



# Eklutna Hydroelectric Project Fish & Wildlife Agreement

Anchorage Assembly  
Enterprise and Utility Oversight Committee  
July 21, 2022



# Agenda

- Provide update on activities since February 2022
  - Year 1 study reporting
  - Year 2 study planning
  - Ongoing field work
  - Recreation survey
- Next steps
- Q&A

# Study Reporting and Planning

- **February 11** – Distributed the...
  - Draft year 1 study reports to TWGs
  - Draft year 2 study plans to TWGs and parties
- **March 11** – Comment deadline
- **Week of March 21** – TWG meetings
- **April 1** – Distributed Proposed Final Study Plans to parties

# Technical Work Groups and Parties

Entity	Aquatics	Terrestrial	Recreation	Cultural	Parties
Native Village of Eklutna	X	X	X	X	*
Alaska Department of Fish and Game	X	X	X		X
Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation					X
ADNR Water Resources					X
ADNR Chugach State Park			X		X
ADNR Office of History and Archaeology				X	X
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	X	X		X	X
National Marine Fisheries Service	X				X
Trout Unlimited	X		X		
Alaska Pacific University	X	X			
Hydropower Project Owners	X	X	X	X	X

\*Although NVE is not a party to the 1991 Agreement, the Project Owners have committed to a review and participation framework specifically for NVE.

# Study Reporting and Planning

- State agencies concurred with all study plans
- Federal agencies concurred with 10 out of 12 study plans
  - Reserved concurrence on instream flow and geomorphology study plans until they can review the modeling results later this year
- No additional feedback from AEA
- Year 1 study reports, year 2 study plans, comments letters, and concurrence letters are all available on the project website ([www.eklutnahydro.com](http://www.eklutnahydro.com))

# Year 2 Study Program



Studies Continued from Year 1	New Studies Initiated in Year 2
Geomorphology and Sediment Transport Study	Engineering Feasibility and Cost Assessment
Instream Flow Study	Hydro Valuation Study
Eklutna River Fish Species Composition and Distribution Study	Wetlands and Wildlife Habitat Study
Lake Aquatic Habitat and Fish Utilization Study	Terrestrial Wildlife Studies
Water Quality Study	Recreation Study
Stream Gaging	Cultural Resources Study

\*Also collected new LiDAR data in May 2022

# Ongoing Field Work



# Recreation Survey



### Eklutna Area Recreation Survey

A Recreation Study is being conducted to quantify the current level of recreational use in the Eklutna Area (which includes Eklutna Lake, Thunderbird Falls, the Eklutna Valley, and the Eklutna Tailrace). Your participation in this survey will help inform the development of a Fish & Wildlife Program for the [Eklutna Hydroelectric Project](#).

Please complete this 5-minute, anonymous survey to let us know about the recreational activities you did on your most recent trip to the Eklutna Area!

**When did you most recently visit the Eklutna area?\***  
Please select a date and time that indicates when you approximately started your visit in the area.

**Where did you primarily recreate on your most recent visit?\***  
Select one location

Eklutna Lake Area

Thunderbird Falls Trail

Eklutna Tailrace Day-Use Fishing Site

Don't Know or Unsure

Other

[www.eklutnahydro.com/recstudy/](http://www.eklutnahydro.com/recstudy/)



# Next Steps

- Continue with field work and modeling efforts
- TWG meetings in September, October, and November to...
  - Review instream flow and geomorphology modeling results
  - Determine what PME measures should be evaluated as part of the engineering studies

# Questions?

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