

From: Michael Slater
To: Jon Hamilton; Tracie Kirkham
Date: 6/8/2005 9:39 AM
Subject: Re: Little Dell Fish Trap

CC: Don Wiley; Florence Reynolds

Thanks for the info Tracie and for coming up to help on Monday, it was good to see you.

We do have the map which came with our special use permit, this is an item that has brought about a lot of this discussion. As far as the location of the trap over the past few years we have been roughly in the same area due to convenience, water levels, and beaver dams (operating as barriers) just upstream where we couldn't go above or no fish would make it to our trap. Well, all those beaver dams are gone now so a little further upstream may be an option? Tom Ward also provided me with some useful information from that gage station to help in placing the trap.

At any rate with the efforts we have been putting in at Little Dell the past few years we have really thought about the construction of a permanent trap to make things more effective and easier. When Jon and others were talking about building a road into the area between the mitigation sites to make access to the trap easier we thought of a couple additional options. If this idea is a real possibility then we thought that while doing so we could also include construction of a permanent fish trap like we have designed and built in other lake situations around the state where we are expanding the native Bonneville and Colorado river cutthroat populations to prevent them from being listed as threatened or endangered. It would be much more effective, take less effort, time and be easier on the fish (we wouldn't have to be shocking the fish as much as we do now). We also have some funding sources and construction crews that may be used to complete the work, including the road.

I can get a few things together including some diagrams/photos of traps we have installed, permit requirements necessary and we could discuss locations, which would have to be near or just above the high water mark of the lake perhaps just a little above where we are located now.

I don't want to get ahead of ourselves but I really appreciate you entertaining our thoughts and hope we can pursue this further after I get some more information to you. Our preferred time frame would be to have things completed for next years spawn (May-June 06) but realistically it may take more time. Thanks again and we'll keep in touch,

Mike Slater
Aquatic Biologist (UDWR)
michaelslater@utah.gov
801-491-5650

>>> "Kirkham, Tracie" <Tracie.Kirkham@slcgov.com> 06/06/05 4:34 PM >>>

Hi Mike,

Here are a few further answers:

The pool is not quite full, we are still storing water. Full pool is at 20,000 and we are currently at approximately 15,000 acft, so still 5000 acft to go. But the elevation of the lake level shouldn't be increasing toooo fast, since there is a greater surface area.

In regard to the road, did anyone (ie..Jon or Joe?) show you the air photo of the mitigation area? And do you have a copy of the mitigation plan? We should use this as a guide as to where the/a road for your access is going to go for habitat protection and less disturbance of the site. If you haven't seen that plan, I can get it to you and Mark, Jon, or Joe will working with you on that.

In regard to the permanent fish trap, I will propose this to my supervisors as well, but what I recommend is for you (the Division) to write up a proposal (nothing too huge, but to explain the need and design, etc..) and send/ or meet with me, Florence Reynolds and/or our director, LeRoy Hooton. What is your time frame on this? Stream Alteration Permit and a second permit which I cannot think of, seems that there is one federal and one state permit that needs to be obtained.

Is the fish trap in the same spot each year? If so, was that set up during the last five years of drought? Possible something to consider...Also, the hydrology gage station/bridge is still upstream a bit and that is a weir, are you aware of that gage?

Thanks for letting us check out the situation. Pretty cool to see big fish!

Let me know if you have additional questions.

Cheers,
Tracie

Tracie Kirkham
Water Resources Scientist
Department of Public Utilities
1530 S West Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84115
Phone (801) 483-6750
Fax (801) 483-6753
E-mail: tracie.kirkham@slcgov.com