

March 10, 2015

CENWP-PM-E

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Determinations of No Effect for Bull Trout for Construction of The Dalles Auxiliary Water Supply (AWS) and Crane Rail Replacement Scheduled for Winter 2015

For construction of The Dalles AWS and for the Crane Rail Replacement, both scheduled for winter of 2015, the Endangered Species Act determinations for Bull Trout and for Designated Bull Trout Critical Habitat are No Effect.

There is only one Bull Trout record for The Dalles Dam; this fish was collected by Bob Cordie, Army Corps of Engineers, in the East Fish Ladder during winter 1995 when the fish ladder was dewatered (personal communication with Bob Cordie on March 9, 2015). This record is included in the Bull Trout Final Critical Habitat Justification; there is also one record for the John Day Dam, in the Smolt Bypass Facility in spring 2002 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2010).

The No Effect determinations for Bull Trout for both projects are being made because they are not expected at The Dalles Dam, and any occurrence there would be considered an anomaly.

Bull Trout Designated Critical Habitat includes the Mainstem Lower Columbia River (Unit 8) which extends from the Mouth of the Columbia River to John Day Dam. This unit provides connecting habitat. Connecting habitat through the stretch of the Columbia River in the vicinity of The Dalles Dam may become important in the future with species recovery but currently, as noted above, Bull Trout are not expected to occur at The Dalles Dam.

The Critical Habitat No Effect determination for The Dalles AWS is being made because the approximately 776 sq. ft. of fill required along the downstream face of the dam for the tremie concrete slab will not affect connecting habitat, as it will not interfere with access to the East Fish Ladder.

The Critical Habitat No Effect determination for the Crane Rail Replacement is being made because no in-water work will occur.

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