**SKAGIT - FERC PROJECT #553**

**EROSION CONTROL PROGRAM**

**2010-2011 COMPLETION REPORT**

**North Cascades National Park and Seattle City Light**

**April-2012**

**INTRODUCTION**

As stipulated in the 1991 Erosion Control Settlement Agreement (SA) between the National Park Service (NPS) and Seattle City Light (SCL), erosion control activities in Ross Lake National Recreation Area (NRA) continued for year sixteen and seventeen (including pre-license work).

Within the current reporting period, NPS crews responsible for Erosion Control have been directed to other Park duties due to prioritized circumstances within the Park related to storm damage during the winter of 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Many projects scheduled for the reporting period have been deferred until 2012 due to these circumstances. Initial budget requests were reduced to reflect these changes.

During the current reporting period, NPS Erosion Control crews did perform yearly routine maintenance of existing structures. This maintenance involves visiting all completed sites and monitoring the status of the structure toe and the rock armor originally placed to protect the adjoining structure. Armor rock has a tendency to be displaced by reservoir water level fluctuations, boat wakes, wave activity, and the grinding of free floating woody debris washing in against the structure and armor. Where this occurs, NPS imports rock to re-armor the exposed toe to reduce scouring risk and potential failure of the structure itself. During the site inspections, NPS personnel also check for new erosion issues at Park facilities and assets.

Detailed accounting of expenditures is provided in other reports and is not duplicated here. The purpose of this report is to update the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on progress under the terms of the current operating license for the Skagit Project.

**PROGRESS REPORTS BY PROJECT-2010/2011**

**Cat Island, north shore (new site, E-134C):**

At Cat Island, approximately 300 ft of shoreline has incurred significant unraveling during the last ten years. This section of shoreline is adjacent to site E-134, also on Cat Island, and was not originally identified in the initial site plan. Continued erosion will eventually threaten the access trail from the boat dock to the camp sites.

NPS Erosion Control crews began importing rock in fall, 2010 to prepare for construction of a new section of rock wall based on a design used at other NPS facilities. Approximately half of the necessary building rock was imported in 2010. The remainder was imported in fall of 2011. Construction work will begin in spring 2012.

**Lodgepole Campground**

Work at Lodgepole Campground included cribbing, re-armoring rock walls and material delivery.

**Boat and Nautical Equipment Maintenance**

Boats as well as other nautical equipment was repaired and maintained.

**Plant Propagation Activities**

Plant propagation activities in 2010-2011 included:

* Propagation of approximately 1,000 plants for use at Ross Lake and Diablo Lake Erosion Control Sites.
* Maintenance of plants currently in nursery including watering, weeding, fertilizing and repotting as necessary.
* Management of volunteer groups who assist in planting and maintaining erosion control sites.
* Maintenance of program records and preparation of reports.
* Planning and preparation for continuing erosion control work.
* Delivering woody debris to erosion control sites to control noxious weeds.

**Seasonal Help and Supplies for Seed Collection**

* Collected seeds and cuttings.
* Tracked plant genetics.
* Planted at Ross Lake erosion sites.