

Cle Elum Hatchery Groundwater Permit Application Action Plan

Subject

The State of Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) amended the Cle Elum Hatchery Temporary Permit associated with Water Right Applications No. G4-32504 until April 4, 2007. The amendment allows further collection of groundwater data during hatchery operations. Without the additional groundwater data Ecology can not issue a final permit to extract groundwater for Hatchery operations and thus the option to use groundwater for hatchery operations will be eliminated.

Goal

This Action Plan presents tasks planned over the next three years to comply with the requirements contained in the Amended Temporary Permit G4-32504 issued to the BPA April 3, 2002 by Ecology. It will result in a groundwater supply required for continued operation of the Cle Elum Hatchery at reasonable cost and issuance of the groundwater permits to support those water needs.

Approach

The aquifer used for hatchery well water has not returned to levels that existed prior to operation of the hatchery wells. The aquifer appears to be stabilizing within predictable levels each year although not at the levels previously observed. The Action Plan is divided into three activities:

1. Ongoing reporting of observation well water level data in compliance with permit condition 5.4
2. Preparation and submission of an Interim Long Duration Well Field Monitoring report in compliance with permit condition 5.7
3. Preparation and submission of a Final Long Duration Well Field Monitoring report in compliance with permit condition 5.8

Implementation

The observation well water level data collected by the hatchery staff will be entered into a spreadsheet and plotted. The results will be submitted to Ecology and other involved agencies. It is planned that the involved agencies and individuals will be routinely updated of progress and conclusions.

During May 2005, the hatchery staff will provide to CH2M HILL the electronic data required by permit conditions 5.3, 5.5, and 5.6 (production well pumping volumes and water levels). CH2M HILL will evaluate the data and prepare an Interim Long Duration Well Field Monitoring report in compliance with permit condition 5.7 and submit to Ecology by June 30, 2005.

During December 2005, the hatchery staff will provide to CH2M HILL the electronic data required by permit conditions 5.3, 5.5, and 5.6 (production well pumping volumes and water levels) collected since the previous download. CH2M HILL will evaluate the data and prepare a Final Long Duration Well Field Monitoring report in compliance with permit condition 5.8 and submit to Ecology by January 31, 2006.