BLM STUDY REVIEW of HELLS CANYON COMPLEX STUDIES

An Evaluation of Avian Electrocution at Transmission
Lines Associated with the Hells Canyon Hydroelectric Complex

3.2-19

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1. **INTRODUCTION**

This report is an evaluation of potential avian electrocution risk associated with Hells Canyon Complex transmission lines.

2. **CONCLUSION**

"*Most lines that electrocute raptors are 1kv to 69kv. In the western U.S. most raptor mortalities were Golden Eagles."*
Very little was stated about the use of deflectors for protection from electrocution. This could be standard for 1kv to 69kv where large raptors are common.

3. **STUDY ADEQUACY**

The study doesn't show the cumulative effects of electrocution and collisions with power lines. (3.2-20)This is a confusing article to read as abbreviations and acronyms are commonly used with no reference as to what they mean. The study found one pole responsible for electrocutions and the insulators were covered. Electrocution was identified as a major cause of mortality for Golden Eagles. I believe more than one insulator was involved.

4. **BLM CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

CONCLUSIONS

From this article I would say very little knowledge exists on how to prevent electrocution. I believe there are ways to prevent electrocution that have been used in the past.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It would be much more helpful if the problem was identified and methods to resolve the problem then identified. The article pointed out electrocution was a major cause of golden eagle deaths, but then minimized the deaths in the conclusions. Deflectors should be placed on all 1kv to 69kv where large raptors are common.