

POTENTIAL RESOURCE ISSUE:

Reservoir recreational opportunities.

PROJECT NEXUS:

Resource conditions at Project reservoirs, including water surface elevations and fishery conditions, may affect reservoir recreation opportunities and user satisfaction.

POTENTIAL LICENSE CONDITION:

- Recreation Plan
 - Seasonal reservoir elevation
 - Facility modifications

STUDY OBJECTIVES:

- Characterize the relationship between reservoir water surface elevation (WSE) and Project reservoir-based recreation opportunities (activities and experience).
- Identify access and safety concerns at Project reservoirs.
- Develop information regarding carrying capacity for reservoir-based recreation at Project reservoirs.

EXTENT OF STUDY AREA:

The study area includes Hell Hole Reservoir, French Meadows Reservoir, and Ralston Afterbay.

STUDY APPROACH:

Reservoir Levels

- Summarize daily historical ~~water surface elevation~~WSE data for Hell Hole and French Meadows reservoirs.
- Summarize daily and hourly WSEs at ~~and~~ Ralston Afterbay.
- Summarize any existing operational constraints related to reservoir WSE.
- Identify the design and functional reservoir elevation range for each existing boat ramp.
- Characterize the functionality of recreation support facilities over a range of reservoir WSE using facility design drawings, information developed in consultation with USDA-FS, information developed through site visits, and the results of General and Activity-Specific Surveys (REC2–Recreation Opportunities Technical Study).
- Characterize recreation use/stage relationship for each major reservoir-based recreation activity in consultation with USDA-FS and user groups.

Recreation Opportunities

- Characterize existing recreation opportunities by location and type of activity for Hell Hole and French Meadows reservoirs and Ralston Afterbay. This information will be

REC3–Reservoir Recreation Opportunities and Management Technical Study Plan (Rev 24)

developed primarily through the surveys conducted as part of the REC2–Recreation Opportunities Technical Study.

- Use information from General User Surveys to identify effects of varying reservoir WSE and other resource conditions on reservoir-based recreation opportunities.

Access and Safety Conditions

- Identify and document access points, type of access, and associated Project support facilities at Project reservoirs.
- Identify and document existing programs and measures aimed at protecting public health and safety, for example buoy lines, signage, alarms, etc.
- Review records and consult with facility managers and resource management staff to identify any safety concerns at the Project recreation facilities.
- Summarize the occurrence of human/bear interactions based on information developed through the TERR-7, Human/Bear Interactions Technical Study.
- Review and summarize records maintained by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regarding the occurrence of accidents at MFP reservoirs.

Carrying Capacity

- Identify potential reservoir-based recreational user conflicts based on review of the General User Survey and Activity-Specific Survey results.
- Develop information that could be used to inform discussions involving carrying capacity for boating and other reservoir based activities at Hell Hole and French Meadows Reservoirs and at Ralston Afterbay.

SCHEDULE:

To be developed in early 2007.

REFERENCES:

None.