

## PERSONNAL COMMUNICATIONS

Notes of October 5, 1984, conversation with Hank Hosking (USFWS) concerning wildlife observations made during the construction of the Terror Lake Hydroelectric Project, Kodiak Island, Alaska. Conversation with Chuck Elliott (Harza-Ebasco).

### I. Raptors

#### Bald Eagles

- A. In the spring of 1982 when the initial Terror Lake Project camp was being constructed, a bald eagle nest was located 300-400 ft. from the campsite. Nest building activity was already underway when the camp activities started. The eagles fledged at least one young. The nest was 1000 ft. from an actively used helicopter landing pad. Eagles, (1 pair), were observed nesting within 0.5 miles from the camp the next year. The original nest located 300-400 ft. from the camp in 1982 was not reused in 1983 or 1984.
  
- B. During construction of the transmission line in 1983, a pair of bald eagles moved into the area of active tower construction and started nest building activities. T-line construction and the associated helicopter activity connected with the construction were stopped until the eagle nesting activities were finished and two eagles were fledged. The contractor then came back in and finished building the tower. In 1984 a pair of bald eagles returned to the site and occupied the area (and raised 2 young). The area was in the flight path to the construction camp--the eagles were subject to overflights of helicopters, Cessna 206's and multi-engine aircraft (Goose's) flying at 1000-1500 ft, the nesting eagles did not appear to be disturbed by the aircraft.

## Golden Eagles

- A. In 1983 construction activity on a tunnel and penstock was underway when a pair of golden eagles came in and nested on a cliff face about 0.5 miles from the construction site. Despite blasting and associated noise, the birds raised at least one young but it was lost before fledging. The loss was not attributed to construction activities. The nest was unoccupied in 1984.

## Rough-legged Hawk

- A. Raptor surveys in 1982, before construction began, determined 2-3 pairs of Rough-legged hawks were nesting in the Terror Lake basin (with one nest near the proposed dam site). During 1983 when construction activities were underway, no hawks were observed nesting in the basin, but birds were observed hunting in the area. In 1984 (after construction was over) one pair of hawks nested in the basin--assumption is more hawks will return to the basin as time progresses.

## II. Bears

Construction activities did not drive brown bears out of the area. Accounts of bears watching workers and construction activities from hills and ridges were recorded. Bears were observed walking through the camp and making frequent checks of waste disposal areas. Should have no problems with bears if a diligent garbage disposal program is developed and followed.

## III. Mountain Goats

During the 1983 construction of the Falls Creek Dam and tunnel (activity included blasting) mountain goats occupied cliff areas 0.5 and 1 mile from the site. The goats gave birth to young at

these sites in 1983 and 1984. Construction activities did not appear to disturb them, but low flying helicopters were a source of alarm and resulted in flight behavior.

#### IV. Red Fox

Red foxes were not driven away by construction activities, but tamed readily and entered camps and buildings in search of handouts. They would also den under camp buildings. Red foxes in the area were easily trapped by a construction worker who ran a trap line near camp.

#### V. Deer

Deer displayed no fear of construction vehicles, construction activities did not drive deer out of the area. The deer actually became a nuisance in certain areas, i.e. hazards to vehicle travel.