



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Pacific Northwest Region
Yakima Field 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 Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal Project

Dear Ms. Wood:

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

In addition to the actions listed in the United States 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 **Department of the Interior Departmental Manual Part 516, Chapter 14.5** unless one or more of the extraordinary circumstances listed at 43 CFR § 46.215 applies:

C.(1) - 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 Mr. Rafael Orozco, Natural Resource Specialist, by email at rorozco@usbr.gov. If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services.

Sincerely,

Chad Stuart
Yakima Field Office Manager



Project Information:

Project Title: Roza Diversion Dam Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal

Date 7/8/2024 **Office:** Yakima Field Office

Proposed Action: Reclamation proposes to excavate up to 600 cubic yards of accumulated sediment adjacent to the low-flow fish ladder attraction flow intake and trashrack within the Roza Pool (Yakima River) at the Roza Diversion Dam.

Location: Township 15 North, Range 19 East, Sections 28 and 33 (46.749181, -120.464924)

Exclusion Category Part 516 Chapter 14

C(1) - Minor construction activities associated with authorized projects which correct unsatisfactory environmental conditions or which merely augment or supplement, or are enclosed within existing facilities.

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:

Roza Diversion Dam (Roza Dam) is located on the Yakima River (river mile 127.9) approximately 12-miles north of Yakima, Washington. This irrigation and hydroelectric power diversion check structure was constructed from 1938 through 1941 as part of Reclamation's Yakima Project. Roza Dam is a 486-foot-wide, concrete channel spanning gravity ogee-weir-type dam (crest elevation 1205.0 ft., hydraulic height 34.0 ft.) with two 110-foot by 14-foot motor operated (float controlled) roller gates. Roza Dam provides water diversion to the Roza Canal, which is then delivered to the Roza Irrigation District (RID) during the irrigation season (mid-March through October 20th). This canal also supplies water to the Roza Power Plant located approximately 10 miles downstream from the dam.

Roza Dam has two fish ladders. The main fish ladder is a concrete structure in the left abutment and consists of a high-flow ladder that operates when the Roza Dam forebay is operated near full pool elevation. A low-flow ladder is operated during periods when Roza pool is drained during site maintenance activities. The low-flow fish ladder is used on a temporary basis each year to provide upstream passage for steelhead trout and coho salmon that may be migrating during the October to November maintenance period. Reclamation is responsible for ensuring that the fish ladder is open and functioning properly during the maintenance period. Sediment accumulates near the fish ladder as a result of slowing water velocities within the Roza Pool due to the impoundment. If the ladder is blocked or becomes impassable due to low flows or accumulation of sediments in front of the ladder exit, upstream passage will be delayed or impeded for those adult salmon and steelhead that are attempting to migrate upstream coincident with routine maintenance operations at the Roza facility. Reclamation previously conducted sediment removal within the project area from 2018-2021, and from 2006-2009.

The proposed work includes excavating up to 600 cubic yards of sediment within 0.35-acre (100-foot-length/25-foot-width/6-foot-depth) below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of the Roza Pool (46 linear feet) within the following latitude/longitude coordinates:

- Southeast corner: 46.749083, -120.464806
- Southwest corner: 46.749081, -120.465172
- Northeast corner: 46.749136, -120.464761
- Northwest corner: 46.749131, -120.465161



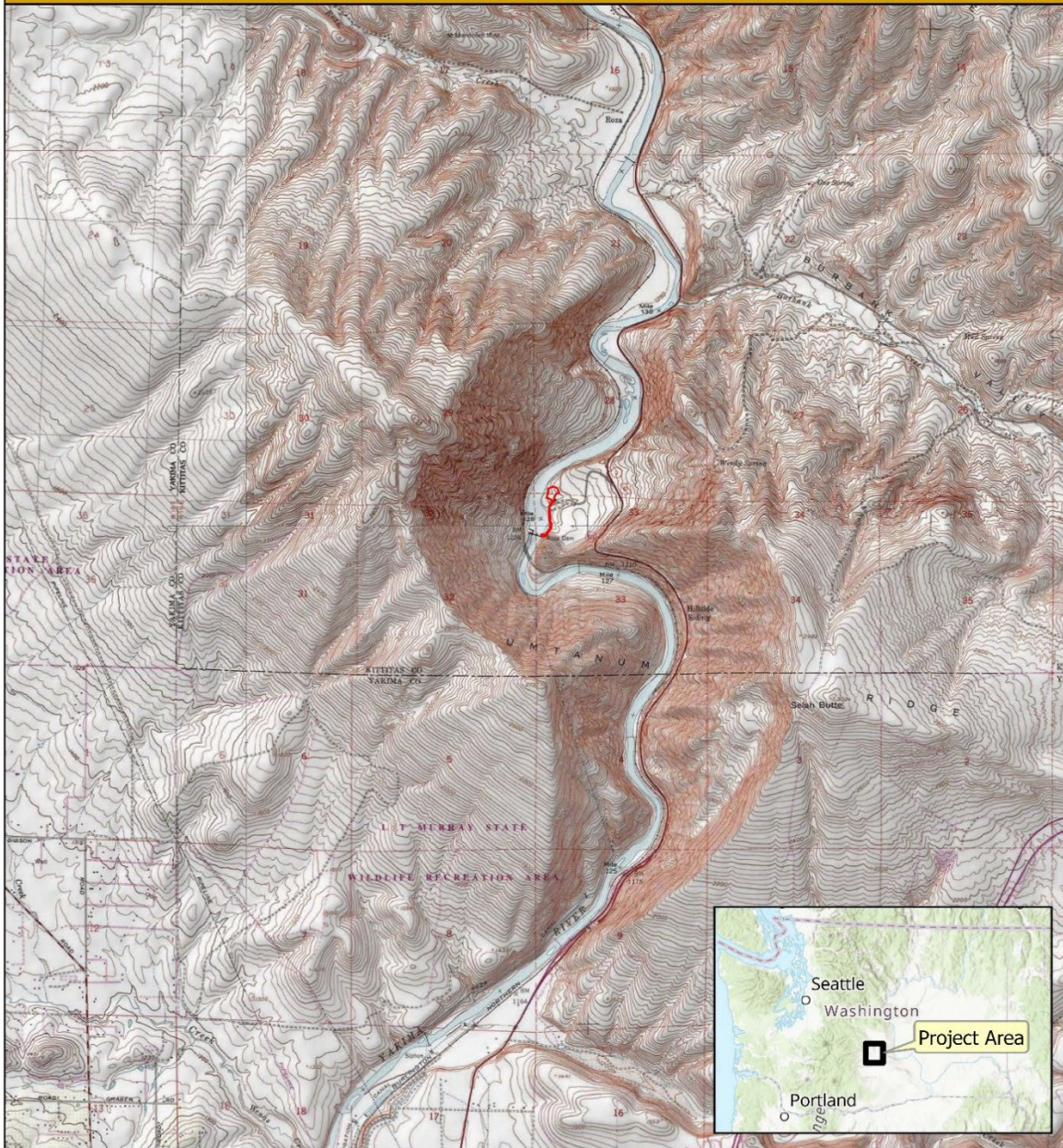
The proposed work would occur from October 18, 2024 to November 1, 2024 and October 17, 2025 to November 1, 2025 during the annual Roza Pool drawdown period, when the majority of the project area would be dry. Sediment removal would be performed by a crane equipped with a bucket or clam shell dredge staged on an existing roadway (latitude/longitude: 46.749014, -120.464661) adjacent to the Roza Dam low-flow fish ladder. The majority of the dredging would occur in areas above the wetted margin of the Roza Pool (Yakima River). It is anticipated that only a few in-water dredge scoops would occur to remove sediment directly in front of the trashrack and fish ladder exit, thereby limiting the potential for turbidity. Construction equipment would not require access or staging below the OHWM of the Roza Pool (Yakima River). Site access would occur from the existing dam access road.

Lampreys are expected to occur within approximately the top 6-inches of the sediment within the excavation area. Reclamation staff and Yakama Nation Fisheries staff would conduct fish (lamprey) salvage prior to excavation within the dewatered area. If lampreys are present in low density, fish salvage would proceed within the dredging prism and is expected to occur over several hours. If lampreys are present in high density, the top 6-inches of sediment within the dredging prism would be excavated and loaded into a dump truck to conduct fish salvage at the upland sediment disposal area (latitude/longitude: 46.749014, -120.464661) located on Reclamation property approximately 0.28-mile north of the excavation area. Following fish salvage, the remainder of the excavated sediment would be hauled to the designated 0.60-acre disposal area.

No discharge of fill or dredged material is proposed within the Roza Dam forebay (Yakima River). Only incidental fallback would occur to the forebay/river from the clamshell dredge/bucket. Erosion and sediment controls would be implemented to prevent the discharge of sediments and return water to the stream channel from both the dump truck loading area and disposal area.



ROZA LOW-FLOW LADDER SEDIMENT REMOVAL
Project Area



Legend

Project Area



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Map Production: CPNGIS, 6/26/2024

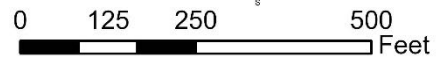
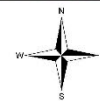


ROZA LOW-FLOW LADDER SEDIMENT REMOVAL
Proposed Project



Legend

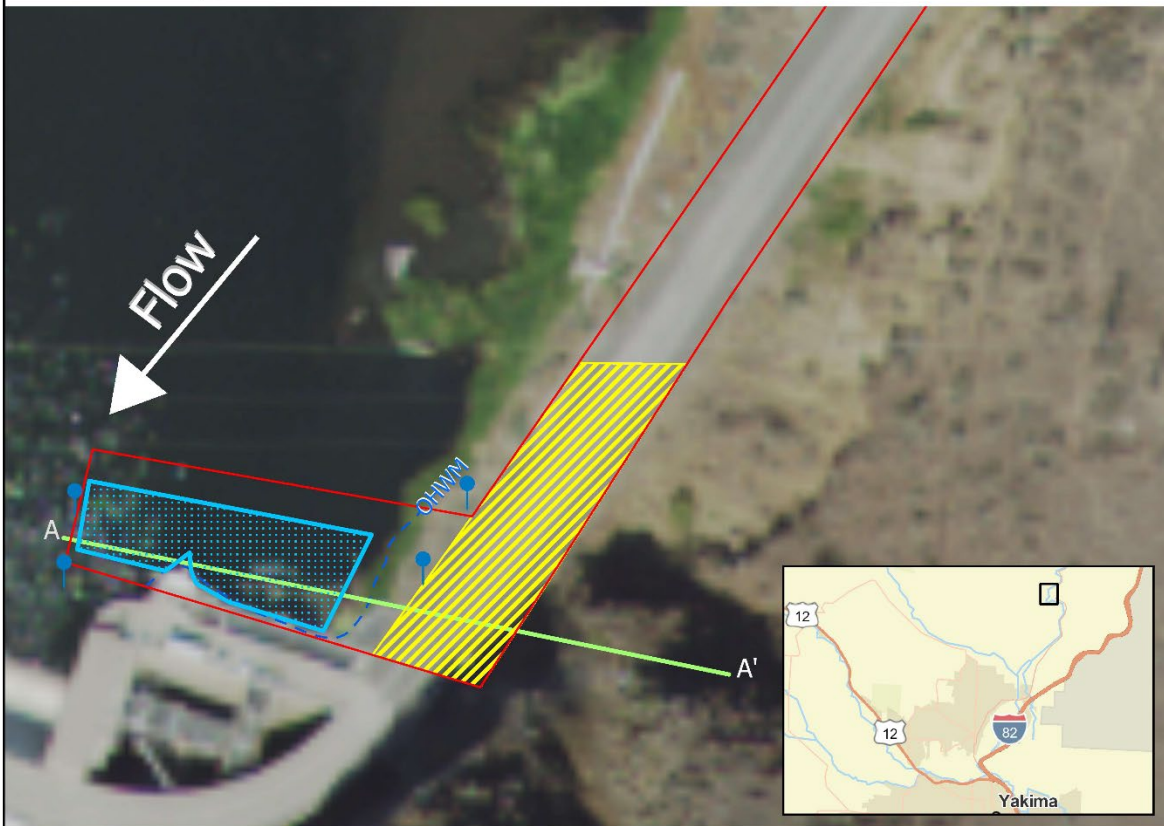
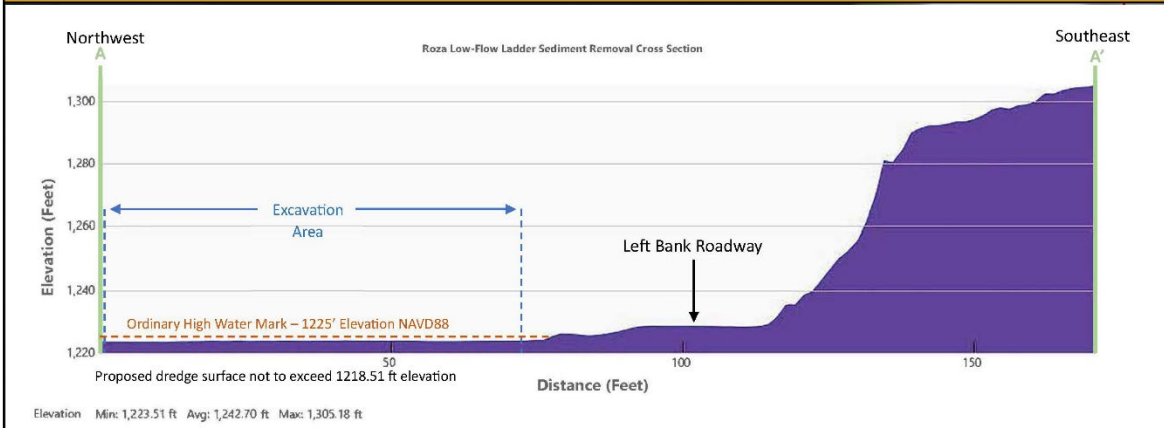
- Project Area
- Equipment Staging
- Excavation Area
- Sediment Disposal Area



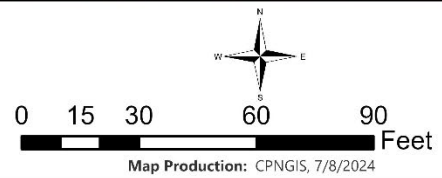
Map Production: CPNGIS, 6/28/2024



ROZA LOW-FLOW LADDER SEDIMENT REMOVAL
Proposed Project

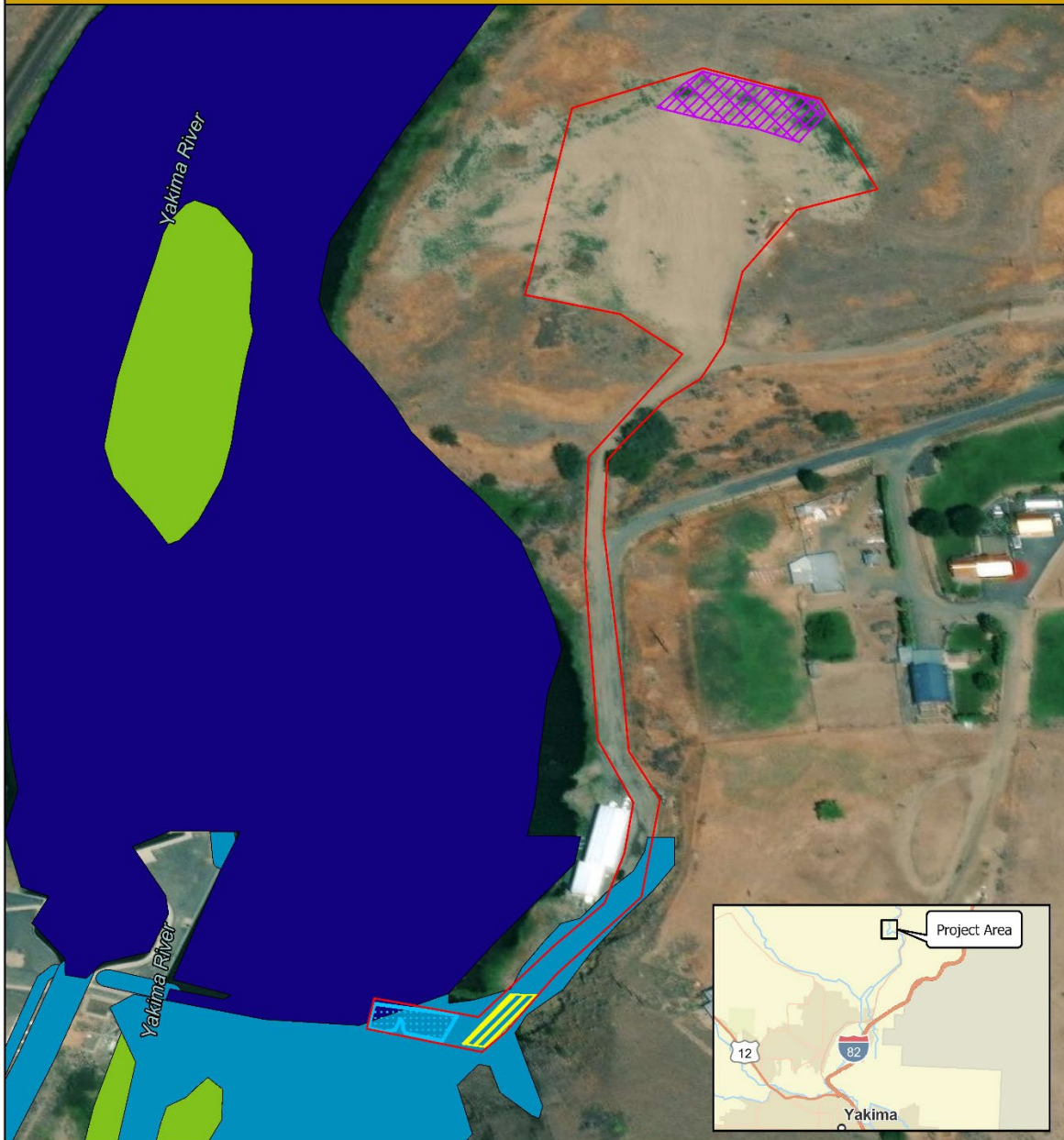


Legend	
	Project Area
	Equipment Staging
	Excavation Area
	Profile View Line
	OHWM

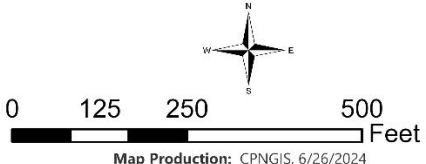




ROZA LOW-FLOW LADDER SEDIMENT REMOVAL
Proposed Project - National Wetlands Inventory



Legend		
Project Area	Wetlands	Freshwater Forested/Straw Wetland
Equipment Staging	Estuarine and Marine Deepwater	Freshwater Pond
Excavation Area	Estuarine and Marine Wetland	Lake
Sediment Disposal Area	Freshwater Emergent Wetland	Other
		Riverine





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 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, 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)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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 (I)).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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NEPA action recommended

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CE Checklist: The proposed action meets the 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).
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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

This project is exempt from case-by-case review under the Bureau of Reclamation’s Historic Preservation: No Potential to Cause Effects List, which was finalized in September of 2007. Removal of sediment from the forebay of Roza Dam and the disposal of sediment in uplands would both occur at previously disturbed areas (NoPE #15). The proposed project consists of clearing sediments or debris from a constructed feature where the clearing occurs in previously disturbed areas, and the sediment or debris is placed in previously disturbed areas. This action will not adversely impact access to or ceremonial use of any identified Indian sacred sites, will not adversely affect the physical integrity of any such sacred sites, and will have No Effect upon historic properties. This project was logged as CCA-2024-036. Should cultural resources be inadvertently discovered on during the implementation activities, work would stop, and the Columbia-Cascades Area Office (CCAO) Archaeologist will be contacted immediately at 509.573.8022. Implementation will not resume until all mitigative measures developed in consultation with the SHPO have been completed. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

T&E Species Review

Reclamation concludes that a biological evaluation, under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), is not required for this action. Reclamation determines that this Federal Action will not affect Threatened or Endangered species. This action will not adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat.

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: Sediment removal would occur within the Roza Dam Pool (Yakima River) which is mapped as Lacustrine, Limnetic, Unconsolidated Bottom, Permanently Flooded\Impounded wetland. Sediment builds behind Roza Dam due to bedload transport and has been removed periodically for the past several decades. Routine removal of sediment would restore the area to prior surface contours. Impacts to wetlands would be minor and temporary. Impacts to upland vegetation at the sediment disposal site would be *de minimus*.

Project Title: Roza Diversion Dam Low-Flow Fish Ladder Sediment Removal		
Concurrence and approval	Name and Title	Signature
Prepared by	Rafael Orozco, Natural Resource Specialist	RAFAEL OROZCO Digitally signed by RAFAEL OROZCO Date: 2024.07.11 12:33:01 -07'00'
Concur with item #8	Mary Velazquez, Archaeologist	MARY VELAZQUEZ Digitally signed by MARY VELAZQUEZ Date: 2024.07.11 13:18:48 -07'00'
Concur with item #9	Wendall S. Willey, Fisheries Biologist	WENDALL WILLEY Digitally signed by WENDALL WILLEY Date: 2024.07.11 17:34:59 -07'00'
Concur with item #11	Jessica Asbill-Case, Native American Affairs Program Coordinator	JESSICA ASBILL-CASE Digitally signed by JESSICA ASBILL-CASE Date: 2024.07.12 15:40:48 -06'00'
Concur: Field Office Manager	Chad Stuart, Yakima Field Office Manager	CHAD STUART Digitally signed by CHAD STUART Date: 2024.07.17 10:16:32 -07'00'
Recommended: Environmental Program Manager	Elizabeth Heether, Environmental Program Manager	ELIZABETH HEETHER Digitally signed by ELIZABETH HEETHER Date: 2024.07.17 11:59:47 -07'00'
Approved: Area Office Manager	Wylie C. Duke, Columbia-Cascades Area Office Manager	WYLIE DUKE Digitally signed by WYLIE DUKE Date: 2024.07.17 12:32:54 -07'00'

Categorical Exclusion Number and Date

[CPN-YFO-CE-2024-087](#)

[07/18/2024](#)

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