



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

ECOLOGICAL SERVICES
4620 Overland Road, Room 209
Boise, Idaho 83705

July 22, 1981

Mr. Wayne B. Skeem
C/O S & S Limited Partnership
1742 Targhee
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Dear Mr. Skeem:

This responds to your July 8, 1981 request for our Service to review your proposed application for exemption of Small Hydroelectric Power Project (Mud Creek Project) which will have an installed capacity of 5 megawatts or less. The project is to be located approximately 3½ miles N.E. of Buhl, Idaho in Twin Falls County, Idaho.

The project consists of the redevelopment of an existing project whose civil work remains since the early 1900's. New installation will consist of new weir boards, fish ladder, headgates and trash racks. The existing diversion dam will utilize excess water from Mud and Sewer Creek. The approximate 40cfs will be carried approximately 2250 feet in an open ditch to the project's penstock and turbine. An approximate 1400 foot transmission line will be constructed from the powerhouse to the substation.

We concur with IDFG's assessment that the project will not pose significant fish and wildlife problems, if a satisfactory Stream Resource Maintenance Flow is provided in both streams and if adequate fish screens are placed at the diversion and fish passage facilities. In addition, our Service requests that the applicant construct the transmission poles according to specifications which will preclude the electrocution of perching raptors (see attached examples).

Based on our assessment of the overall proposed project, it appears that no adverse effects will result to the environment; therefore, our Service does not object to the project.

We appreciate the opportunity to have provided these comments and the opportunity to have reviewed your project.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Buechler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dennis" and last name "Buechler" clearly distinguishable.

Dennis G. Buechler
Field Supervisor

Attachment

cc: IDFG, Boise
IDFG, Jerome