

Ron His Horse Is Thunder

Chairman

214



Avis Little Eagle
Vice-Chairwoman

Geraldine Agard
Secretary

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MAR 16 2007		
REPLY:	YES	NO
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CLASSIFICATION		
PROJECT		
CONTROL NO.		
FOLDER I.D.		

March 15, 2007

Red River Valley Water Supply Project
U. S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation
Dakotas Area Office
P. O. Box 1017
Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-1017

Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed are my comments on the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation's Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) on the Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP).

We are very concerned about the negative impact lower water levels caused by water depletion projects such as the RRVWSP would have on threatened and endangered species that live along the Missouri River on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation.

We have documented many bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) habitats along both the Missouri and Cannonball rivers on the reservation. Although the SDEIS purports to have minimal impact on the reservation, should one of the Missouri River basin options is chosen, it would appear that due to our lower water levels, this is not true and mitigation measures need to be addressed not only for the bald eagle but other threatened and endangered species that reside on Standing Rock Reservation. Other threatened and endangered species that we are concerned about include;

- Prairie Falcon (*Falco mexicanus*)
- Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus* classified as threatened in South Dakota)
- Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*)
- Whooping Crane (*Grus Americana* classified as endangered in South Dakota)
- Interior Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum athalossos* classified as endangered in South Dakota)

Sincerely,


Jeff Kelly
Game Warden
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe