Deschutes Basin Habitat Conservation Plan

5th annual Pelton Round Butte Fisheries Workshop July 17, 2019 Activities (new or ongoing) that harm or otherwise "take" protected (*listed*) species are prohibited under section 9 of the ESA.



Habitat Conservation Plans

A Habitat Conservation Plan is a voluntary plan developed by a non-Federal applicant in order to receive an incidental take permit for otherwiselawful activities that result in the "incidental take" of a listed species.

HCP Elements

Covered lands Covered species Covered activities Conservation measures Monitoring and adaptive management Funding and assurances Permit length

Covered Lands

The covered lands and waters are the specific aquatic, wetland, riparian, and floodplain habitats affected by the covered activities and where incidental take of covered species would occur.



Covered Activities

Surface water management ▶ Storage ▶ Release Diversion ▶ Pumping **Return** Ground water management Withdrawal and pumping Discharge to surface water



Covered Species

► USFWS

Oregon Spotted frog – threatened

Bull trout – threatened

NOAA

Mid-Columbia Steelhead

Threatened in the Lower Deschutes below Pelton-Round butte complex

ESA 10 (J) experimental status until 2025 above Pelton into the Crooked River

Chinook Salmon

- Mid-Columbia ESU, spring-run not listed
- Sockeye salmon not listed



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Habitat Conservation Plans

To approve the Applicant's HCP and issue an incidental take permit, the Service must determine:

Taking is incidental

- The Applicants will, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize and mitigate the impacts of the taking
- The Applicants ensure adequate funding for the plan
- The taking will not appreciably reduce the likelihood of the survival and recovery of the species in the wild
- Any measures required by the Service will be met

NEPA document: EIS Written by the Services (or a contractor)



HCP document: Written by the Applicants

Alternatives

No Action

- Proposed Action: Proposed HCP
- Enhanced Variable Stream flows
- Enhanced and Accelerated Variable Stream flows



Elements common to most alternatives

Crane Prairie: fills to 45k AF, hold steady for breeding/rearing, slow drawdown to 35k AF.

- In between CP/W: 100 cfs (Jan. August) and 75 cfs (Sept. Dec.).
- WICO: varies by alternative, depicted in upcoming slide.
- Crescent: minimum 20 cfs and ramping rate restrictions.
- Middle D: maintains 250 cfs during winter.
- Wychus: brings protected flows to 31.8 cfs; \$6k conservation fund, screening.
- Crooked: provides 50 cfs minimum in storage (winter) season, NUID/DRC agreement enhancement and \$8k/year conservation fund, Ochoco & McKay enhancements, diversion screening.

Crooked River Alternatives

No Action: Implementation of the Crooked River Act.

Alt 2: HCP: 50 cfs during storage season when no uncontracted water is available.

Alt 3: same as 2 except with water protected with an in-stream right.

Alt 4: same as 3 except 80 cfs minimum.

NEPA Alternatives under Review Wickiup winter flow releases

Years	No Action	Proposed Action	Alternative 3	Alternative 4
0–5	100 cfs	100 cfs	200 cfs	300 cfs
6–10	100 cfs	200 cfs	300 cfs	400 cfs
11–15	100 cfs	300 cfs	400 cfs	400–600 cfs
16–20	100 cfs	300 cfs	400–500 cfs	400–600 cfs
21–30	100 cfs	400 cfs	400–500 cfs	
Upper Deschutes, minimum winter F				

(Sept 16 – March 31)



Questions?