

HARZA-EBASCO

Susitna Joint Venture

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HARZA-EBASCO SUSITNA JOINT VENTURE

PHONE LOG

PERSON CONTACTED Bob Rosette TASK NUMBER 4
AFFILIATION Former Regional Director of USFWS DATE 18 Feb. 1985
(retired)
HARZA-EBASCO REPRESENTATIVE Bob Lindsay PHONE NUMBER (303)-249-7615
COPIES TO C. Elliott G. Gensperline, Files
SUBJECT Big game accidents - ice related

NOTES Mr. Rosette told me again of the drowning of 69 elk on the Blue Mesa reservoir.^{L1} He also recalled an earlier incident of 20 elk being lost as a result of breaking through on the ice. He said the elk are following a traditional migration route. Most drownings occur in spring. After crossing all winter elk look at the ice & think it is solid and venture out. A mitigation plan was being developed as he was leaving the USFWS by Jim Olfertman the senior biologist in the region. I plan to contact him ASAP to see what progress has been made.

Another problem Mr. Rosette mentioned was shelf ice, elk attempting to cross the Colorado River. Sometimes run into the shelf ice when they're trying to exit on the opposite side. The animals will literally wear themselves out trying to climb out and eventually drown.

Jim Olfertman's # = (303) 249-3431

^{L1} see phone log of Feb. 4 1985 to Bob Cornelius NPS curecanti office