

BLM STUDY REVIEW of HELLS CANYON COMPLEX STUDIES

Influences of Human Activities on Terrestrial Resources
Associated with the Hells Canyon Hydroelectric
Project

3.2- 46

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1. INTRODUCTION

This studies purpose was to identify human activities that may impact highly valued cultural, wildlife and botanical resources.

2. CONCLUSION

" We recommend that archaeological monitoring integrate attributes of human use sites to better assess potentially destructive impacts. Winter recreational activities would not significantly impact big game or winter range during most years."

No comments were made concerning human impacts on summering big game. *"Sensitive passerine would be impacted by human activity but would benefit from enhanced riparian habitat away from sources of human activity. More resistant species or highly aggressive invaders often replace native vegetation at recreation sites and along trails. The highest risk sites for erosion were associated with parks."*

3. STUDY ADEQUACY

This study covers most aspects of human use but doesn't address aircraft use during the winter months. This activity would sporadic. The airstrip near Homestead is located in critical deer winter range. Cutting trees and shrubs limit riparian development. Power lines too be constructed in the near future were not addressed as hazards to bald eagles. No comments were made concerning summering big game.

4. BLM CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

CONCLUSIONS

This document is fairly complete but does not provide many solutions to existing or future terrestrial resource hazards.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Prohibit the cutting of trees and shrubs. Eliminate or close roads that are not needed for O&M. Gate roads for seasonal closers. IPC should develop an operational strategy that regulates seasonal use of IPC roads and facilities where conflicts exist with wildlife. All known new construction needs to be addressed for "risk factors". Plant and protect native tree species for future wildlife use.