

1.0 INTRODUCTION TO THE LEWIS RIVER HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS' TECHNICAL REPORTS

This document presents results of the technical studies conducted under PacifiCorp and Cowlitz PUD's Lewis River Hydroelectric Projects Alternative Licensing Procedure (ALP). These investigations were performed between 1999 and 2004. Draft and final versions of these studies have been published previously, either in compilations of results in 2000 and in 2003 or through relicensing working groups, as described below. The final results of each investigation are presented in this document.

These investigations address the potential effects of the four Lewis River projects and their relationship to various natural and social resource issues in the basin. The four project are:

- Merwin: FERC No. 935, owned by PacifiCorp
- Yale: FERC No. 2071, owned by PacifiCorp
- Swift No. 1: FERC No. 2111, owned by PacifiCorp
- Swift No. 2: FERC No. 2213, owned by Cowlitz County PUD

In the spring of 1999, the ALP Collaborative Team (see Initial Information Package [IIP], Appendix B, PacifiCorp and Cowlitz PUD 2000) developed the following process for designing and implementing relicensing studies:

1. Resource Groups, with the support of the Consulting Team, collaboratively create the study plan using the Framework approved by the Steering Committee (see IIP Appendix B).
2. Steering Committee approves the study plan.
3. Consulting Team, with the support of the Resource Group, implements the study.
4. Consulting Team distributes the data to the Resource Groups as they become available. The Resource Groups discuss the data as appropriate.
5. Applicants periodically publish Technical Reports that describe the status of each study and include the data collected to date. Data are compiled, summarized, and analyzed.
6. Resource Groups could, based on the progress of the studies and the results, modify the studies and/or develop new studies.

This process was followed for all 54 investigations documented herein. Most of the reports (51) follow the same organizational structure in presenting findings. These include the following information categories for each:

- Study Objectives
- Study Area
- Methods
- Key Questions
- Study Results
- Discussion
- Schedule
- References

Many studies also present stakeholder comments received on the draft report along with the responses of PacifiCorp and Cowlitz PUD. Exceptions to the format outlined above will be found in three aquatic resource reports, AQU 15, AQU 18 and AQU 19. The results of AQU 15, the *Genetic Evaluation of Native Trout and Steelhead Stocks in the Upper Lewis River Watershed*, were presented by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife in the form of a letter report. AQU 18, the *Fish Planning Document*, is a multi-component report that compiles the results of several significant fisheries investigations. AQU 19, the *Evaluation of Three Proposed Management Scenarios to Enhance Three Potential Bull Trout Nursery Habitats Accessible to Lake Merwin and Yale Lake*, was an investigation commissioned by the Applicants that did not originate from a formal technical workgroup-derived study plan, therefore the results are presented in a dissimilar format.

In some cases, detailed study results are not presented. For example, this compilation includes only summary reports of cultural resource investigations. The detailed reports are considered private and confidential and were disseminated only within the Cultural Resources Group.

Due to the large number of studies, a naming convention was derived as a shorthand reference to each category of investigation. Study numbers were then assigned to each investigation (e.g., WAQ 1, WAQ 2). This shorthand is used throughout the 54 technical reports and in the Preliminary Draft Environmental Assessments for the four projects. The convention is as follows:

WTS Watershed Resources
WAQ Water Quality
AQU Aquatic Resources

TER	Terrestrial Resources
CUL	Cultural Resources
REC	Recreation Resources
LND	Land Use
VIS	Visual Resources
SOC	Socioeconomics
FLD	Flood Management

Supporting material associated with many reports is included in appendices to the report. The naming convention is consistent with that described above, wherein an appendix for study WAQ 1 would be labeled WAQ 1 Appendix 1. Appendices will be found immediately following the associated report on this CD.

A master Table of Contents listing each study is presented in a separate PDF file on this CD. It does not itemize the content of each report. Instead, the reader will find this detail presented in a unique Table of Contents included with each study.

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