20 FERC ¶62,296

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Pacific Gas and Electric Company)

Project No. 606

ORDER APPROVING REVISED EXHIBIT S AND AMENDING LICENSE

(Issued August 18, 1982)

Pacific Gas and Electric Company (Licensee) filed for Commission approval, on April 5, 1982, a revised Exhibit S and recommendations for minimum flow releases below project diversion dams pursuant to Articles 33 and 35 of the license ► for the constructed Kilarc-Cow Creek Project, FERC No. 606. 1/ The project is located on Old Cow Creek and South Cow Creek in Shasta County, California.

The revised Exhibit S and minimum flow recommendations were prepared in cooperation with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Public notice of the application was given on May 19, 1982, and no substantive comments have been received.

Exhibit S

The Exhibit S includes functional design drawings for: (1) a proposed Denil fishway at the South Cow Creek Diversion Dam, to provide for upstream migration of steelhead trout; mand (2) a proposed fish screen at the entrance of South Cow Creek Canal, to prevent diversion of steelhead smolts into South Cow Creek Canal.

The fishway will be located on the left bank, integrated with the intake structure for the Cow Creek power canal, and will pass fish a vertical distance of about 8 feet. The fish screen will consist of an eight-panel, continuous-inclined screen, with brush assembly for trash removal, located diagonally across the power canal immediately downstream from the intake to the canal. Downstream migrant fish will be diverted to the fishway exit, and will then use the fishway for downstream passage. Construction of the fish facilities will commence by October 15, 1983. The Exhibit S also includes habitat protection measures to benefit wild turkey.

1/ Authority to act on this matter is delegated to the Director, Office of Electric Power Regulation, under \$375.308 of the Commission's regulations (18 C.F.R. 375.308), as amended by Order No. 132 in Docket No. RM 81-14, issued February 13, 1981, (46 Fed. Reg. 14119).

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FERC Statutes and Regulations F307 238

The Exhibit S, including the functional design drawings for the fish facilities, substantially conforms to the requirements of the Commission's regulations. It is in the public interest to approve the Exhibit S.

Minimum Flow

Licensee signed an agreement on March 24, 1982, with the CDFG concerning minimum flow releases from project diversions. The agreement was reached without the need to perform a flow study. On the basis of the agency comments and the Commission staff's analysis, it is concluded that the recommendations for flow releases contained in the agreement are reasonable, will protect and enhance the downstream fishery resource, and therefore, should be approved. Article 42 included in the license requires Licensee to implement a minimum flow release schedule.

The revised Exhibit S and minimum flow releases will help minimize any adverse impacts on fish and wildlife resources that would otherwise result from the development or operation of the project. Any adverse environmental impacts resulting from construction of the fishway and fish screen will be of short-term duration and minor in nature. For these reasons, it is concluded that approval of the revised Exhibit S and the minimum flow release schedule is not a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

It is ordered that:

- (A) Fish and wildlife measures contained in paragraphs C and D of the revised Exhibit S, and the functional design drawing (No. 606-19) of the fishway and fish screens, filed on April 5, 1982, are approved.
 - (B) Upon completion of construction of the Kilarc-Cow Creek Project fishway and fish screen, Licensee shall file with the Commission as-built drawings.
 - (C) The following article is included in the license:

Article 42. Licensee shall, for the protection and enhancement of aquatic resources in Old Cow and South Cow Creeks, maintain the following schedule of minimum flow releases into the creeks or the inflow to the diversion impoundments, whichever is less:

Old Cow Creek (Kilarc) Diversion Dam - 2 cfs
South Cow Creek Diversion Dam - 4 cfs, or 2 cfs in dry
(Released through the fishway) years

Dry year as used in this article is defined as any 12-month period beginning May 1 in which the natural unimpaired runoff of the

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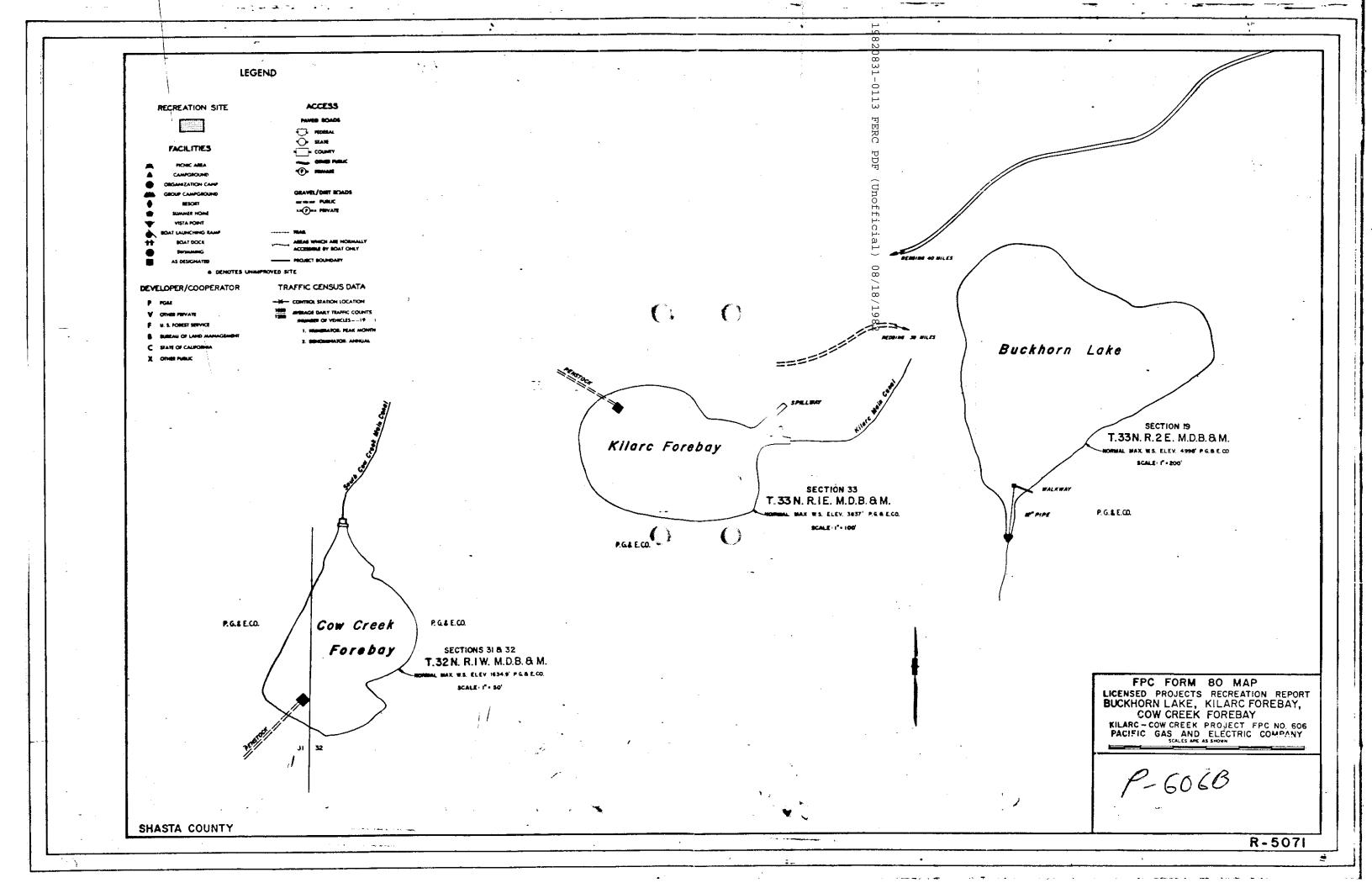
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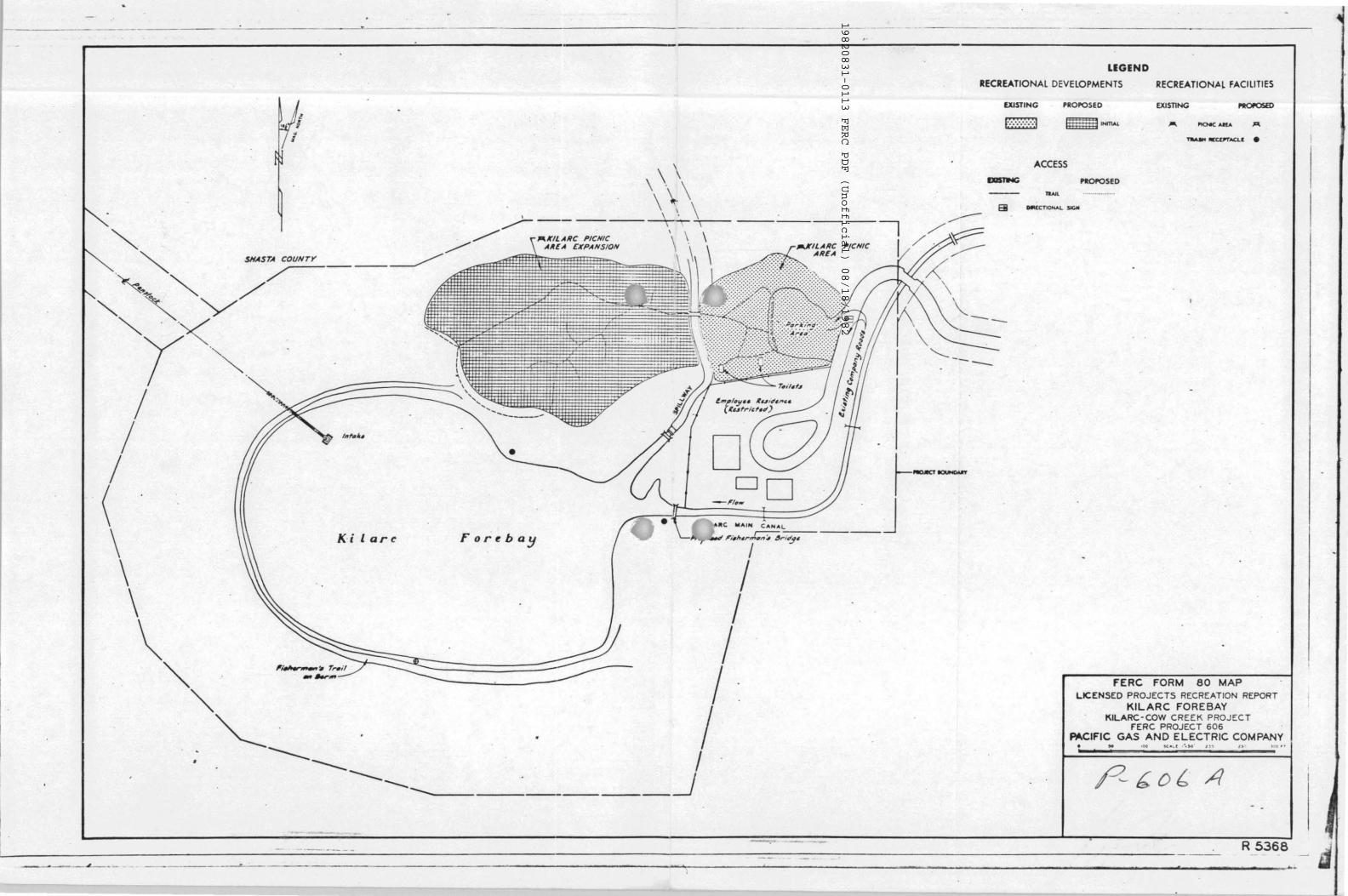
Sacramento River above Bend Bridge, near Red Bluff, for the April 1 to July 31 period (as forecast on April 1 by the State of California Department of Water Resources and as may be adjusted by the State on May 1), will be 70 percent or less of the 50-year average for such a period as computed by the State.

These flows may be temporarily modified if required by operating emergencies beyond the control of the Licensee, and for short periods of time for fishery management purposes upon mutual agreement between the Licensee and the California Department of Fish and Game.

(D) This order is final unless a petition appealing it to the Commission is filed within 30 days from the date of its issuance, as provided in Section 1.7(d) of the Commission's regulations, 18 C.F.R. 1.7 (1979), as amended, 44 Fed. Reg. 46449 (1979). The filing of a petition appealing this order to the Commission or an application for rehearing as provided in Section 313(a) of the Act does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this amendment of license or of any other date specified in this order, except as specifically ordered by the Commission.

Lawrence R. Anderson
Director, Office of Electric
Power Regulation





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