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Wildlife Crediting

Impacts to Columbia Basin wildlife as a result of the construction of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) have been quantified by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council through the completion of "loss assessments" for each dam. Loss assessments identify "habitat units" lost due to construction. Habitat units are a measurement of both the quantity and quality of habitat, as indicated by its suitability for use by target species that typically rely on a particular kind of habitat.

As BPA implements a mitigation activity, it takes credit for its effort. On new projects, the habitat units are measured or estimated and then counted against the loss assessment for the project being mitigated. BPA takes one habitat unit of credit for each habitat unit it mitigates. Well over half of the wildlife losses have been mitigated.

To date, mitigation is complete for the construction impacts of Hungry Horse, Libby, Dworshak, Bonneville, The Dalles, John Day, McNary, Lower Granite, Little Goose, Lower Monumental, and Ice Harbor dams. BPA continues to work toward fulfilling this mandate both directly, through actions aimed at benefiting wildlife, and indirectly, through actions more broadly focused on ecosystem improvements that benefit both fish and wildlife.

Mitigation Summary: (Updated 01/26/06)

- **BPA Wildlife Accounting** - Table of Habitat Units (HUs) lost, gained, acquired, estimated, total, and percent complete ordered by dam or area. ([PDF](#) or [Tab-delimited Text](#))
- **WL Dam Accounting by Species** - Table of species, HUs lost, acquisition total, and percent complete ordered by dam and species. ([PDF](#) or [Tab-delimited Text](#))
- **WL Dam Accounting by Tracts/Subtracts and Species** - Table of species, acquisition HUs, WL site, and tract ordered by dam. ([PDF](#) or [Tab-delimited Text](#))
- **BPA Expenditures for Individual Wildlife Tracts** - Table of acres protected and BPA purchase price ordered by WL site and tract. ([PDF](#) or [Tab-delimited Text](#))

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