Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project
(FERC No. 14241)

Analysis of Fish Harvest in and Downstream of the Susitna-Watana Hydroelectric Project Area
Study Plan Section 9.15

Initial Study Report
Part C: Executive Summary and Section 7

Prepared for
Alaska Energy Authority

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### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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<td><strong>Purpose</strong></td>
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| **Study Components** | Major study components include:  
  - Compilation and Apportionment of ADF&G Commercial Harvest Records  
  - Compilation of Harvest and Effort from Sport Fisheries  
  - Compilation of Harvest and Effort from Personal Use Fisheries  
  - Compilation of Subsistence Harvest Data  
  - Evaluation of Potential Project Effects |
| **2013 Variances** | This study was not implemented in 2013 (RSP Section 9.15.10). The two components of the study—compilation of harvest and effort statistics and apportionment of commercial harvest using genetics—are scheduled for 2015. AEA will meet the study objectives by completing the entire study in one study season. |
| **Steps to Complete the Study** | Completion of this study requires an integration of the results from multiple studies which are ongoing. All remaining data collection necessary to complete the analyses for this study will be completed during the 2015 study season and reported in the USR. |
| **Highlighted Results and Achievements** | No results specific to this study have been obtained as of this ISR. |
7. **COMPLETING THE STUDY**

7.1. **Proposed Methodologies and Modifications**

To complete this study, AEA will implement the methods in the Study Plan with no modifications. These activities include:

- Compilation and Apportionment of ADF&G Commercial Harvest Records (RSP Section 9.15.4.1)
- Compilation of Harvest and Effort from Sport Fisheries (RSP Section 9.15.4.2)
- Compilation of Harvest and Effort from Personal Use Fisheries (RSP Section 9.15.4.3)
- Compilation of Subsistence Harvest Data (RSP Section 9.15.4.4)
- Evaluation of Potential Project Effects (RSP Section 9.15.4.5)

7.1.1. **Decision Points from Study Plan**

There were no decision points in the FERC-approved Study Plan to be evaluated for this study following the completion of 2013 work.

7.1.2. **Modifications to Study Plan**

No modifications to the Study Plan are needed to complete the study and meet Study Plan objectives.

7.2. **Schedule**

In general, the schedule for completing the FERC-approved Study Plan is dependent upon several factors, including Project funding levels authorized by the Alaska State Legislature, availability of required data inputs from one individual study to another, unexpected weather delays, the short duration of the summer field season in Alaska, and other events outside the reasonable control of AEA. For these reasons, the Study Plan implementation schedule is subject to change, although at this time AEA expects to complete the FERC-approved Study Plan through the filing of the Updated Study Report (USR) by February 1, 2016, in accordance with the ILP schedule issued by FERC on January 28, 2014.

With regard to this specific study, AEA expects to complete the desktop analysis during the 2015 study season.

7.3. **Conclusion**

The successful completion of this study is dependent on an understanding of potential Project effects that will be addressed by seven interrelated studies (see Section 6). Modifications to the methods of these studies are not anticipated to affect meeting the objectives of ISR Study 9.15.