



Kittitas County Conservation District  
2211 W. Dolarway Rd, Suite 4 - Ellensburg, WA 98926 - Phone (509) 925-3352 - Fax (888) 546-0825

July 25, 2018

Lindsey Ozbolt  
Kittitas County Community Development Services  
411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2  
Ellensburg, WA 98926



RE: Manastash Creek Restoration Project, Reeves Irrigation Pump Fish Screen Shoreline Exemption

Dear Ms. Ozbolt;

Thank you for taking the time to discuss the Reeves Irrigation Pump Fish Screen which is part of the Manastash Creek Restoration Project. Scot and Katy Reeves have a surface irrigation water right off Manastash Creek under the Manastash Water Ditch Association (MWDA). The Kittitas County Conservation District (KCCD) is cost sharing with the Reeves to provide a fish screen to their existing irrigation pump. KCCD is requesting the project qualify for a Shoreline Exemption under WAC 173.27.040 (2) (a) and (2) (e). The KCCD is also requesting the project not be charged a fee for the Shoreline Exemption under WAC 173.27.040 (2) (o) (C).

The Manastash Creek Restoration Project is a fish screening, fish passage and instream flow enhancement project that is being implemented by the Manastash Creek Steering Committee with assistance from KCCD. The Committee consists of representatives of MWDA, individual irrigators from Keach and Jensen, Hatfield, Reed, Anderson and Barnes Diversions, as well as the Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Environmental Council, Kittitas Reclamation District (KRD) and the Yakama Nation. In 2007, the Committee approved the Resolution of Manastash Steering Committee Regarding Manastash Creek Restoration Project Instream Flow Enhancement Implementation Plan. The "Implementation Plan" details the Project's plan to implement fish screening and fish passage in addition to enhancing instream flow to provide over 20 miles of habitat to listed mid-Columbia summer steelhead.

Over the past decade, work by KCCD, Committee members and project partners has resulted in the construction of new irrigation water diversion facilities with proper fish screening and fish passage. Improvement to instream flow has been achieved through on farm conservation, acquisition and the KRD's tributary supplementation program. And as part of the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan, KCCD and KRD were able to install pressurized pipelines, allowing the last diversion to be moved upstream to the new facility and removal of the last fish barrier on Manastash Creek. After which, the project documented listed steelhead above the project area. All previous project elements implemented were permitted with the County.

With listed steelhead documented in Manastash; it is imperative to provide a proper fish screen on the Reeves irrigation pump. The Reeves irrigation pump fish screen is under \$5,000 and is construction necessary for irrigation, WAC 173.27.040 (2) (a) and (2) (e). It is also part of a watershed restoration project that is designed to improve fish and wildlife habitat by installing an instream habitat enhancement structure (fish screen), WAC 173.27.040 (2) (o) (C).

Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Sherry Swanson

Enclosed:  
JARPA with Attachments  
Shoreline Exemption Permitting Form

