude the proposed action if the agency determines that there are circumstances that lessen the impacts or other conditions sufficient to avoid significant effects." It is recommended that the use of 1501.4 (b)(1) be vetted through the Project's Attorney Advisor and NEPA managers affiliated with the Project.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	This action would have disputed environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA Section 102(2)(E) and 43 CFR 46.215(c)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	This action would have significant impacts on public health or safety (43 CFR 46.215(a)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	This action would have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographical characteristics as historic or cultural resources; parks, recreation,	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



	and refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO11990); flood plains (EO11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas (43 CFR46.215(b)).			
5	This action would have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks (43 CFR 46.215(d)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	This action would establish a precedent for future action or present a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (e)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	This action would have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects (43 CFR 46.215 (f)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	This action would have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by Reclamation (in coordination with a Reclamation cultural resources professional, LND 02-01) (43 CFR 46.215(g)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	This action would have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the list of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated critical habitat for these species (43 CFR 46.215 (h)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	This action would violate a Federal, tribal, State, or local law or requirement imposed for protection of the environment (43 CFR 46.215 (i)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	This action would affect ITAs (to be completed by Reclamation official responsible for ITAs) (512 DM 2, Policy Memorandum dated December 15, 1993).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	This action would have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898) (43 CFR 46.215 (j)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13	This action would limit access to, and ceremonial use of, Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007, 43 CFR 46.215 (k), and 512 DM 3)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	This action would contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act, EO 13112, and 43 CFR 46.215 (l)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

NEPA action recommended

CE Checklist: The proposed action meets the CE criteria, as defined in 43 CFR 46.215, and qualifies as a categorical exclusion. The action will not significantly affect the quality of the human environment. It is excluded from documentation in an Environmental Assessment (EA) or Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The proposed action does not meet the criteria for a categorical exclusion. Further environmental review and analysis is required. The following environmental document should be prepared.

EA

EIS

ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRUST ASSET COMMITMENTS, EXPLANATION, AND/OR COMMENTS:

NHPA S.106, E.O. 13007

The Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP) letter (see page 5), received by Reclamation on February 25,



2022, concurred with Reclamation's determination that Roza Diversion Dam is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as a contributing resource of the NRHP-eligible Yakima Project Historic District, and that the current project will have *no adverse* effect on historic properties within the APE that are listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the NRHP.

Should cultural resources be inadvertently discovered during the implementation activities, work would stop and the Columbia-Cascades Area Office (CCAO) Archaeologist will be contacted immediately, per the *Plan and Procedures for Inadvertent Discovery of Cultural Resources and Human Remains* attached to this Categorical Exclusion Checklist.

Implementation will not resume until all mitigative measures developed in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer have been completed. This Federal action will not adversely impact access to or ceremonial use of any identified Indian sacred sites and will not adversely affect the physical integrity of any such sacred sites.

T&E Species Review

Reclamation requested informal consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding the Roza Dam Fish Screen Replacement Project under sections 7(a)2 of the ESA, as amended, on September 3, 2019, and requested concurrence with the determination that the project "may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect" bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) and its designated critical habitat. The USFWS agreed, in a letter dated September 20, 2019, that implementation of the Project will result in beneficial effects to the bull trout and its designated critical habitat; therefore, concurring with Reclamation's determination of "may affect, not likely to adversely affect."

Reclamation requested consultation with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA on November 12, 2021. NMFS also reviewed the likely effect of the proposed action on essential fish habitat (EFH) pursuant to section 305(b) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and concluded that the action would adversely affect the EFH of Pacific coast salmon. After reviewing and analyzing the current status of the listed species and critical habitat, the environmental baseline within the action area, the effects of the proposed action, the effects of other activities caused by the proposed action, and cumulative effects, it is NMFS' biological opinion that the proposed action is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of MCR steelhead or destroy or adversely modify their designated critical habitat. NMFS issued their biological opinion and incidental take statement on December 8, 2022.

Environmental Justice

In evaluating environmental justice, there would be no disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations or communities.

Indian Trust Assets

There are no known assets held in Trust for American Indian Tribes or Individuals in the project location. Therefore, there will be no effect.

Wetlands and Vegetation:

Wetland work is not a part of the project; therefore, there would be no effect to the resource. Minor vegetation removal may occur in the previously disturbed area that has been used for staging during other construction projects at Roza Dam and for parking during the spring Chinook fishing season.



Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

February 25, 2022

Talmadge Oxford
US Bureau of Reclamation

In future correspondence please refer to:

Project Tracking Code: 2021-12-08640

Property: Roza Diversion Dam Fish Screen Replacement Project

Re: NO Adverse Effect

Dear Talmadge Oxford:

Thank you for contacting the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) regarding the above referenced proposal. This action has been reviewed on behalf of the SHPO under provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended) and 36 CFR Part 800. Our review is based upon documentation contained in your communication.

First, we concur that Property ID: 91079, the Roza Diversion Dam, is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource of the NRHP-eligible Yakima Project Historic District. We also concur that the current project as proposed will have "NO ADVERSE EFFECT" on historic properties within the APE that are listed in, or determined eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. As a result of our concurrence, further contact with DAHP on this proposal is not necessary. However, if new information about affected resources becomes available and/or the project scope of work changes significantly, please resume consultation as our assessment may be revised. Also, if any archaeological resources are uncovered during construction, please halt work immediately in the area of discovery and contact the appropriate Native American Tribes and DAHP for further consultation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. Please ensure that the DAHP Project Number (a.k.a. Project Tracking Code) is shared with any hired cultural resource consultants and is attached to any communications or submitted reports. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Holly Borth
Preservation Design Reviewer
(360) 890-0174
Holly.Borth@dahp.wa.gov



Project Title:		
Concurrence and approval	Name and Title	Signature
Prepared by		
Concur with item #8		
Concur with item #9		
Concur with item #11		
Concur: Field Office Manager		
Recommended: Environmental Program Manager		
Approved: Area Office Manager		

Categorical Exclusion Number and Date

~~~~~end of document~~~~~