

**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

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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.