

HEP CREDITING DISCUSSION POINTS
(July 28, 2005 Wildlife Committee meeting)

The purpose of this white paper and subsequent discussion is to lay the foundation for resolving contentious crediting issues by first developing solutions to less complex crediting concerns. The Albeni Falls loss assessment matrix and the Hntkwipn Project (CDA Tribe project) were selected because the issues resulting from comparing the data sets in Table 1 characterize similar situations across the Basin. In addition, the questions raised are relatively clear and resolvable.

The Albeni Falls loss assessment matrix is contrasted with the HEP species/cover type matrix for the CDA Tribe project in Table 1. Comparing the two matrices raises the following concerns:

1. Should BPA receive HU credit for all project acreage purchased with mitigation funds?
2. How should project cover types that differ from loss assessment cover types be credited?
3. What is the basis for selecting non-inclusive¹ cover type species?
4. Who selects non-inclusive cover type species?
5. How many species (stacking) should be applied to non-inclusive cover types?
6. How and where should non-inclusive species habitat units be credited?
7. How far should species applicability to cover types be “stretched”?
8. Should future land management objectives and goals “influence” baseline HEP analysis? If so, to what extent?
9. How should inadequate or incomplete loss assessment HEP models be applied e.g. redhead and white-tailed deer?

I will bring other related issues to the July 28th meeting for further discussion (if time permits).

¹ Non-inclusive means not included in the appropriate loss assessment.

Table 1. Albeni Falls/CDA Tribe project HEP species and cover type comparison.

ALBENI FALLS LOSS ASSESSMENT MATRIX										
Target Species		Deciduous Forested Wetland		Conifer Forested Wetland		Scrub-Shrub Wetland		Emergent Wetland/Wet Meadow		Open Water
Bald eagle		X		X						
Black-capped chickadee		X		X						
Canada goose								X		X
Mallard*								X		X
Muskrat								X		X
Redhead										X
White-tailed deer		X		X		X				
Yellow warbler						X				
* Include 100-m of upland habitat adjacent to wetland/palustrine habitats (nesting habitat)										
CDA PROJECT MATRIX										
		Agriculture (1,016 acres)		Conifer Forest (76.4 acres)		Riparian Shrub-Drainage (74 acres)		Grassland/meadow (21 acres)		Shrubland** (8.3 acres)
Bald eagle				X						
Black-capped chickadee				X						
Canada goose										
Mallard*								X		
Muskrat										
Redhead										
White-tailed deer				X		X				
Yellow warbler						X				
* Include 100-m of upland habitat adjacent to wetland/palustrine habitats (nesting habitat)										
** Hawthorne with Reed canary grass understory										

