

MEMORANDUM

TO :

Harry Hall	503-552-2799	FERC - Portland
Brian Marotz	406-257-0349	MDFWP
Bernie Burnham	503-231-6791	BIA
Tim Bodurtha	406-758-6877	USFWS
TJ Lovullo	202-219-2732	FERC
Diana Weigmann/Jeff Loman	202-219-0006	BIA
Seth Makepeace	406-883-2896	CSKT
Jim Barton	503-808-3933	USACOE-Portland
Cathy Hlebechuk	503-808-3932	USACOE-Portland
Kim Owens	202-219-1791	DOI

FROM: Lance Elias

DATE: June 8, 2005

CC : Brad Spencer
 Dave Kinnard
 David Hoffman
 Pete Simonich
 Jon Jourdonnais
 Bob Covington

RE : Kerr Project 0005

RECEIVED
 REGIONAL COMMISSIONER
 OF THE
 FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION
 PORTLAND REGIONAL OFFICE
 JUN 9 2005 10:51 AM
 b. l. h.

Outlined below are a series of communications and actions that occurred on June 7, 2005, by Lance Elias, Resource Coordinator for Flathead Lake. They are a continuation of the June 6, 2005 activity at the Kerr project for Flathead Lake flood control. The events of June 6 are included as an attachment to this memo.

About 0930 hours: I returned a call to Cathy Hlebechuk from COE and we discussed flow changes. She had called before I was in the office. At the time of the call NWS RFC had an inflow forecast that showed the inflows dropping. Cathy and I agreed to leave the flows at 48,000 cfs today and possibly reduce to 40,000 cfs tomorrow and follow the inflows down from that point.

About 1130 hours: I received a call from Victor at the Missoula NWS. He wanted to know if we were going to increase outflows today. I told him no and that we were planning to decrease tomorrow as discussed with Cathy.

About 1345 hours: I received a call from Bill Myers. He still had high water at his place on the Swan River. He wanted to know what our plans were. I told him the forecast was for decreasing inflows and we were planning to decrease outflows tomorrow.

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About 1400 hours: I received a call from Cathy. She told me the NWS RFC was re-doing the inflow forecast with a much higher precipitation component and that the inflows were going to be much higher than the previous forecast. We talked about making increases but Cathy wanted to wait until the forecast was completed. She said we may need to go as high as 52,000 cfs.

About 1500 hours: I talked to Mary Mellema and confirmed that USBR had increased from about 9,000 cfs average yesterday to about 10,700 cfs.

About 1600 hours: I called Cathy to ask about flow changes but could only leave a message.

About 1630 hours: I received a call from Cathy. She had Seth Makepeace from the Tribes on with us. Seth asked about the EAP portion of yesterday's summary. I told him it was part of the FERC required EAP. Seth had received no calls on downstream flooding. We talked briefly about the Swan River level showing below flood stage on the USGS website. I had been told early today by Bill Myers that the gage is upstream of several tributaries to the Swan and that the flows at Big Fork could be much higher than the gage indicates. We all agreed to leave the outflows from Kerr at 48,000 cfs and get back together tomorrow.

Attachment 1 - June 6, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO :

Harry Hall	503-552-2799	FERC - Portland
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Jim Barton	503-808-3933	USACOE-Portland
Cathy Hlebechuk	503-808-3932	USACOE-Portland

FROM: Pete Simonich

DATE: June 7, 2005

CC : Dave Kimard
David Hoffman
Jon Jourdonnais
Lance Elias
Bob Covington

RE : Kerr Project 0005

We want to appraise you of the most recent operational activities at the Kerr Project for flood control operations. Outlined below are a series of actions taken on June 6, 2005, by Lance Elias, our Resource Coordinator for Flathead Lake:

About 1150 hours: I had a conversation with Bill Myers of Big Fork. Bill owns and operators a charter service on Flathead Lake. He told me the water level on the Swan River is above flood stage at the north end of the lake and his docks are 3 to 4 inches under water. He requested that we release additional water. I asked him to contact the county DES officer and coordinate through him. I did not want to make changes at Kerr that might help one area and harm another. I assumed the DES officer would have the responsibility to make sure that that did not happen.

About 1230 hours: Allen Marble (DES from Flathead County) called me and asked if we could start releasing full capacity from Kerr. He did not realize what he was asking. I told him the current outflow was 40,000 cfs and we were increasing to 42,000 cfs. I told him full capacity is 55,000 cfs and at that level there would be much down stream flooding. I suggested he contact the COE because they have system flood control and also the DES officer for Lake County to make sure any further increases from Kerr do not aggravate any down stream problems. I told him I had already coordinated increases to 40,000 cfs with the COE and was planning to add 2,000 cfs more today. (The north half of the lake is in Flathead County and the south half is in Lake County).

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About 1310 hours: Cathy Hlebechuk (COE Portland) called and told me she had been in communication with Allen Marble (DES Flathead County) and Steve Stanley (DES Lake County) and requested that releases from Kerr go to 45,000 cfs. Those releases will be completed at 1700 hours today. The request would require a daily change of 8,000 cfs. Cathy asked if we (COE and PPLM) needed to call Jeff Loman BIA in Washington D.C. I told her that there were weekend flow changes in excess of Article limits and I called Seth Makepeace at the Tribes to report the flow change in excess of the Article limit.

About 1330 hours: I called Seth and told him what I was told about the flooding and the request from the COE. He told me that one of the snotel sites (Moss Peak) in the Mission Mountains with a rain gage measured about 7 inches of rain in the last few days. He told me he had been at a DES meeting early today because of flooding which lead me to believe he understood the situation first hand and understood the need to make flow changes in excess of the license article. He was interested in the affect of the north end flooding and told me that he would try to find some way to get pictures of the flooded areas.

About 1630 hours: Cathy H. called and requested increases to 48,000 cfs. She had received a call from Bill Myers and Allen Marble requesting assistance to reduce flooding. She was not able to coordinate with Steve Stanley at Lake County. I suggested she talk with Seth or someone at the Tribes. She was not able to reach Seth but spoke with Jolene, the emergency manager at the Tribes.

About 1645 hours: The Kerr EAP has a section I. c. (Non-failure Flood warning). The requirement of the section is for the Resource Coordinator to call four parties to notify them of a potential flood. At 48,000 cfs there is a potential for flooding on the lower Flathead River. I called the four parties to let them know that flows will be about 48,000 by about 8:00 PM today. The parties are the Missoula NWS, Lake and Sander County Sheriff and the Tribal Police Chief.