

Term and Condition 2b

2. In order to minimize the likelihood of incidental take associated with short-term (direct and indirect) impacts to listed salmonids during Project construction and maintenance activities, the Corps shall do the following:

2b. Minimize effects from blasting through the following actions:

- i. The blasting plan, outlined on page 6-20 of the FEIS for the Project, will be developed in conjunction with Federal and State agencies and submitted to NMFS for approval 30 days prior to blasting. The blasting plan will include specific monitoring actions to determine if any listed fish are killed or injured, and include a clause that, if the blasting results in a take of listed salmonids, the Corps will discontinue blasting until such time as that take can be assessed and measures enacted to minimize impacts.
- ii. The results of the blasting plan monitoring shall be presented at the adaptive management team meeting during the year in which the blasting occurs.

Action Plan: The blasting contractor will be required to develop a blasting plan for each location where blasting will occur. Blasting criteria, as specified by the BiOp, will include implosion with overpressures of less than 10 psi and in-water work timing of Nov. 1 to Feb. 28. A fisheries minimization and monitoring plan will also be developed by the contractor that will include fish hazing and monitoring pre and post blast impact assessment. The plan will also include a clause that blasting will cease if it results in a take of listed salmonids. Blasting will not resume until the take is assessed and a methodology developed to ensure no future take.

Schedule: The specifications for the blasting contract and environmental monitoring plan will be coordinated with NOAA Fisheries and USFWS throughout the preparation of plans and specifications.

The blasting plan will be provided to the NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for review 30 days prior to beginning blasting

1. NOAA Fisheries, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state agencies will participate in a meeting with the Corps to review the existing blasting

specifications in the 1999 EIS. The Services reviewed the preliminary plan on April 5, 2004.

2. NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will meet with the contractor to discuss blasting plan requirements. Possible start of blasting date November 2006.
3. NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will review proposed blasting plan.