

Status Report: Programmatic EIS for Integrated Plan

YRBWEP Work Group Meeting

October 12, 2011

Programmatic EIS Schedule

- Scoping conducted May/June 2011
- Started work on EIS in July 2011
- Currently working on internal draft
- Will release Draft PEIS in early November 2011
- 45-day comment period
- Final EIS expected in January 2012

What is a Programmatic EIS?

- Evaluates effects of broad proposals or planning-level decisions for:
 - Wide range of individual projects
 - Implementation over a long timeframe
 - Implementation across a large geographic area
- Level of detail is sufficient to allow:
 - Informed choice among programmatic alternatives
 - Development of broad mitigation strategies

Different from a Project EIS

- Does not evaluate site-specific issues
- Will require additional project-level environmental review
- Example: 1999 YRBWEP Programmatic EIS
 - Subsequent conservation actions in various Districts received project-level analysis

Integrated Plan Programmatic EIS

- Two Alternatives:
 - No Action Alternative—Implementation of on-going, funded projects for conservation and habitat improvement
 - Integrated Plan – Joint Implementation of seven elements
- Overall effects of full plan
- Prior EIS's and studies used as input

Updates to the Integrated Plan

- Wymer Dam
 - Thorp Feed excluded (high cost compared with benefits)
 - Downstream conveyance includes both options:
 - Discharge at Lmuma Creek
 - Pipeline to Roza Dam
- New hydropower facilities at reservoirs are neither included nor excluded from future consideration
- Land acquisition: uses Integrated Plan description in Draft. Will update for Final EIS.
- Sockeye production is being updated

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION