



**DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**  
*Wildlife Resources Section*  
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**Joe Manchin III**  
*Governor*

**Frank Jezloro**  
*Director*

June 10, 2009

Hon. Kimberly Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington DC 20426

RE: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION RELATED TO COMMENTS ON  
PROPOSED STUDY PLANS FOR P-1175-013 LONDON/MARMET  
HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT & P-1290-011 WINFIELD HYDROELECTRIC  
PROJECT

Dear Secretary Bose,

On April 23, 2009, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (WVDNR) provided comments in accordance with 18 CFR § 5.12 on the proposed study plans submitted by Appalachian Power Company (APC) for the London/Marmet Hydroelectric Project (P-1175), and the Winfield Hydroelectric Project (P-1290), located on the Kanawha River, Kanawha County, West Virginia. Regarding the proposed Recreational Use Survey, the WVDNR recommended that APC utilize a protocol currently being employed by the Ohio River Fish Management Team at locks and dams throughout the Ohio River. The protocol for the proposed Recreational Use Survey has been provided to APC and is attached with this submittal.

Sincerely,

Kerry Bledsoe  
Hydropower Coordination  
[kerrybledsoe@wvdnr.gov](mailto:kerrybledsoe@wvdnr.gov)

Hon Kimberly Bose, Secretary  
June 10, 2009  
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cc: T. Rogers, APC  
K. Halstead, USACE  
D. Carter, USFWS  
L. Bennett, WVDEP  
Z. Brown, WVDNR  
P. Johansen, WVDNR  
B. Preston, WVDNR  
W. Kordek, WVDNR

# OHIO RIVER TAILWATER ANGLER SURVEY

## NORMAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

You must begin your sample day (i.e.: begin work in a tailwater area) at the time indicated on the schedule. Therefore, you should arrive at the river early enough to unload equipment, and otherwise prepare for the sample day.

**Ohio River Tailwaters:** Your assigned work areas for Ohio River tailwaters begin at the base of the dam and run downstream to the end of the long lock wall and includes the opposite shoreline from the locks only. When conducting the survey from a boat, only count and interview boat anglers in the modified restricted zone within your assigned work area, as well as shore anglers in your assigned work area.

**Boat Surveys:** You will need to securely tie the boat to shore in an area that doesn't interfere with shore anglers. Walk the bank to interview shore anglers and use the boat to interview boat anglers. You may need to anchor along side the boat that you are interviewing or have the anglers in that boat help hold you in place until the interview is complete. Interviews should take about 2 to 3 minutes.

Start each angler count at the time indicated on your schedule. Record the actual time that you conduct each count to the nearest minute. Use your binoculars to count all boat and shore anglers, as well as the number of fishing boats in your assigned area. Record the number of fishing boats in the other category.

Basically, your job is to conduct as many angler interviews as possible and periodically count fishermen and fishing boats. When not conducting scheduled angler counts, position yourself at a good vantagepoint to interview anglers when they finish fishing (COMPLETE TRIPS). Please try to get as many completed trips as possible. Near the end of your survey day begin interviewing all of the anglers in the act of fishing (INCOMPLETE TRIPS). Only interview anglers who have been fishing for 30 minutes or longer. Do not interrupt angler counts for any reason other than emergencies. Be sure to begin an ANGLER COUNT on time as scheduled.

Completed data forms should be kept in your vehicle so that someone can pick them up on a monthly basis. Data forms should never be mailed but always hand delivered. Please notify Scott periodically of the status of your supplies (forms, etc.). Scott will schedule a monthly meeting with you to pick up your completed forms and replenish your supplies. An arrangement may be worked out for alternative work assignments if extreme, inclement weather prohibits your survey. Otherwise, report to work as scheduled. Please remember that it is just as important to report that no one is fishing as it is to document heavy use.

## DAILY SCHEDULE

Daily schedules are divided into 2 periods, basically morning and afternoon. Because of daylight conditions work hours are different during daylight savings and standard time.

Basically, work periods run from dawn to midday and from midday to dusk. Please review the daily schedules and follow these closely. Please be onsite at the initiation of the start time and stay until the end of the period.

During each work period there are 4 count periods. Count periods are when you should count the number of anglers within each location. Indicate the number of shore and boat anglers on the angler survey count form. Remember to record the location (1 or 2), the time, as well as other required information. All counts should be made within a 15-minute period.

The Pike Island and New Cumberland tailwaters is divided into one location for survey purposes. This is the only area that should be surveyed. **DO NOT CONDUCT SURVEYS OUTSIDE OF THIS AREA.**

### CORE QUESTIONS

"Good (morning, afternoon, etc.). I'm conducting an angler survey for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, and I have a few questions I'd like to ask you."

#### **A. WHEN DID YOU START FISHING TODAY?**

Only anglers fishing more than 30 minutes should be interviewed. If the angler has been fishing less than 30 minutes, contact him later.

Record response under Time START AM PM.

#### **B. HOW MANY ARE FISHING IN YOUR GROUP?**

If several anglers are present in a boat or on shore, use a separate angler interview form for each angler. If the fish are combined (i.e., not on separate stringers), use one angler interview form for all anglers in the group.

Record response under N Anglers.

#### **C. WHAT SPECIES ARE YOU TRYING TO CATCH?**

If the angler(s) names a single species (e.g., bluegill) or type of fish (e.g., crappie), record the name of the fish in the large blank under SEEK. Record the appropriate three digit fish species code (see list) sometime after the interview. If the angler names more than one species or type of fish, or if he says "anything", "whatever bites", etc., record "anything" in the blank and enter 9 9 9 as its code.

Record response under Seek.

#### **D. HOW MANY FISH HAVE YOU (OR YOUR GROUP) CAUGHT AND KEPT?**

Ask this question exactly as written. If they have not caught and kept any fish, record the name of the species sought and its code under SPECIES and record "0" under NUMBER KEPT.

1. **MAY I SEE THEM?** Identify and count all fish.

2. **MAY I MEASURE THEM?** Measure the first 20 fish of each species you see each day. ONLY MEASURE FISH WHICH ARE BEING KEPT. Record the total length to the nearest millimeter on the ANGLER SURVEY LENGTH FORM.

**E. HOW MANY FISH HAVE YOU (OR YOUR GROUP) RELEASED TODAY?**

Record the species and numbers under RELEASED.

**F. HAVE YOU BEEN INTERVIEWED BEFORE DURING THIS FISHING SEASON ON THE OHIO RIVER?**

If the response is YES, interview is complete. Do not record the answer to this question.

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS**

If the response is NO, then ask the following series of six questions pertaining to fish consumption. Record the answers in blanks 1 through 6 in the center section of the interview form.

1. **What state did you buy your license in?**  
(1)= WV, (2)= KY, (3)= OH (4)= IN,  
(5)= IL, (6)= any combination, (7)= None
2. **What is your zip code?"** You will have to add a 5<sup>th</sup> entry line to question #2 since the form only has 4 spaces and zip codes have 5 numbers.
3. **Do you take home to eat, or give away for others to eat, any of the fish that you catch here?** (YES = 1; NO = 2)
4. **If YES to question 3- What types of fish did you eat, or give away for others to eat, from here in the last 12 months?**  
Record the number for the first choice in number 4:  
(1)=blackbass (2)=crappie (3)=sunfish (4)=percids  
(5)=catfish (6)=temperate basses (7)=drum (8)=anything  
(9)=other
5. **If NO to question 3 - What is the primary reason you don't eat them?**  
(1)=Taste bad (2)=Don't like fish (3)=Not safe to eat  
(4)=Too small or not enough (5)=Practice catch and release  
(6)=Other
6. **Is anyone your group aware that a fish consumption advisory is in effect on the Ohio River?** (YES = 1; NO = 2)

This completes the interview. Be courteous and thank the angler/s for their time.