Powering Our Way of Life.



BY ELECTRONIC FILING

April 7, 2021

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Mail Code: DHAC, PJ-12 888 First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20426

RE: Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114-182 License Compliance Filing Article 414 - 2021 Bald Eagle Perch/Roosting Protection Plan annual report

Dear Secretary Bose,

Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington (Grant PUD) respectfully submits to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) its 2021 Bald Eagle Perch/Roosting Protection Plan (Plan) Annual Report pursuant to License Article 414 of the Priest Rapids Project No. 2114 (Project)¹. Activities related to the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan were implemented in coordination with other plans required by the license for the Project during the 2020 reporting period (March 16, 2020–March 15, 2021). This includes the Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (Article 409); Wildlife Habitat Monitoring and Information and Education Plan (Article 410); Transmission Line Avian Collision Protection Plan (Article 411); Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Monitoring Plan (Article 413); Programmatic Agreement and the provisions of the Historic Properties Management Plan (Article 416); the Memorandum of Agreement between Grant PUD and the Wanapum (Article 417); Priest Rapids Recreation Resource Management Plan (Article 418); and the Shoreline Management Plan (Article 419).

On April 10, 2009, Grant PUD filed its Bald Eagle Perch/Roosting Protection Plan (Plan) with FERC. FERC issued an Order on January 19, 2010 approving the Plan pursuant to Article 414 of the Priest Rapids Project². Per FERC's approval of the Plan, Grant PUD is required to provide annual reports to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), the Wanapum and FERC by April 30 of each year.

Grant PUD is reporting its progress on the implementation activities related to this plan for the period from March 16, 2020 to March 15, 2021. The 2021 annual report presents results from daytime eagle-use surveys, communal roost site surveys, nest occupancy and productivity surveys, perch/roost tree protection efforts, and provides an update on riparian planting efforts.

¹ 123 FERC ¶ 61,049 (2008).

² 130 FERC ¶ 62,054 (2010).

Bose (LA 414 Compliance filing) April 7, 2021 Page 2 of 2

Consistent with the License and modifying and approving Order, the enclosed document has been provided to the USFWS, WDFW and the Wanapum.

FERC staff with questions or comments, please contact Tom Dresser, Grant PUD Fish, Wildlife and Water Quality Manager, at 509-754-5088, ext. 2312.

Respectfully,

Ross Hendrick

Ross Hendrick Senior Manager - Environmental Affairs

Cc: Jeff Krupka – USFWS Steve Lewis – USFWS Patrick Verhey – WDFW Alyssa Buck - Wanapum

.....

.....

Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114 2021 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414

Joe LeMoine Senior Biologist Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington P.O. Box 878 Ephrata, WA 98823

April 2021

Executive Summary

On January 19, 2010, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved the Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) Perch/Roost Protection Plan pursuant to Article 414 of the license for the Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114 (Project). Within this 2021 annual report, the Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, WA (Grant PUD) is reporting its progress on the implementation activities related to this plan for the period from March 16, 2020 to March 15, 2021. The 2021 annual report presents results from daytime eagle-use surveys, communal roost site surveys, nest occupancy and productivity surveys, perch/roost tree protection efforts, and provides an update on riparian planting efforts.

A total of 198 eagle observations were made during the project-wide surveys, distributed throughout the Project (Table 1). The survey on January 25, 2021 yielded the single greatest Project-wide survey count of 58 total eagles.

Three existing bald eagle nests were all documented to have an eagle incubating in them prior to Covid-19 restrictions that began on March 25, 2020. Crews were unable to survey for much of the nesting season, however, a survey was able to be conducted on June 10, 2020 that documented a successful juvenile bald eagle at The Cove nest that was near fledging. Crews were unable to determine if the Goose Island and A-6 nests were successful or not due to the restrictions.

A total of four communal roosting site surveys were conducted during the 2021 reporting period that documented four communal roosting locations. The communal roost site with the greatest eagle use on the Wanapum reservoir was at Scammon Landing, where seven eagles were documented and the site with the highest use on the Priest Rapids reservoir was located just north of Desert Aire, where eight eagles were documented. Other communal roost areas were located just south of Crescent Bar within the Wanapum Reservoir and just north of the Priest Rapids Boat Basin within the Priest Rapids Reservoir (Table 3).

Grant PUD installed Remote Irrigation Systems to help establish the 250 perch tree plantings that were planted at Airstrip and West Bar. Grant PUD also monitored and maintained perch tree plantings at ten additional sites throughout the Project: Crescent Bar, Apricot Orchard, Columbia Cliffs, Rattlesnake Cove, Frenchman Coulee, Rocky Coulee, Vantage, Sand Hollow, Buckshot and Priest Rapids Recreation Area. Grant PUD is continuing to monitor and maintain these plantings throughout the 2021 reporting period and will continue to look for opportunities for additional plantings.

Table of Contents

1.0	Introdu	iction	1			
2.0	Materi	als and Methods	1			
	2.1	Eagle Surveys	1			
		2.1.1 Day-Use Surveys	1			
		2.1.2 Communal Roost Site Survey	2			
		2.1.3 Nest Surveys	2			
	2.2	Eagle Perch, Roost, and Nest Tree Protection Efforts	2			
	2.3	Riparian Plantings	3			
3.0	and Discussion	3				
	3.1	Eagle Surveys				
		3.1.1 Day-Use Surveys	3			
		3.1.2 Communal Roost Surveys	7			
		3.1.3 Nest Survey Results	7			
	3.2	Eagle Perch Tree, Roost Tree, and Nest Protection Efforts	8			
	3.3	Riparian Plantings	8			
4.0	Summa	ary	9			
List of	Literati	ıre	0			

List of Figures

Figure 1	Day use survey results for the 2021 reporting season	4
Figure 2	Juvenile bald eagle at The Cove nest	8

List of Tables

Table 1	The Priest Rapids Project eagle survey counts conducted for November 15,	
	2020 – March 16, 2021	5
Table 2	The Priest Rapids Project annual eagle survey results from 2009 - 2021	5
Table 3	2021 Communal Roost Survey Results	7

List of Appendices

Appendix A	Bald Eagle Nest Locations
Appendix B	Email Confirmation of Management Plan ChangesB-1

1.0 Introduction

On January 19, 2010, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) approved the Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) Perch/Roost Protection Plan pursuant to License Article 414 for the Priest Rapids Project No. 2114 (Project)¹. FERC's approval of Article 414 requires the Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington (Grant PUD) to file an annual progress report to FERC, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and that the annual report shall cover the dates of March 16 through March 15 of the following year.

Activities related to the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan were implemented in coordination with other plans required by the license for the Project during the 2021 reporting period (March 16, 2020–March 15, 2021). This includes the Wildlife Habitat Management Plan (Article 409); Wildlife Habitat Monitoring and Information and Education Plan (Article 410); Transmission Line Avian Collision Protection Plan (Article 411); Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Plant Monitoring Plan (Article 413); Programmatic Agreement (Article 416); the Memorandum of Agreement between Grant PUD and the Wanapum (Article 417); Priest Rapids Recreation Resource Management Plan (Article 418); the Shoreline Management Plan (Article 419); and the provisions of the Historic Properties Management Plan.

2.0 Materials and Methods

The following sections depict the materials and methods used during the 2021 reporting year for eagle-use surveys.

2.1 Eagle Surveys

From 2010 through 2016, Grant PUD conducted 11 perch and roosting tree surveys (three summer/eight winter). From these six seasons, Grant PUD documented an annual average population of 347 eagles within the Project boundaries (LeMoine 2017). In summer of 2016, Grant PUD, USFWS, and WDFW agreed to reduce the number of day-use surveys within the Project from 11 to four. Appendix B provides an explanation and consultation record of this change.

For the 2021 reporting period, Grant PUD conducted four daytime use surveys during the peak occupancy timeframe of November 15 through March 15. Four communal roosting tree surveys were conducted in this timeframe as well. Additionally, Grant PUD conducted nest occupancy surveys throughout the season that documented all activity and life stages from incubation to fledging.

2.1.1 Day-Use Surveys

A total of four daytime eagle-use surveys were conducted within the Project to document areas of eagle use (Table 1). These surveys were boat-based and each survey was composed of a single and complete pass of Wanapum and Priest Rapids reservoirs. All four day-use surveys were conducted during the winter migration period (November 15 - March 15). Eagle-use surveys recorded the date, weather conditions, surveyors, specific reservoir (i.e. Wanapum or Priest Rapids), survey start time, and survey end time. Additionally, each eagle observation had the following data recorded:

© 2021, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2 OF GRANT COUNTY, WASHINGTON. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN LAW, TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS.

¹ 130 FERC ¶ 62,054 (2010)

- 1). observation time;
- 2). number observed;
- 3). species (i.e., bald, golden, unknown);
- 4). maturity (i.e., mature, juvenile, unknown);
- 5). Geographic Positioning System (GPS) point (NAD 84, Decimal Degrees);
- 6). location description;
- 7). perch structure/soaring (i.e., on ground, perch pole, tree, rock, cliff, soaring,); and
- 8). observation notes.

Eagle species were identified as bald, golden, or unknown. Eagle maturity status was identified as either: mature, juvenile, or unknown. Bald eagles exhibiting a white head and tail were classified as mature. Juvenile bald eagles were classified by variable amounts of white on their belly, back, and wings. Golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) exhibiting a solid brown body, black tail, and golden feathering on their nape and upperwing coverts were classified as mature. Juvenile golden eagles were classified by a dark body with white bases on their outer secondary feathers and inner primary feathers with a tail that might be white with a thick or black terminal band (Alsop 2001).

2.1.2 Communal Roost Site Survey

Grant PUD conducted four eagle communal roost surveys during the 2021 reporting period. Communal roost site surveys were initiated 30 minutes before sunset or at dawn before the eagles have left the roost in the morning. Communal roost sites are defined as trees with three or more eagles perched in them. Trees that were classified as communal roost sites had the following data recorded: date, observation time, count of eagles, species, GPS point, location description, and a date/time stamped photograph when possible.

2.1.3 Nest Surveys

Eagle nest surveys of known nests were performed to monitor nest occupancy, activity, and productivity in a manner consistent with WDFW protocols. In general, the methodologies for eagle nest surveys are as follows:

- 1). Nest occupancy surveys were conducted during the last week of February through mid-March in good weather;
- 2). A minimum of three hours were spent at each known nest site in the morning hours unless eagle occupancy was established at arrival;
- 3). If eagle occupancy was established at arrival, the information was recorded, and the surveyor vacated the area to avoid disturbing the nesting pair of eagles; and
- 4). If nest occupancy was not determined on the first survey, a second nest occupancy survey was conducted.

In addition, any evidence of new nesting activity will be documented and monitored as per the occupancy protocols above.

2.2 Eagle Perch, Roost, and Nest Tree Protection Efforts

Grant PUD implemented measures to protect eagle perch, roost, and nesting trees through wire exclusion and site management plans. Eagle roost and nest trees are wrapped with exclusion wire to protect the trees from beaver damage. The installation of exclusion wire on eagle day-use perch trees is prioritized according to nearby beaver activity, nearby nesting eagles, the tree species, or the trees that are identified as communal roost trees. As part of managing and

supporting eagles that nest within or adjacent to the Project, Grant PUD maintains multiple perch, roost, and nesting structures located throughout the Project. Grant PUD also has licensed nuisance wildlife control officers (NWCO) on staff that assist with the removal of problem beavers throughout the Project that pose a threat to perch, roost and nesting trees.

2.3 Riparian Plantings

Throughout the 2021 reporting period, Grant PUD planted and/or maintained a significant number of black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*) and ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) in an effort to establish additional eagle perch trees throughout the Project. Ponderosa pine was planted as an established potted plant, while black cottonwood was planted in both potted and stake varieties. Grant PUD continues to explore additional planting locations that will be compatible with Memorandum of Agreement between Grant PUD and the Wanapum (Article 417) and the provisions of the Historic Properties Management Plan.

3.0 Results and Discussion

The following sections detail the results from the 2021 reporting year.

3.1 Eagle Surveys

Grant PUD conducted daytime eagle-use surveys, communal roost tree surveys, and nest surveys from March 16, 2019 to March 15, 2020 (Table 1).

3.1.1 Day-Use Surveys

Grant PUD performed four Project-wide, day-use eagle surveys between November 15, 2020 and March 15, 2021. A total of 198 eagles were observed during the four surveys (Table 1). A total of 183 eagles were identified as bald eagles, while the remaining 15 were documented as golden eagles. The surveys on January 25, 2021 yielded the greatest Project-wide survey count of 58 eagles. The lowest project-wide survey counts recorded were on March 9, 2021 when 33 eagles were observed. Table 2 provides a year-to-year comparison of day-use survey results across the annual monitoring periods following licensing in 2008. Figure 1 shows the distribution of eagles observed in the 2021 season.

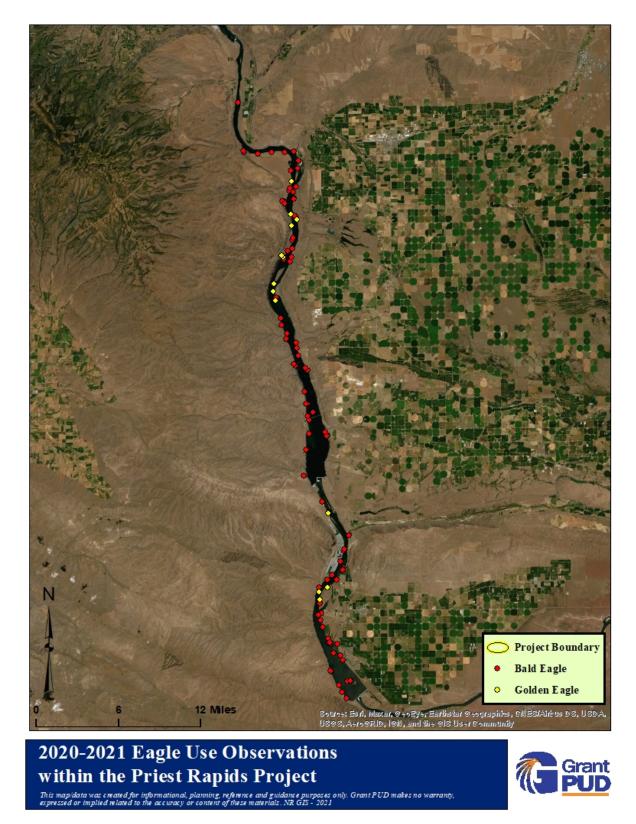


Figure 1 Day use survey results for the 2021 reporting season.

© 2021, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2 OF GRANT COUNTY, WASHINGTON. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN LAW, TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS.

D	Data	Bald Eagles		Golde	n Eagles	Reservoir	Survey	
Reservoir	Date	Mature	Juvenile	Mature	Juvenile	Sum	Sum	
Priest Rapids	1/25/2021	10	11	2	0	23	58	
Wanapum		18	14	3	0	35		
Priest Rapids	2/9/2021	9	11	2	0	22	56	
Wanapum		17	14	3	0	34		
Priest Rapids	3/4/2021	8	15	0	0	23	51	
Wanapum		18	6	2	2	28	• -	
Priest Rapids	3/9/2021	10	6	0	0	16	33	
Wanapum		14	2	1	0	17		
Column Totals		104	79	13	2		198	
Notes:				•				

Table 1The Priest Rapids Project eagle survey counts conducted for November 15,
2020 – March 16, 2021.

Deserve	Data	Bald Eagles		Golden Eagles		T last a second	Reservoir	Survey	
Reservoir	Date	Mature	Juvenile	Mature	Juvenile	Unknown	Sum	Sum	
Priest Rapids		15	8	4	3	3	33		
Wanapum	2009-2010 ¹	19	24	2	2	0	48	81	
Priest Rapids	2010 2011	44	51	16	3	0	116	261	
Wanapum	2010-2011	118	95	29	3	0	245	361	
Priest Rapids	2011-2012	54	77	2	1	0	134		
Wanapum	2011-2012	102	118	13	5	2	240	374	
Priest Rapids	2012 2012	29	70	1	0	0	100	210	
Wanapum	2012-2013	82	133	2	1	0	218	318	
Priest Rapids	2012 2014	60	45	3	2	0	110	202	
Wanapum	2013-2014	84	74	19	5	0	182	292	
Priest Rapids	2014 2015	63	90	0	0	0	153	265	
Wanapum	2014-2015	96	95	20	1	0	212	365	
Priest Rapids	2015 2016	63	53	3	0	0	119	274	
Wanapum	2015-2016	129	106	19	1	0	255	374	
Priest Rapids	2016-2017 ²	30	49	4	0	0	83	221	
Wanapum	2010-20172	72	54	9	3	0	138	221	
Priest Rapids	2017-2018 ²	26	46	3	1	0	76	193	
Wanapum	2017-2018-	60	46	5	6	0	117	195	
Priest Rapids	2018-2019 ²	44	67	3	1	0	115	214	
Wanapum	2018-2019-	44	49	5	1	0	99	214	
Priest Rapids	2019-2020 ²	34	43	3	1	0	81	199	
Wanapum	2019-2020-	63	46	8	1	0	118	199	
Priest Rapids	2020 20212	37	43	4	0	0	84	100	
Wanapum	2020-2021 ²	67	36	9	2	0	114	198	
Annual Averages	PRD	52	64	4	1	0	122	347	
2011-2016	WAN	102	104	17	3	1	225	/	
Annual Averages	PRD	34	50	3	1	0	88	205	
2017-2021	WAN	61	46	7	3	0	117	205	

Table 2The Priest Rapids Project annual eagle survey results from 2009 – 2021.

Notes:

¹Eagle Surveys reported in 2010 were based on surveys made two days (February 25, 2010 and March 4, 2010) and are not included in averages. Survey protocols modified following 2009-2010 period to 11 surveys.

²Eagle surveys reported in the 2017 through 2021 seasons were based on four surveys and have a separate average column. Survey requirements were amended following the 2016 reporting period to 4 winter surveys.

3.1.2 Communal Roost Surveys

A total of four communal roost surveys were conducted for the 2021 report period during the peak of eagle use (Table 3). A total of four communal roost locations were documented in 2021. Scammon Landing continues to be the most used roosting location on the Wanapum reservoir with seven eagles documented on the December 22, 2020 and the area just north of Desert Aire had the highest usage on the Priest Reservoir with eight eagles documented on the January 5, 2021 survey.

Date	Priest Rapids/ Wanapum Pool	Golden/ Bald	Notes			
12/22/2020	Wanapum	47.040	-120.024	7	Bald	Scammon landing
1/5/2021	Priest	46.702	-119.947	8	Bald	North of Desert Aire
2/9/2021	Priest	46.702	-119.947	5	Bald	North of Priest Boat Basin
1/25/2021	Wanapum	47.171	-120.004	4	Bald	South of Crescent Bar

Table 32021 Communal Roost Survey Results

3.1.3 Nest Survey Results

Three previously documented bald eagle nests, identified as WDFW Bald Eagle Nest Territory 1703 (Wanapum Pool Right Bank/Johnson Creek/Getty's Cove (The Cove)), Bald Eagle Nest Territory 1820 (Priest Rapids Pool/Goose Island) and the A-6 nest (Wanapum Pool Right Bank, opposite Apricot Orchard Boat Launch) all had documented incubating behavior recorded prior to the shelter in place order that went out on March 25, 2020. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions that were enacted for much of the nesting season, Grant PUD staff was unable to conduct surveys at the usual intervals.

On June 10, 2020 Grant PUD staff was able to conduct a nesting survey at two of the known nesting locations: The Cove and A-6. A successful juvenile bald eagle was documented at The Cove on this date and looked to be near fledging (Figure 2). This marks the ninth year out of the last ten (2010-2020) that The Cove nest has produced viable offspring. The A-6 nest was also surveyed on this date, but staff was unable to locate any eagles in the area.

Initial nesting surveys for the 2022 reporting season have been promising with all three known nesting locations occupied once again and a potential new nesting location just south of Vantage has been discovered that crews will continue to monitor. Results from these surveys will be included in the 2022 Article 414 report.



Figure 2 Juvenile bald eagle at The Cove nest.

3.2 Eagle Perch Tree, Roost Tree, and Nest Protection Efforts

Grant PUD proactively and aggressively wrapped trees during the 2010-2012 reporting periods and did not discover a need for additional tree wrapping during the 2021 reporting period, however, additional surveys will be conducted during the summer of 2021 to assess the need for repairs to existing wraps and/or wrap new trees. Grant PUD staff operated as a certified NWCO to remove problem beavers at select locations within the Project during the 2021 reporting period and has plans to continue throughout the 2022 reporting period.

3.3 Riparian Plantings

Grant PUD planted and/or maintained a number of ponderosa pine and black cottonwood throughout the Project. Crews installed Remote Irrigation Systems at Airstrip and West Bar to help establish the 250 perch trees that were planted in the fall of 2019. Additionally, Grant PUD maintained/replanted perch trees at ten additional locations throughout the Project: Apricot Orchard, Crescent Bar, Columbia Cliffs, Rattlesnake Cove, Frenchman Coulee, Rocky Coulee, Vantage, Sand Hollow, Buckshot and Priest Rapids Recreation Area.

Grant PUD will continue to monitor and maintain existing perch tree plantings throughout 2021, as well as explore additional opportunities for future perch tree plantings. An update on this activity will be provided in the 2022 report.

4.0 Summary

The numbers of bald eagles using the Project has maintained a slight increase over the last decade. The 2021 reporting season documented 198 eagles during day use surveys, which is only one less than was documented in 2020. Golden eagles continue to be present in the Project, but not in large numbers.

The 2021 field season documented nesting success at The Cove nest, which produced a single juvenile bald eagle that was documented on June 10, 2020. Due to Covid-19 restrictions Grant PUD staff was unable to conduct nesting surveys for much of the season and as a result could not say definitively if the nests at A-6 or Goose Island were successful of not. Grant PUD is monitoring nesting locations regularly in 2021 and will provide the results in the 2022 report. In addition, Grant PUD will follow federal guidelines as they pertain to managing grounds around nesting sites until juveniles have fledged.

Grant PUD planted and/or maintained a large number of perch trees throughout The Project during the 2021 reporting season. Remote Irrigation Systems were installed in order to maximize survival at West Bar and Airstrip with positive results. These Remote Irrigation Systems will be established again at these locations during the 2022 reporting season. Grant PUD will continue to monitor and maintain previous plantings found at ten additional sites throughout the Project. Future tree protection efforts are planned to be directed in response to beaver activity at known areas of eagle use. Grant PUD will continue to collaborate with the Wanapum and Cultural Resources Department in the selection of future planting areas and methodologies.

List of Literature

- Alsop, F. J. III, 2001. Smithsonian Handbooks Birds of North America: Western Region. DK Publishing, Inc. New York, NY.
- Broadhead, C.2015. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2013 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Keeler, C. 2014. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2013 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- LeMoine, J. 2017. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2016 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Public Utility No 2 of Grant County, Washington. 2016. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2016 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Public Utility No 2 of Grant County, Washington. 2014. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2014 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Public Utility No 2 of Grant County, Washington. 2009. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114 Bald Eagle Perch/Roosting Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414.Ephrata, WA.
- Turner, B. 2013. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2013 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Turner, B. 2012. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2012 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Turner, B. 2011. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2011 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Turner, B. 2010. Priest Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2114. 2010 Annual Report for the Bald Eagle Perch/Roost Protection Plan Pursuant FERC Article 414. Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County. Ephrata, WA.
- Western Forestry and Conservation Association (WFCA). 2010. Restoration of Disturbed Sites with Native Plants: An Integrated Approach. June 14–17, 2010. Wenatchee, WA.

Appendix A Bald Eagle Nest Locations

© 2021, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2 OF GRANT COUNTY, WASHINGTON. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN LAW, TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS.

Bald Eagle Territory #1703 Wanapum Pool Right Bank



Nest #	Zapped	Nest Description
		Bald Eagle Nest at The Cove
1703-2	No	LAT 46.8803LONG -119.9927
		Legal Description: T16-ON R23-OE S18

Bald Eagle Territory #1820 Priest Rapids Pool – Goose Island



Nest #	Zapped	Nest Description
1820-2 1820-3	No No	Bald Eagle Nests on Priest Pool – Goose Island LAT 46.6622LONG -119.9912 Legal Description: T14-ON R23-OE S34

© 2021, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2 OF GRANT COUNTY, WASHINGTON. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN LAW, TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS.

Bald Eagle Nest A-6 Wanapum Pool



Nest #	Nest Description
	Lat 47.2250
A-6	Long -120.0829

Appendix B Email Confirmation of Management Plan Changes

© 2021, PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 2 OF GRANT COUNTY, WASHINGTON. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED UNDER U.S. AND FOREIGN LAW, TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS.

From:	Lewis, Stephen
To:	Patrick Verhey
Cc:	Joseph LeMoine; John Monahan; Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel
Subject:	[possible spam] Re: Proposed changes to eagle management
Date:	Friday, August 12, 2016 4:17:47 PM
Attachments:	image001.png

USFWS approves as well. S-

On Wed, Aug 10, 2016 at 3:05 PM, Verhey, Patrick M (DFW)

< <u>Patrick.Verhey@dfw.wa.gov</u> > wrote: Jo	e,
--	----

WDFW approves.

?

Patrick Verhey

Renewable Energy Biologist WDFW

Habitat Program Renewable Energy

Section 1550 Alder St N.W.

Ephrata, WA 98823

(509) 754-4624 ex. 213

Patrick.Verhey@dfw.wa.gov

Work schedule is M-Th

From: Joseph LeMoine [mailto: Jlemoine@gcpud.org]
Sent: Wednesday, August 10, 2016 11:29 AM
To: Verhey, Patrick M (DFW); Steve Lewis (<u>Stephen Lewis@fws.gov</u>)
Cc: John Monahan; Deanne Pavlik-Kunkel
Subject: Proposed changes to eagle management

Hello Patrick and Steve,

I apologize for getting a synopsis of our proposed changes to the Bald Eagle Perch/Roosting Protection Plan to you a little tardy, but my son did not keep his due date and decided to come early. I know we discussed a number of ideas and wanted to give you a clean copy to go over to see if we are still in agreement.

Over the past seven seasons Grant PUD has documented an annual average population of 347 eagles within the Project boundaries. Eagle observations have come from 11 perch and roosting tree surveys (3 summer/8 winter). Grant PUD proposes to stop conducting the 3 summer surveys and reduce the 8 winter surveys to 4.

1. Summer surveys only identify resident eagles (often fledglings) and rarely find more than a few eagles Project wide.

2. Reducing winter surveys to 4 would allow for the monitoring of eagle usage over the peak occupancy period of December through March.

- The data from these surveys would still be compatible with previous years. We would be able to compare everything as before with the only difference being a 4 survey total rather than an 8 survey total.
- This would allow for a much safer work environment because optimal days would be selected rather than whatever the conditions may be when you have crew availability.
- Reducing the number of surveys would allow for the allocation of staff and resources to go to future vegetation plantings (scheduled this fall), exclusion wire efforts, and nest occupancy and success surveys.

There are now 3 active nests within the Project that we monitor with the addition of the A6 nest. There is also a likelihood that there will be more nests within the Project in the years to come as the population of eagles statewide has increased significantly. With this in mind, Grant PUD proposes that all nests Project wide be managed in accordance with the USFWS national bald eagle management guidelines and that no further individual nest management plans be created or renewed.

Grant PUD is not looking to decrease the amount of effort that goes into managing eagles, rather we are looking to shift staff and resources to into something that makes sense for eagles and everyone involved. I feel that that the last seven years of surveying under the current methods has provided us with enough data that we can now make some adjustments. If we are able to focus our surveying efforts on the peak usage portion of the year and enforce a standard nest management approach, it will not only continue to provide protection and adequate data that is compatible with previous years, but also allow for

increased plantings, predator control, nest occupancy and nest success surveys to be conducted.

With your approval via email, we will proceed with implementing these changes immediately and document program modifications in an updated Bald Eagle Management Plan to be completed before the end of this year and in the Annual Report that will be submitted to FERC. I look forward to continue to collaborate on management decisions as we move forward and am more than happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Joe LeMoine FWWQ

Biologist

509-764-0500 Ext: 2690

Hydropower and Energy Coordinator US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

CENTRAL WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE 215 MELODY LANE STE 103

WENATCHEE, WA 98801-8122

phone: (509) 665-3508 Ext. 2002

e-mail: <u>Stephen_Lewis@fws.gov</u>

"If a road has no obstacles, it probably doesn't lead to anywhere." S. Lewis