

From: [Owen, Samantha](#)
To: ""Kurt Lehman""
Subject: RE: New Message From Eklutna Hydro - CONTACT US
Date: Friday, January 19, 2024 3:50:00 PM

Hi Kurt,

Thank you for your comments. They have been added to the record and will be taken into consideration by the Project Owners.

To answer your questions...

1. If that is the case will the Glenn HIWAY NEED to be reconfigured to allow for flood mitigation, and at what cost? A natural flow regime in the Eklutna River could significantly impact the downstream highway bridges. These impacts are currently being evaluated as part of a more detailed assessment of dam removal.
2. Anchorages new water source? A natural flow regime in the Eklutna River would likely have significant impacts on AWWU's buried pipeline as it exists today. We are coordinating closely with AWWU to further evaluate these potential impacts and determine what actions would need to be taken to protect the public water supply under this scenario (e.g., relocating the pipeline, finding a new public water supply, etc.)
3. Is additional power available to allow for the closing of the hydro plant? what is the anticipated cost increase? If Eklutna hydro was replaced with natural gas, the present worth would equal approximately \$300M over 35-years. The cost of replacing Eklutna hydro with another firm renewable energy source, such as another storage hydro project, is currently unknown and not budgeted.
4. this is the only location providing the mobility impaired salmon fishing opportunities in south central and that could be reduced to levels not worth participating, it's already on a steady decline from just 5 or 6 years ago. Thank you for your comment.
5. How could salmon possibly make their way up such a rapid elevation change to the lake? Our models show that salmon should be able to make it up the wetted area of the Eklutna River with the proposed flow regime.

Hope that helps and thank you again.

Regards,

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-----Original Message-----

From: Kurt Lehman <mail@eklutnahydro.com>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2024 2:54 PM
To: owen@mcmjac.com
Subject: New Message From Eklutna Hydro - CONTACT US

CAUTION: This email was received from an external source

RE: Eklutna tailrace

Hello Chugach Electric!

i was unable to attend the public meetings however I wanted to provide comment on the tailrace, I'M very familiar with the tailrace from a sportsmans perspective, I have fished there for well over 20 years. My understanding from trout unlimited press release is that they want the power plant shutdown and the dam removed to allow for fish passage to the lake.

1. If thats is the case will the Glenn HIWAY NEED to be reconfigured to allow for flood mitigation, and at what cost?
2. Anchorages new water source?
3. Is additional power available to allow for the closing of the hydro plant? what is the anticipated cost increase?
4. this is the only location providing the mobility impaired salmon fishing opportunities in south central and that could be reduced to levels not worth participating, it's already on a steady decline from just 5 or 6 years ago.
5. How could salmon possibly make their way up such a rapid elevation change to the lake?

This is an observation I have seen repeatedly while fishing the upstream area of the tailrace, when salmon are in the tailrace (from june on) and the turbines speed is reduced to low levels the salmon are able to make their way to the turbine impellers are crushed and or decapitated. I have watched many fresh salmon tumble out from under the concrete spalshing on the surface with their heads crushed. I fished at the turbine outlet when the plant was not GENERATING SEVERAL years ago and the bottom was littered with fresh king salmon heads and carcasses, all the heads were pinched off, every cast i reeled in one or the other time and time again until i had enough. with the turbid water in the summer people are totally unaware of this happening. fish screens would be a great idea if the plan is to reduce the power generation (flows). A side effect of the reduced flows during the summer is that the knick river builds up a sand bar accross the mouth of the tailrace and this noticeably reduces the number of salmon in the tailrace.

I host many people fishing every year, they love the tailrace and they can't wait go back even though I take them all over the valley fishing, people love the tailrace!

I have performed the annual fire inspections for the eklutna power plant several times, it is a very interesting site and worthy of tours!

thank you for your time, Kurt lehman