

in compliance with the provisions of the Unfunded Mandates Act of 1995.

#### Takings (Executive Order 12630)

The Department has determined that these rate adjustments do not have significant "takings" implications. The rate adjustments do not deprive the public, state, or local governments of rights or property.

#### Federalism (Executive Order 13132)

The Department has determined that these rate adjustments do not have significant Federalism effects because they pertain solely to Federal-tribal relations and will not interfere with the roles, rights, and responsibilities of states.

#### Civil Justice Reform (Executive Order 12988)

In accordance with Executive Order 12988, the Office of the Solicitor has determined that this rule does not unduly burden the judicial system and meets the requirements of sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of the Order.

#### Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995

These rate adjustments do not affect the collections of information which have been approved by the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The OMB Control Number is 1076-0141 and expires February 28, 2003.

#### National Environmental Policy Act

The Department has determined that these rate adjustments do not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and that no detailed statement is required under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321-4370(d)).

Dated: November 20, 2002.

Neal A. McCaleb,

*Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

[INT-DES-02-51]

#### Banks Lake Drawdown, Columbia Basin Project, Washington

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability and notice of public hearings for the Banks Lake

Drawdown, Washington, draft Environmental Impact Statement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), has prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) to examine the impacts of alternatives to lower the minimum surface elevation for Banks Lake in August from 1,565 feet to 1,560 feet.

The action alternative describes the resource conditions that would occur between Banks Lake surface elevations of 1,570 feet and 1,560 feet, while the no action alternative describes the conditions that would occur without the proposed action, between surface elevation 1,570 feet and 1,565 feet. Both the no action and action alternatives include four potential operational scenarios that could occur within their respective ranges.

The action alternative includes a refill of the reservoir to elevation 1,565 feet, beginning September 1 and ending no later than September 10.

**DATES:** Written comments on the draft EIS must be received no later than March 10, 2003, at the address listed under the **ADDRESSES** section below.

Public hearings will be held to accept oral comments on the draft EIS at:

- Coulee City, Washington, on February 11, 2003, from 7 to 9 p.m. and,
- Moses Lake, Washington, on February 12, 2003, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

The public hearing facilities are physically accessible. Please contact Mr. Blanchard at the telephone, fax or TTY relay numbers listed under the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this notice for accessibility accommodations, including sign language interpreters or other auxiliary aids. Requests should be made by January 31, 2003, to allow sufficient time to arrange for accommodation.

**ADDRESSES:** The public hearings will be held at:

- Coulee City Elementary School, 410 W. Locust, Coulee City, Washington, and,
- District 5 Fire Station Training Facility, 12801 Nelson Road, Moses Lake, Washington.

Written comments on the draft EIS should be submitted to Mr. Jim Blanchard, Special Projects Officer, Bureau of Reclamation, 32 C Street, P.O. Box 815, Ephrata, WA 98823-0815; or by fax 509-754-0239, or by e-mail at: [jblanchard@pn.usbr.gov](mailto:jblanchard@pn.usbr.gov).

See the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section below for locations where copies

of the DEIS are available for public review and inspection.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jim Blanchard, Special Projects Officer, at 509-754-0226 (relay users may dial 711). Those wishing to obtain a copy of the draft EIS in the form of a printed document or on compact disk (CD-ROM with reader included) or a summary of the draft EIS may contact Mr. Blanchard.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Public Disclosure

Our practice is to make comments, including names and home addresses of respondents, available for public review. Individual respondents may request that we withhold their home address from public disclosure, which we will honor to the extent allowable by law. If you wish us to withhold your name and/or address, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your comment. We will make all submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, available for public disclosure in their entirety.

##### Hearing Process Information

Requests to make oral comments at the public hearings may be made at each hearing. Comments will be recorded by a court reporter. Speakers will be called in the order of their requests. In the interest of available time, each speaker will be asked to limit oral comments to five minutes. Longer comments should be summarized at the public hearing and submitted in writing either at the public hearing or identified as hearing comments and mailed to be received by Mr. Blanchard no later than March 10, 2003.

##### Background

Since its creation in the early 1950s, Banks Lake has been operated and maintained for the storage and delivery of irrigation water drawn from the Columbia River to Columbia Basin Project (CBP) lands. At Dry Falls Dam, the Main Canal flows south from the Banks Lake outlet works to the northern portion of the CBP's irrigable area. Reclamation operates the reservoir within established constraints on water surface elevation to meet contractual obligations, ensure public safety, and protect property. Reclamation considers other resource needs as feasible within existing operational constraints.

In December of 2000, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a Biological Opinion (BIOP) to the Bureau

of Reclamation, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Bonneville Power Administration for the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System. The BIOP included a Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA), of which action 31 advised Reclamation to "assess the likely environmental effects of operation of Banks Lake up to 10 feet down from full pool during August."

Reclamation proposes to complete RPA action 31 by preparing the Banks Lake Drawdown draft Environmental Impact Statement to describe and analyze the environmental effects of lowering the August surface elevation of Banks Lake to elevation 1560 feet, which is 10 feet below full pool.

### Review and Inspection of the DEIS

Copies of the DEIS are available for public review and inspection at the following locations:

- Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Department of the Interior, Room 7455, 18th and C Streets, NW., Washington, DC 20240.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Denver Office Library, Denver Federal Center, Building 67, Room 167, Denver, Colorado 80225.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Pacific Northwest Regional Office, 1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100, Boise, Idaho 83706-1234.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Columbia Area Office, 1917 Marsh Road, Yakima, Washington 98901.
- Bureau of Reclamation, Ephrata Field Office, 32 C Street, Ephrata, Washington 98823.

### Libraries

- Bridgeport Community Library, Douglas County, 1206 Columbia St., Bridgeport, WA 509-686-7281.
- Coulee City Community Library, 405 W. Main St., Coulee City, WA 509-674-2313.
- Des Moines Library, 21620 11th Ave S, Des Moines, WA 206-824-6066.
- East Wenatchee Community Library, Douglas County, 271 9th St NE, East Wenatchee, WA 509-886-7404.
- Ephrata Public Library, 45 Alder NW, Ephrata, WA 509-754-3971.
- Grand Coulee Community Library, 225 Federal, Grand Coulee, WA 509-633-0972.
- Moses Lake Public Library, 418 E. 5th Ave, Moses Lake, WA 509-765-3489.
- Quincy Community Library, 108 B St SW., Quincy, WA 509-787-2359.
- Royal City Community Library, 356 Camelia, Royal City, WA 509-346-9281.
- Seattle Public Library, 800 Pike St, Seattle, WA 206-386-4636.
- Soap Lake Community Library, 32 E. Main, Soap Lake, WA 509-246-1313.

- Warden Community Library, 305 S. Main, Warden, WA 509-349-2226.
- Wenatchee Public Library, Chelan County, 310 Douglas St, Wenatchee, WA 509-662-5021.

### Internet

The DEIS is also available on the Internet at <http://www.pn.usbr.gov>.

Dated: December 20, 2002.

**J. William McDonald,**

*Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Reclamation

#### Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group (AMWG), Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Reclamation, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** The Adaptive Management Program (AMP) was implemented as a result of the Record of Decision on the Operation of Glen Canyon Dam Final Environmental Impact Statement to comply with consultation requirements of the Grand Canyon Protection Act (Pub. L. 102-575) of 1992. The AMP provides an organization and process to ensure the use of scientific information in decision making concerning Glen Canyon Dam operations and protection of the affected resources consistent with the Grand Canyon Protection Act. The AMP has been organized and includes a federal advisory committee (the AMWG), a technical work group (the TWG), a monitoring and research center, and independent review panels. The TWG is a subcommittee of the AMWG and provides technical advice and information for the AMWG to act upon.

*Date and Location:* The Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group will conduct the following public meeting:

*Phoenix, Arizona—January 28–29, 2003.* The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. on the first day and begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 12 noon on the second day. The meeting will be held at the Bureau of Indian Affairs—Western Regional Office, 2 Arizona Center, Conference Rooms A and B (12th floor), 400 North 5th Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

*Agenda:* The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss experimental flows, non-native fish control, status of the temperature control device risk

assessment, 2000 Low Steady Summer Flow (LSSF) reports, FY 2004 Annual Work Plan and Budget, basin hydrology and 602a storage, information needs associated with the Strategic Plan, public outreach, environmental compliance, and other administrative and resource issues pertaining to the AMP.

*Date and Location:* The Glen Canyon Dam Technical Work Group will conduct the following public meeting:

*Phoenix, Arizona—February 26–27, 2003.* The meeting will begin 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 5 p.m. on the first day and will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 2 p.m. on the second day. The meeting will be held at the Bureau of Indian Affairs—Western Regional Office, 2 Arizona Center, Conference Rooms A and B (12th floor), 400 North 5th Street, Phoenix, Arizona.

*Agenda:* The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the experimental flow status, non-native fish control, FY 2004 budget changes, the target development process, environmental compliance, address assignments from the AMWG meeting held in January 2003, and other administrative and resource issues pertaining to the AMP.

Agenda items may be revised prior to any of the meetings. Final agendas will be posted 15 days in advance of each meeting and can be found on the Bureau of Reclamation Web site under Environmental Programs at <http://www.uc.usbr.gov/amp>. Time will be allowed on each agenda for any individual or organization wishing to make formal oral comments (limited to 10 minutes) at the meetings.

To allow full consideration of information by the AMWG or TWG members, written notice must be provided to Randall Peterson, Bureau of Reclamation, Upper Colorado Regional Office, 125 South State Street, Room 6107, Salt Lake City, Utah 84138-1147; telephone (801) 524-3758; faxogram (801) 524-3858; e-mail at [rpeterson@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:rpeterson@uc.usbr.gov) at least FIVE (5) days prior to the meeting. Any written comments received will be provided to the AMWG and TWG members at their respective meetings.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Randall Peterson, telephone (801) 524-3758; faxogram (801) 524-3858; or via e-mail at [rpeterson@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:rpeterson@uc.usbr.gov).

Date: December 18, 2002.

**Randall V. Peterson,**

*Manager, Adaptive Management and Environmental Resources Division, Upper Colorado Regional Office.*

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