

FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20426

May 31, 2019

OFFICE OF ENERGY PROJECTS

Project No. 7189-014 – Maine  
Green Lake Project  
Green Lake Water Power Company

**Subject: Scoping Document 1 for the Green Lake Project,  
P-7189-014**

To the Parties Addressed:

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) is reviewing the Pre-Application Document, filed on April 1, 2019, by Green Lake Water Power Company (Green Lake Power) for relicensing the Green Lake Project No. 7189. The project is located on Green Lake and Reeds Brook in Hancock County, Maine. The project occupies approximately two acres of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Green Lake National Fish Hatchery.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, Commission staff intends to prepare an environmental assessment (EA), which will be used by the Commission to determine whether, and under what conditions, to issue a license for the project. To support and assist our environmental review, we are conducting scoping to ensure that all pertinent issues are identified and analyzed, and that the EA is thorough and balanced.

We invite your participation in the scoping process and are circulating the attached Scoping Document 1 (SD1) to provide you with information on the Green Lake Project. We are soliciting your comments and suggestions on our preliminary list of issues and alternatives to be addressed in the EA. We are also requesting that you identify any studies that would help provide a framework for collecting pertinent information on the resource areas under consideration, as necessary for the Commission to prepare the EA for the project.

We will hold two scoping meetings for the Green Lake Project to receive input on the scope of the EA. A daytime meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on June 27, 2019, at the Ellsworth City Hall Council Chamber Room, located at 1 City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth, ME 04605. An evening meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 27, 2019, at the same

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location. We will also visit the project facilities on June 26, 2019, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the project's powerhouse.

We invite all interested agencies, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals to attend one or all of these meetings. Further information on our environmental site review and scoping meetings is available in the enclosed SD1.

SD1 is being distributed to Green Lake Power's distribution list and the Commission's official mailing list (see section 10.0 of the attached SD1). If you wish to be added to or removed from the Commission's official mailing list, please send your request by email to [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or by mail to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, D.C. 20426. All written or emailed requests must specify your wish to be added to or removed from the mailing list and must clearly identify the following on the first page: **Green Lake Project No. 7189-014**.

Please review SD1 and, if you wish to provide comments, follow the instructions in section 6.0, *Request for Information and Studies*. If you have any questions about SD1, the scoping process, or how Commission staff will develop the EA for this project, please contact Dr. Nicholas Palso at (202) 502-8854 or [nicholas.palso@ferc.gov](mailto:nicholas.palso@ferc.gov). Additional information about the Commission's licensing process and the Green Lake Project may be obtained from our website, [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). Comments are due within 60 days of the issuance date of this letter. The Commission strongly encourages electronic filings.

Enclosure: Scoping Document 1

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SCOPING DOCUMENT 1

GREEN LAKE PROJECT

MAINE

FERC PROJECT NO. 7189-014



Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
Office of Energy Projects  
Division of Hydropower Licensing  
Washington, DC

May 2019

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## SCOPING DOCUMENT 1

### Green Lake Project No. 7189-014

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC), under the authority of the Federal Power Act (FPA),<sup>1</sup> may issue licenses for terms ranging from 30 to 50 years for continued operation and maintenance of non-federal hydroelectric projects. On April 1, 2019, Green Lake Water Power Company (Green Lake Power) filed a notice of intent (NOI) stating that it intends to file an application for a subsequent license for the Green Lake Project (project).<sup>2</sup>

The Green Lake Project is located on Green Lake and Reeds Brook in Hancock County, Maine (Figure 1). The project has a total authorized capacity of 500 kilowatts (kW) and an average annual generation of 1,656.81 megawatt-hours (MWh) from 2014 to 2018. A detailed description of the project is provided in section 3.0 (Proposed Action and Alternatives). The project occupies approximately two acres of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) Green Lake National Fish Hatchery.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969,<sup>3</sup> the Commission's regulations, and other applicable laws require that we independently evaluate the environmental effects of relicensing the Green Lake Project as proposed, and also consider reasonable alternatives to the proposed action. At this time, we intend to prepare an environmental assessment (EA) that describes and evaluates the probable effects, including an assessment of the site-specific and cumulative effects, if any, of the proposed action and alternatives. Preparation of the EA will be supported by this scoping process to ensure identification and analysis of all pertinent issues.

Although our current intent is to prepare an EA, there is a possibility that an environmental impact statement (EIS) will be required. The scoping process will satisfy the NEPA scoping requirements, irrespective of whether the Commission issues an EA or an EIS.

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<sup>1</sup> 16 U.S.C. § 791(a)-825(r) (2012).

<sup>2</sup> The original license for the project was issued with an effective date of April 1, 1984, for a term of 40 years, and expires on March 31, 2024. *Green Lake Water Power Company*, 27 FERC ¶ 62,023 (1984).

<sup>3</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4370(f) (2012).

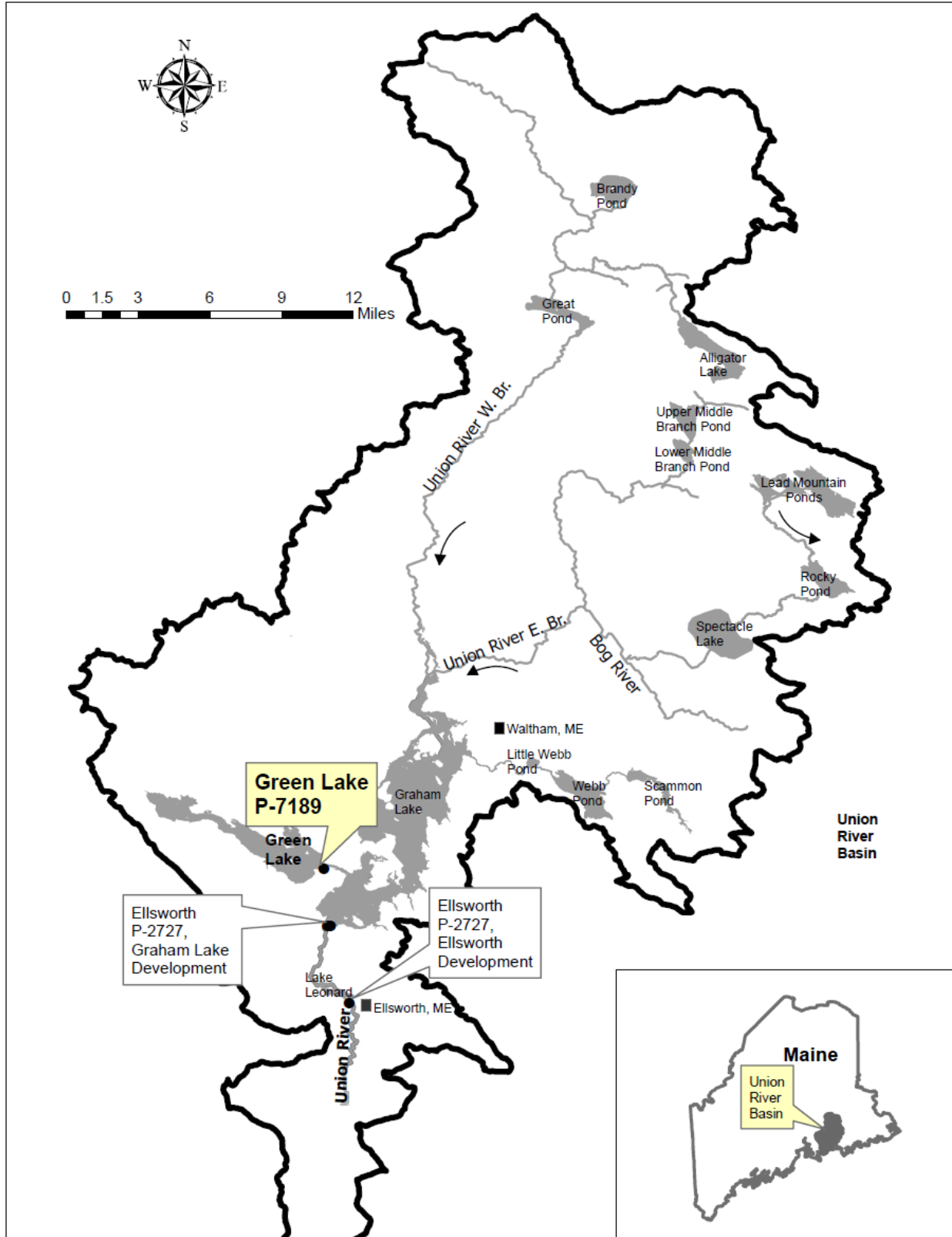


Figure 1. Location of the Green Lake Project and other FERC-licensed hydroelectric projects in the Union River Basin (Source: Staff).

## **2.0 SCOPING**

This Scoping Document 1 (SD1) is intended to advise all participants as to the proposed scope of the EA and to seek additional information pertinent to this analysis. This document contains: (1) a description of the scoping process and schedule for the preparation of the license application; (2) a description of the proposed action and alternatives; (3) a preliminary identification of environmental issues and proposed studies; (4) a request for comments and information; (5) a proposed EA outline; and (6) a preliminary list of comprehensive plans that are applicable to the project.

### **2.1 PURPOSES OF SCOPING**

Scoping is the process used to identify issues, concerns, and opportunities for enhancement or mitigation associated with a proposed action. In general, scoping should be conducted during the early planning stages of a project. The purposes of the scoping process are as follows:

- invite participation of federal, state, and local resource agencies; Indian tribes; non-governmental organizations (NGOs); and the public to identify significant environmental and socioeconomic issues related to the proposed project;
- determine the resource issues, depth of analysis, and significance of issues to be addressed in the EA;
- identify how the project would or would not contribute to cumulative effects in the project area;
- identify reasonable alternatives to the proposed action that should be evaluated in the EA;
- solicit from participants available information on the resources at issue; and
- determine whether there are resource areas and/or potential issues that do not require detailed analysis during review of the project.

### **2.2 COMMENTS, SCOPING MEETINGS, AND ENVIRONMENTAL SITE REVIEW**

During preparation of the EA, there will be several opportunities for the resource agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public to provide input. These opportunities occur:

- during the public scoping process and study plan meetings when we solicit oral and written comments regarding the scope of issues and analysis for the EA;



- in response to the Commission's notice that the project is ready for environmental analysis, when we solicit comments, recommendations, terms and conditions, and prescriptions for the proposed project; and
- after issuance of the EA when we solicit written comments on the EA.

In addition to written comments solicited by this SD1, we will hold two public scoping meetings and an environmental site review in the vicinity of the project. A daytime meeting will focus on concerns of the resource agencies, NGOs, and Indian tribes about the project, and an evening meeting will focus on receiving input from the public on the project. We invite all interested agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and individuals to attend one or both of the meetings to assist us in identifying the scope of environmental issues that should be analyzed in the EA. All interested parties are also invited to participate in the environmental site review. The times and locations of the meetings and environmental site review are as follows:

### **Daytime Scoping Meeting**

Date and Time: Thursday, June 27, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.  
 Location: Ellsworth City Hall, Council Chamber Room  
 1 City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth, ME 04605  
 Phone Number: (207) 667-2563

### **Evening Scoping Meeting**

Date and Time: Thursday, June 27, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.  
 Location: Ellsworth City Hall, Council Chamber Room  
 1 City Hall Plaza, Ellsworth, ME 04605  
 Phone Number: (207) 667-2563

### **Environmental Site Review**

Date and Time: Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at 10:00 a.m.  
 Location: Green Lake Project powerhouse  
 120 Hatchery Way, Ellsworth, ME 04605  
 Phone Number: (425) 553-6718

If you plan to attend the environmental site review, please email Caroline Kleinschmidt of Green Lake Power at [caroline@greenlakewaterpower.com](mailto:caroline@greenlakewaterpower.com) **on or before June 24, 2019**, and indicate how many participants will be attending with you. The powerhouse is located on the right as you enter the Green Lake National Fish Hatchery. The site review will require a half-mile round-trip walk to see all of the project facilities.

The scoping meetings will be recorded by a court reporter, and all statements (oral and written) will become part of the Commission's public record for the project. Before each meeting, all individuals who attend, especially those who intend to make statements, will be asked to sign in and clearly identify themselves for the record. Interested parties who choose not to speak or who are unable to attend the scoping meetings may provide written comments and information to the Commission as described in section 6.0 (Request for Information and Studies). These meetings, along with other related information, are posted on the Commission's calendar located on the internet at [www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx](http://www.ferc.gov/EventCalendar/EventsList.aspx).

Meeting participants should come prepared to discuss their issues and/or concerns as they pertain to the licensing of the Green Lake Project. It is advised that participants review the PAD in preparation for the scoping meetings. Copies of the PAD are available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website ([www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov)), using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number, P-7189-014, to access the documents. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

Following the scoping meetings and comment period, all issues raised will be reviewed and decisions will be made as to the level of analysis needed. If our preliminary analysis indicates that any issues presented in this scoping document have little potential for causing significant effects, the issues will be identified and the reasons for not providing a more detailed analysis will be given in the EA.

If we do not receive substantive comments on SD1, then we will not prepare a Scoping Document 2 (SD2). Otherwise, we will issue SD2 to address any substantive comments received. SD2 will be issued for informational use only; no response will be required.

### **3.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES**

In accordance with NEPA, the environmental analysis will consider the following alternatives, at a minimum: (1) the no-action alternative, (2) the applicant's proposed action, and (3) alternatives to the proposed action.

#### **3.1 NO-ACTION ALTERNATIVE**

Under the no-action alternative, the Green Lake Project would continue to operate as required by the current project license (*i.e.*, there would be no change to the existing environment). No new environmental protection, mitigation, or enhancement (PM&E) measures would be implemented. The no action alternative is used to establish baseline environmental conditions for comparison with other alternatives.

### 3.1.1 Existing Project Facilities

The Green Lake Project consists of: (1) a 273.2-foot-long, 7.5-foot-high dam that includes: (a) an 82-foot-long concrete-gravity section with an 80-foot-long overflow spillway with a crest elevation of 160.7 feet United States Geological Survey (USGS) datum; (b) a 12-foot-long, 15-foot-high concrete intake section with a 5-foot-wide, 5-foot-high headgate and an 8-foot-wide, 12-foot-high continuous trash rack having one-inch clear-bar spacing; (c) a 22.2 foot-long gated spillway section with two 6-foot-wide, 7-foot-high spillway gates at an elevation of 154.0 feet USGS datum; and (d) an approximately 157-foot-long dry-rock, concrete, timber, and sheet-steel section with a 35-foot-long auxillary spillway at an elevation of 162 feet USGS datum, and a 120-foot-long auxillary spillway that slopes from an elevation of 163 feet to 164 feet USGS datum; (2) a 2,989-acre impoundment at an elevation of 160.7 feet USGS datum; (3) a 1,740-foot-long concrete and wooden-stave penstock that includes: (a) a 70-foot-long, 54-inch-wide, 54-inch-high concrete section; (b) a 410-foot-long, 54-inch-diameter concrete section including a transition block with a valve pit and a 4-inch water supply valve; (c) a 260-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter concrete section; (d) an 8-foot-square concrete transition block; and (e) a 1000-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter wood stave section; (4) a 27-foot-long, 35-foot-wide concrete powerhouse containing two turbine-generator units with a total installed capacity of 425 kW; (5) two 50-foot-long, 5-foot-diameter powerhouse discharge pipes; (6) a 500-kilovolt-ampere step-up transformer, and a 650-foot-long, 12.45-kilovolt underground transmission line connecting the project generators to the regional grid; and (7) appurtenant facilities.

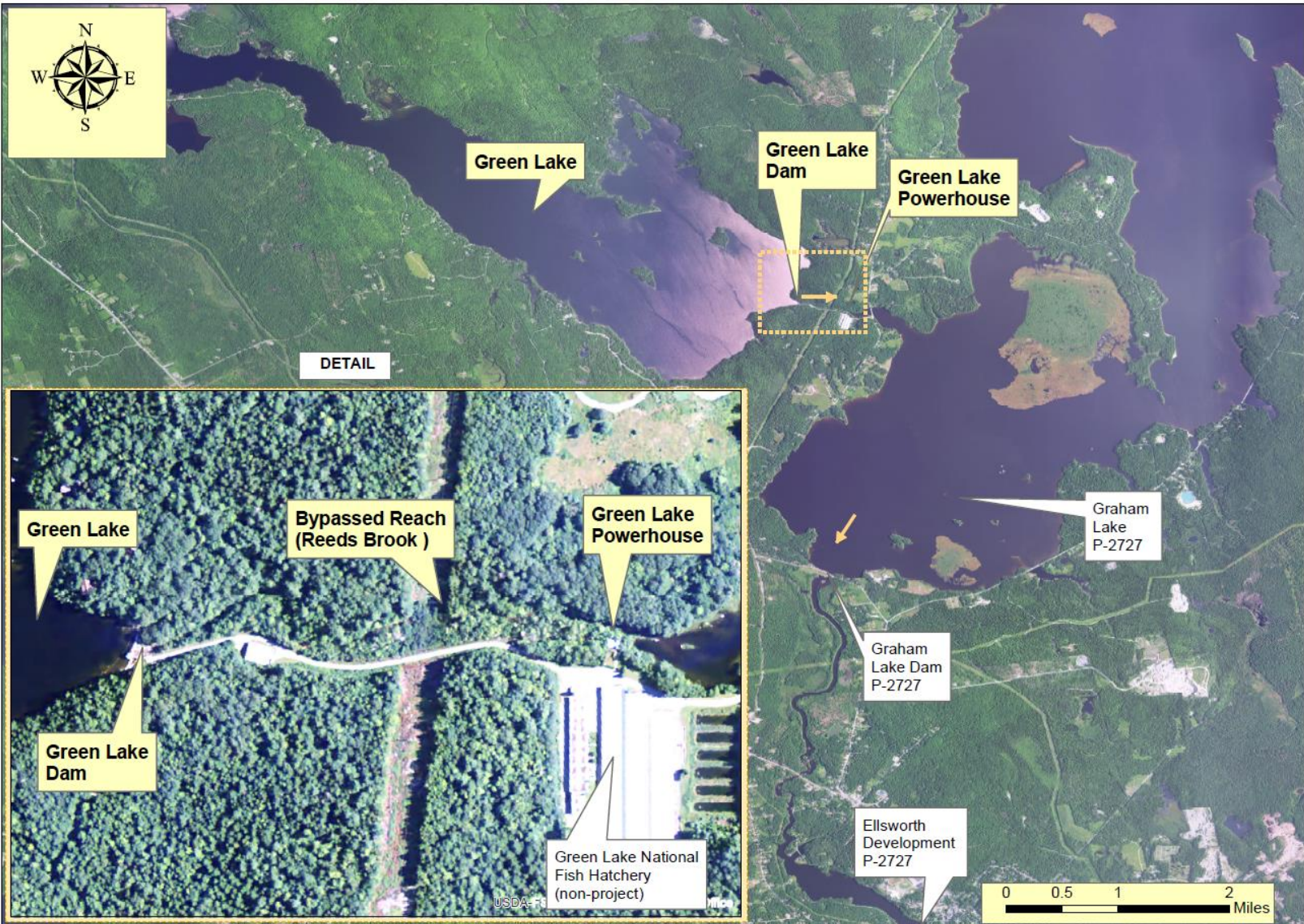


Figure 2. Aerial View of Project Facilities (Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture as modified by Staff).

### 3.1.2 Existing Project Operation

The current license requires Green Lake Power to: (1) maintain the elevation of Green Lake between 159.7 feet and 160.7 feet USGS datum between June 1 and September 1 of each year, and no lower than 157.5 feet USGS datum for the remainder of the year; (2) complete the fall drawdown of Green Lake by October 15 of each year; and (3) reduce the elevation of Green Lake during the spring drawdown to no lower than the elevation attained on the previous October 15 of each year. In addition, the current license requires Green Lake Power to provide flows of up to 30 cfs to the FWS's Green Lake National Fish Hatchery.

The project creates an approximately 1,900-foot-long bypassed reach of Reeds Brook. The current license requires Green Lake Power to release a year-round minimum flow of one cubic foot per second (cfs), or inflow to Green Lake, whichever is less, for the protection and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources downstream of the dam. Except for flows to the Green Lake National Fish Hatchery, flow releases from Green Lake that are less than or greater than the hydraulic capacity of the turbines (*i.e.*, 7 cfs and 90 cfs, respectively) are also released from the dam into the bypassed reach.

The annual energy production of the project from 2014 through 2018 averaged 1,656.81 MWh, and ranged from a low of 1,252 MWh in 2016 to a high of 2239.08 MWh in 2014.

The current license requires Green Lake Power to install screens at the project intake to minimize mortality due to entrainment and to prevent out-migration of adult salmonids from Green Lake. The existing screens have a two-inch mesh size and extend from the bottom of the intake to 2 feet above the crest of the spillway.

## **3.2 APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL**

### **3.2.1 Proposed Project Facilities and Operation**

Green Lake Power proposes to perform several upgrades to the existing project facilities and appurtenances, including: (1) replacing the 1,000-foot-long, 48-inch-diameter wooden-stave section of the penstock; (2) replacing a septic leaching field at the powerhouse; and (3) upgrading one of the project's two turbine-generator units and the project's step-up transformer.

Green Lake Power is not proposing any changes to project operation at this time.

### **3.2.2 Proposed Environmental Measures**

Green Lake Power is not proposing any new PM&E measures for the Green Lake Project at this time.

## **3.3 DAM SAFETY**

Dam safety constraints may exist and should be taken into consideration in the development of proposals and alternatives considered in the pending proceeding. For example, proposed modifications to the dam structure, such as fish passage facilities, could impact the integrity of the dam structure. As the proposal and alternatives are developed, the applicant must evaluate the effects and ensure that the project would meet the Commission's dam safety criteria found in Part 12 of the Commission's regulations and the engineering guidelines

(<http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/safety/guidelines/eng-guide.asp>).

## **3.4 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION**

Commission staff will consider and assess alternative recommendations for operational or facility modifications, as well as PM&E measures identified by staff, agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public.

## **3.5 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED STUDY**

At present, we propose to eliminate the following alternative from detailed study in the EA.

### **3.5.1 Project Decommissioning**

Decommissioning of the project could be accomplished with or without dam removal. Either alternative would require denying the relicense application and surrender

or termination of the existing license with appropriate conditions. There would be significant costs involved with decommissioning the project and/or removing the project's facilities. The project provides a viable, safe, and clean renewable source of power to the region. With decommissioning, the project would no longer be authorized to generate power.

No party has suggested that decommissioning the project would be appropriate, and we have no basis for recommending decommissioning. Thus, we do not consider decommissioning to be a reasonable alternative to licensing the project with appropriate environmental measures.

## **4.0 SCOPE OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS AND SITE-SPECIFIC RESOURCE ISSUES**

### **4.1 CUMULATIVE EFFECTS**

According to the Council on Environmental Quality's regulations for implementing NEPA (40 C.F.R. § 1508.7), a cumulative effect is the effect on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time, including hydropower and other land and water development activities.

#### **4.1.1 Resources that could be Cumulatively Affected**

Based on information in the PAD for the Green Lake Project, and preliminary staff analysis, we have identified migratory fish (*i.e.*, alewife, American eel, American shad, Atlantic salmon, blueback herring, and sea lamprey) and aquatic habitat as resources that could be cumulatively affected by the proposed continued operation and maintenance of the Green Lake Project in combination with other dams in the Union River Basin.

#### **4.1.2 Geographic Scope**

Our geographic scope of analysis for cumulatively affected resources is defined by the physical limits or boundaries of: (1) the proposed action's effect on the resources, and (2) contributing effects from other dams within the river basin. We have identified the geographic scope for migratory fish to include the Union River Basin from the upstream extent of the Green Lake Project to the Graham Lake Development of the Ellsworth Project No. 2727 (Ellsworth Project), and the Union River from the Ellsworth Project downstream to the Union River Bay. We have identified the geographic scope for aquatic habitat to include Reeds Brook from the upstream extent of the Green Lake Project to Graham Lake. We chose this geographic scope because the operation and

maintenance of the Green Lake Project, in combination with several other dams on the Union River,<sup>4</sup> may affect migratory fish and aquatic habitat in the Union River Basin.

### 4.1.3 Temporal Scope

The temporal scope of our cumulative effects analysis in the EA will include a discussion of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions and their effects on each resource that could be cumulatively affected. Based on the potential term of a new license, the temporal scope will look 30 to 50 years into the future, concentrating on the effect on the resources from reasonably foreseeable future actions. The historical discussion will, by necessity, be limited to the amount of available information for each resource. The quality and quantity of information, however, diminishes as we analyze resources further away in time from the present.

## 4.2 RESOURCE ISSUES

In this section, we present a preliminary list of environmental issues to be addressed in the EA. We identified these issues, which are listed by resource area, by reviewing the PAD and the Commission's record for the Green Lake Project. This list is not intended to be exhaustive or final, but contains the issues raised to date that could have substantial effects. After the scoping process is complete, we will review the list and determine the appropriate level of analysis needed to address each issue in the EA. Those issues identified by an asterisk (\*) will be analyzed for both cumulative and site-specific effects.

### 4.2.1 Geology and Soils Resources

- Effects of proposed construction activities on geology and soils resources.

### 4.2.2 Aquatic Resources

- Effects of continued project operation on streamflow, water quality, and aquatic habitat\* in the impoundment, bypassed reach, and Reeds Brook.
- Effects of continued project operation on resident and migratory\* fish and other aquatic organisms in the impoundment, bypassed reach, and Reeds Brook, including the effects of project operation on fish passage.
- Effects of turbine entrainment on resident and migratory\* fish.

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<sup>4</sup> U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, *National Inventory of Dams* (Oct. 2016), available at <http://nid.usace.army.mil>.



### **4.2.3 Terrestrial Resources**

- Effects of continued project operation on riparian, littoral, and wetland habitat and associated wildlife.
- Effects of continued project operation, including maintenance activities (*e.g.*, vegetation management), on wildlife habitat and associated wildlife.
- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on the introduction and persistence of non-native invasive plants within the project boundary.
- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on Maine state-listed species.

### **4.2.4 Threatened and Endangered Species**

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on the federally threatened northern long-eared bat and federally endangered Atlantic salmon.\*

### **4.2.5 Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetic Resources**

- Effects of continued project operation on recreational use in the project area, including the adequacy of existing recreational access.
- Effects of continued project operation on land use in the project area.
- Effects of continued project operation on aesthetic resources in the project area.

### **4.2.6 Cultural Resources**

- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on historic resources, archeological resources, and traditional cultural properties that are included or may be eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Effects of continued project operation and maintenance on properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe.

### **4.2.7 Developmental Resources**

- Economics of the project and the effects of any recommended environmental measures on the project's economics.

## 5.0 PROPOSED STUDIES

Green Lake Power is not proposing any resource studies at this time.

## 6.0 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND STUDIES

We are asking federal, state, and local resource agencies; Indian tribes; NGOs; and the public to forward to the Commission any information that will assist us in conducting an accurate and thorough analysis of the project-specific and cumulative effects associated with licensing the Green Lake Project. The types of information requested include, but are not limited to:

- information, quantitative data, or professional opinions that may help define the geographic and temporal scope of the analysis (both site-specific and cumulative effects), and that helps identify significant environmental issues;
- identification of, and information from, any EA, EIS, or similar environmental study (previous, ongoing, or planned) relevant to the proposed licensing of the Green Lake Project;
- existing information and any data that would help to describe the past and present actions and effects of the project and other developmental activities on environmental and socioeconomic resources;
- information that would help characterize the existing environmental conditions and habitats;
- the identification of any federal, state, or local resource plans, and any future project proposals in the affected resource area (*e.g.*, proposals to construct or operate water treatment facilities, recreation areas, water diversions, timber harvest activities, or fish management programs), along with any implementation schedules;
- documentation that the proposed project would or would not contribute to cumulative adverse or beneficial effects on any resources. Documentation can include, but need not be limited to, how the project would interact with other projects in the area and other developmental activities; study results; resource management policies; and reports from federal and state agencies, local agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public;
- documentation showing why any resources should be excluded from further study or consideration; and

- study requests by federal and state agencies, local agencies, Indian tribes, NGOs, and the public that would help provide a framework for collecting pertinent information on the resource areas under consideration necessary for the Commission to prepare the EA for the project.

All requests for studies filed with the Commission must meet the criteria found in Appendix A, *Study Plan Criteria*.

The requested information, comments, and study requests should be submitted to the Commission within 60 days of issuance of this SD1. All filings must clearly identify the project name and docket number on the first page: **Green Lake Project (P-7189-014)**. Scoping comments may be filed electronically via the Internet. See 18 C.F.R. § 385.2001(a)(1)(iii) and the instructions on the Commission's website <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp>. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp>. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659. Although the Commission strongly encourages electronic filing, documents may also be paper-filed. To paper-file, please mail an original and five copies to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20426.

Register online at <http://www.ferc.gov/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov).

Questions concerning the scoping meetings, environmental site review, preparation of the EA, or how to file written comments with the Commission should be directed to Dr. Nicholas Palso at (202) 502-8854 or [nicholas.palso@ferc.gov](mailto:nicholas.palso@ferc.gov). Additional information about the Commission's licensing process and the Green Lake Project may be obtained from the Commission's website, [www.ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov).

## 7.0 EA PREPARATION

At this time, we anticipate preparing a single EA for the project. The EA will be sent to all persons and entities on the Commission's service and mailing lists for the Green Lake Project. The EA will include our recommendations for operating procedures, as well as PM&E measures that should be part of any license issued by the Commission. All recipients will then have 30 days to review the EA and file written comments with the Commission.

The major milestones, with pre-filing target dates are as follows:

<u>Major Milestone</u>	<u>Target Date</u>
Scoping Meetings	June 2019
License Application Filed	March 2022
Ready for Environmental Analysis Notice Issued	-
Deadline for Filing Comments, Recommendations, and-Agency Terms and Conditions/Prescriptions	-
EA Issued	-
Comments on EA Due	-
Deadline for Filing Modified Agency Recommendations	-
License Order Issued	-

A copy of the process plan and schedule, which has a complete list of pre-filing licensing milestones for the Green Lake Project, including those for developing the license application, is attached as Appendix B to this SD1.

## **8.0 PROPOSED EA OUTLINE**

The preliminary outline for the Green Lake Project EA is as follows:

TABLE OF CONTENTS  
LIST OF FIGURES  
LIST OF TABLES  
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Application
- 1.2 Purpose of Action and Need for Power
- 1.3 Statutory and Regulatory Requirements
  - 1.3.1 Federal Power Act
    - 1.3.1.1 Section 18 Fishway Prescriptions
    - 1.3.1.2 Section 10(j) Recommendations
  - 1.3.2 Clean Water Act
  - 1.3.3 Endangered Species Act
  - 1.3.4 Coastal Zone Management Act
  - 1.3.5 National Historic Preservation Act
- 1.4 Public Review and Comment
  - 1.4.1 Scoping
  - 1.4.2 Interventions
  - 1.4.3 Comments on the Application

### 2.0 PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

- 2.1 No-action Alternative

- 2.1.1 Existing Project Facilities
- 2.1.2 Project Safety
- 2.1.3 Existing Project Operation
- 2.1.4 Existing Environmental Measures
- 2.2 Applicant's Proposal
  - 2.2.1 Proposed Project Facilities
  - 2.2.2 Proposed Project Operation
  - 2.2.3 Proposed Environmental Measures
  - 2.2.4 Modifications to Applicant's Proposal—Mandatory Conditions
- 2.3 Decommissioning Alternative(s)
- 2.4 Staff Alternative
- 2.5 Staff Alternative with Mandatory Conditions
- 2.6 Other Alternatives (as appropriate)
- 2.7 Alternatives Considered but Eliminated from Detailed Study
- 3.0 ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS
  - 3.1 General Description of the River Basin
  - 3.2 Scope of Cumulative Effects Analysis
    - 3.2.1 Geographic Scope
    - 3.2.2 Temporal Scope
  - 3.3 Proposed Action and Action Alternatives
    - 3.3.1 Aquatic Resources
    - 3.3.2 Terrestrial Resources
    - 3.3.3 Threatened and Endangered Species
    - 3.3.4 Recreation, Land Use, and Aesthetic Resources
    - 3.3.5 Cultural Resources
  - 3.4 No-action Alternative
- 4.0 DEVELOPMENTAL ANALYSIS
  - 4.1 Power and Economic Benefits of the Project
  - 4.2 Comparison of Alternatives
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- 5.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
  - 5.1 Comparison of Alternatives
  - 5.2 Comprehensive Development and Recommended Alternative
  - 5.3 Unavoidable Adverse Effects
  - 5.4 Recommendations of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
  - 5.5 Consistency with Comprehensive Plans
- 6.0 FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (OR OF SIGNIFICANT IMPACT)
- 7.0 LITERATURE CITED
- 8.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

## 9.0 COMPREHENSIVE PLANS

Section 10(a)(2) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. section 803(a)(2)(A), requires the Commission to consider the extent to which a project is consistent with federal and state comprehensive plans for improving, developing, or conserving a waterway or waterways affected by a project. We have preliminarily identified and reviewed the plans listed below that may be relevant to the Green Lake Project, located in Maine. Agencies are requested to review this list and inform Commission staff of any changes. If there are other comprehensive plans that should be considered for this list that are not on file with the Commission, or if there are more recent versions of the plans already listed, they can be filed for consideration with the Commission according to 18 C.F.R. § 2.19. Please follow the instructions for filing a plan at <http://www.ferc.gov/industries/hydropower/gen-info/licensing/complan.pdf>.

The following is a list of comprehensive plans currently on file with the Commission that may be relevant to the Green Lake Project:

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 1999. Amendment 1 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring. (Report No. 35). April 1999.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2000. Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American eel (*Anguilla rostrata*). (Report No. 36). April 2000.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2000. Technical Addendum 1 to Amendment 1 of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring. February 9, 2000.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2008. Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American eel. Arlington, Virginia. October 2008.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2009. Amendment 2 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring, Arlington, Virginia. May 2009.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2010. Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for shad and river herring, Arlington, Virginia. February 2010.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2013. Amendment 3 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American eel. Arlington, Virginia. August 2013.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2014. Amendment 4 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American eel. Arlington, Virginia. October 2014.

Maine Atlantic Sea-Run Salmon Commission. 1984. Strategic plan for management of Atlantic salmon in the State of Maine. Augusta, Maine. July 1984.

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, & Forestry. Maine State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP): 2014-2019. Augusta, Maine.

Maine Department of Conservation. 1982. Maine rivers study-final report. Augusta, Maine. May 1982.

Maine State Planning Office. 1987. Maine comprehensive rivers management plan. Augusta, Maine. May 1987. Three volumes.

Maine State Planning Office. 1992. Maine comprehensive rivers management plan. Volume 4. Augusta, Maine. December 1992.

National Marine Fisheries Service. 1998. Final Amendment #11 to the Northeast Multi species Fishery Management Plan; Amendment #9 to the Atlantic sea scallop Fishery Management Plan; Amendment #1 to the monkfish Fishery Management Plan; Amendment #1 to the Atlantic salmon Fishery Management Plan; and Components of the Proposed Atlantic herring Fishery Management Plan for Essential Fish Habitat. Volume 1. October 7, 1998.

National Marine Fisheries Service. 2018. Recovery Plan for the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic Salmon. Hadley, Massachusetts. January 2019.

National Park Service. The Nationwide Rivers Inventory. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 1993.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. n.d. Fisheries USA: the recreational fisheries policy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Washington, D.C.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Canadian Wildlife Service. 1986. North American waterfowl management plan. Department of the Interior. Environment Canada. May 1986.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 1989. Atlantic salmon restoration in New England: Final environmental impact statement 1989-2021. Department of the Interior, Newton Corner, Massachusetts. May 1989.





## 10.0 MAILING LIST

The list below is the Commission's official mailing list for the Green Lake Project No. 7189. If you want to receive future mailings for the Green Lake Project from the Commission and are not included in the list below, please send your request by email to [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or by mail to: Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, N.E., Room 1A, Washington, D.C. 20426. All written and emailed requests to be added to the Commission's mailing list must clearly identify the following on the first page: **Green Lake Project No. 7189-014**. You may use the same method if requesting removal from the mailing list below.

Register online at <https://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp> to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at [FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov](mailto:FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov) or toll free at 1-866-208-3676, or for TTY, (202) 502-8659.

### Official Mailing List for the Green Lake Project

John T Eddins Advisory Council on Historic Preservation 401 F Street N.W. Suite 308 Washington, DC 20001-2637	David Kleinschmidt Vice President Green Lake Water Power Company PO Box 1084 Ellsworth, ME 04605-1084
Robert S Kleinschmidt Kleinschmidt Associates PO Box 576 Pittsfield, ME 04967-0576	Thomas Mark Dewey & LeBoeuf, LLP 423 Atlantic Avenue Apt. 6A Brooklyn, NY 11217
Anne M Finlayson Kleinschmidt Associate PO Box 576 Pittsfield, ME 04967-0576	Brian Kavanah, Director Maine Bureau of Land and Water Quality Control Department of Environmental Protection State House Station 17 28 Tyson Drive Augusta, ME 04333-0001

<p>Kathy Davis Howatt Hydropower Coordinator Maine Department of Environmental Protection 17 State House Station 28 Tyson Drive Augusta, ME 04333-0017</p>	<p>Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Region C PO Box 220 Jonesboro, ME 04648</p>
<p>John Perry Environmental Coordinator Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife 284 State Street 41 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0041</p>	<p>Gail Wippelhauser Marine Resources Scientist Maine Department of Marine Resources 21 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333</p>
<p>Celeste Ward Nixon Peabody LLP 5602 Pioneer Lane Bethesda, MARYLAND 20816</p>	<p>Elizabeth Whittle Partner Nixon Peabody LLP 401 Ninth Street, N.W Suite 900 Washington, DC 20004</p>
<p>Sean P McDermott NMFS Marine Habitat Resource Specialist Hydropower Coordinator 55 Great Republic Drive Gloucester, MA 01930-2237</p>	<p>Passamaquoddy Tribe Pleasant Point Reservation Tribal Building Office Route No. 190 Perry, ME 04667</p>
<p>Passamaquoddy Tribe Indian Township Reservation PO Box 301 Princeton, ME 04668</p>	<p>Stinson Leonard Street LLP 1775 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Suite 800 Washington, DC 20006</p>
<p>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Divisional Office, Regulatory 696 Virginia Rd Concord, MA 01742-2718</p>	<p>Jay Clement U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 675 Western Avenue Manchester, ME 04351</p>
<p>Steve Shepard Maine Hydro Licensing Coordinator U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 17 Godfrey Drive, Suite 2 Orono, ME 04473</p>	<p>Ralph Abele U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 MailCode OEP06-02 Boston, MA 02109</p>

<p>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  Director  Water Quality Control Branch (WQB)  5 Post Office Sq, Ste 100  BOSTON, MA 02109-3946</p>	<p>U.S. Fish &amp; Wildlife Service  Regional Director  300 Westgate Center Dr  Northeast Regional Office  Hadley, MA 01035-9587</p>
<p>Kevin Mendik, ESQ  NPS Hydro Program Coordinator  U.S. National Park Service  15 State Street  10th floor  Boston, MA 02109</p>	<p>Andrew Tittler  Attorney  U.S. Department of Interior  Office of the Solicitor, Northeast Region  One Gateway Center, Suite 612  Newton, MA 02158</p>
<p>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  Regional Director  300 Westgate Center Dr.  Northeast Regional Office  Hadley, MA 01035-9587</p>	<p>U.S. National Park Service  North Atlantic Region  15 State St.  Boston, MA 02109-3502</p>
<p>Atlantic Salmon Federation  Atlantic Office  P.O. Box 807  Calais, ME 04619-0807</p>	<p>Charles L. Kelly, Jr.  Union Salmon Associaton  91 Hancock Street  Ellsworth, NH 04605</p>
<p>Elsie Hemmings  Union River Watershed Coalition  105 Eden Street  Bar Harbor, ME 04609</p>	<p>Barb Watham  Union Salmon Association  RR1, Box 67  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>
<p>Donald Soctomah  Tribal Historic Preservation Officer  Passamaquoddy Tribe  Indian Township Reservation  P.O. Box 343, Route 190  Perry, ME 04667</p>	<p>Kirk Francis, Chief  Penobscot Indian Nation  12 Wabanaki Way  Indian Island, ME 04468</p>
<p>Maine Department of Conservation  Land Use Regulation Commission  22 State House Station  18 Elkins Lane  Augusta, ME 04333</p>	<p>David A. Cole  City Manager  1 City Hall Plaza  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>

<p>Downeast Salmon Federation 187 Main Street PO Box 201 Columbia Falls, ME 04623</p>	<p>Chris Sockalexis THPO Penobscot Indian Nation Cultural and Historic Preservation Program 12 Wabanaki Drive Indian Island, ME 04468</p>
<p>Jim Beyer Maine Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Land and Water Quality 106 Hogan Road Bangor, ME 04401</p>	<p>Kirk F. Mohny Director Maine Historic Preservation Commission 55 Capitol Street 65 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333</p>
<p>Dr. Arthur Speiss Maine Historic Preservation Commission 65 State House Station 55 Capitol Street Augusta, ME 04333</p>	<p>Susan Bard Regional Fisheries Biologist 317 Whitneyville Road Jonesboro, ME 04648</p>
<p>Andrew D. Qua Senior Regulatory Coordinator Kleinschmidt Associates 141 Main St Pittsfield, ME 04967</p>	<p>Megan Rideout Maine Historic Preservation Commission Review &amp; Compliance/CLG Coordinator 55 Capitol Street 65 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333</p>
<p>Bryan Sojkowski, P.E. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Hydraulic Engineer - Fish Passage Region 5, Fisheries 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley, MA 01035-9589</p>	<p>Casey Clark Maine Department of Marine Resources #172 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333</p>
<p>Dan Tierney Protected Resources Division Maine Field Station 17 Godfrey Drive – Suite 1 Orono, ME 04473</p>	<p>Gregory Burr Regional Fisheries Biologist - Region C 317 Whitneyville Road Jonesboro, ME 04648</p>

<p>Raymond L. Jenkins Jr                  PO Box 155                  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>	<p>Oliver Cox                  Hatchery Manager                  Green Lake National Fish Hatchery                  1 Hatchery Way                  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>
<p>Audrey Tunney                  Green Lake Association                  35 Grant Street                  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>	<p>David Megquier                  Green Lake Association                  603 Nicolin Rd                  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>
<p>Harry Moore                  Green Lake Association                  54 Harmony Way                  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>	<p>Hancock County Commissioners Office                  50 State Street, Suite 7                  Ellsworth, ME 04605</p>

**APPENDIX A**  
**STUDY PLAN CRITERIA**  
**18 C.F.R. Section 5.9(b)**

Any information or study request must contain the following:

1. Describe the goals and objectives of each study proposal and the information to be obtained;
2. If applicable, explain the relevant resource management goals of the agencies or Indian tribes with jurisdiction over the resource to be studied;
3. If the requester is not a resource agency, explain any relevant public interest considerations in regard to the proposed study;
4. Describe existing information concerning the subject of the study proposal, and the need for additional information;
5. Explain any nexus between project operation and effects (direct, indirect, and/or cumulative) on the resource to be studied, and how the study results would inform the development of license requirements;
6. Explain how any proposed study methodology (including any preferred data collection and analysis techniques, or objectively quantified information, and a schedule including appropriate field season(s) and the duration) is consistent with generally accepted practice in the scientific community or, as appropriate, considers relevant tribal values and knowledge; and
7. Describe considerations of level of effort and cost, as applicable, and why proposed alternative studies would not be sufficient to meet the stated information needs.

**APPENDIX B  
GREEN LAKE PROJECT PROCESS PLAN AND SCHEDULE**

Shaded milestones are unnecessary if there are no study disputes. If the due date falls on a weekend or holiday, the due date is the following business day. Early filings or issuances will not result in changes to these deadlines. As appropriate, the process plan and schedule may be revised in the future.

<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Pre-Filing Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>FERC Regulation</b>
Green Lake Power	File NOI/PAD with FERC	4/1/19	5.5, 5.6
FERC	Tribal Consultation	5/1/19	5.7
FERC	Issue Notice of Commencement of Proceeding; Issue Scoping Document 1	5/31/19	5.8
FERC	Scoping Meetings and Project Site Visit	6/26/19-6/27/19	5.8(b)(3)(viii)
All stakeholders	PAD/SD1 Comments and Study Requests Due	7/30/19	5.9
FERC	Issue Scoping Document 2 (if necessary)	9/13/19	5.10
Green Lake Power	File Proposed Study Plan (PSP)	9/13/19	5.11(a)
All stakeholders	Proposed Study Plan Meeting	10/13/19	5.11(e)
All stakeholders	Proposed Study Plan Comments Due	12/12/19	5.12
Green Lake Power	File Revised Study Plan	1/11/20	5.13(a)
All stakeholders	Revised Study Plan Comments Due	1/26/20	5.13(b)
FERC	Director's Study Plan Determination	2/10/20	5.13(c)
Mandatory Conditioning Agencies	Any Study Disputes Due	3/1/20	5.14(a)
Dispute Panel	Third Dispute Panel Member Selected	3/16/20	5.14(d)(3)

<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Pre-Filing Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>FERC Regulation</b>
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Convenes	3/21/20	5.14(d)
Green Lake Power	Applicant Comments on Study Disputes Due	3/26/20	5.14(i)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Technical Conference	3/31/20	5.14(j)
Dispute Panel	Dispute Resolution Panel Findings Issued	4/20/20	5.14(k)
FERC	Director's Study Dispute Determination	5/10/20	5.14(l)
Green Lake Power	First Study Season	2020	5.15(a)
Green Lake Power	Initial Study Report	2/9/21	5.15(c)(1)
All stakeholders	Initial Study Report Meeting	2/24/21	5.15(c)(2)
Green Lake Power	Initial Study Report Meeting Summary	3/11/21	5.15(c)(3)
All stakeholders	Any Disputes/Requests to Amend Study Plan Due	4/10/21	5.15(c)(4)
All stakeholders	Responses to Disputes/Amendment Requests Due	5/10/21	5.15(c)(5)
FERC	Director's Determination on Disputes/Amendments	6/9/21	5.15(c)(6)
Green Lake Power	Second Study Season	2021	5.15(a)
Green Lake Power	Updated Study Report due	2/9/22	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Updated Study Report Meeting	2/24/22	5.15(f)
Green Lake Power	Updated Study Report Meeting Summary	3/11/22	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Any Disputes/Requests to Amend Study Plan Due	4/10/22	5.15(f)
All stakeholders	Responses to Disputes/Amendment Requests Due	5/10/22	5.15(f)



<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Pre-Filing Milestone</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>FERC Regulation</b>
FERC	Director's Determination on Disputes/Amendments	6/9/22	5.15(f)
Green Lake Power	File Preliminary Licensing Proposal	11/1/21	5.16(a)
All stakeholders	Preliminary Licensing Proposal Comments Due	1/30/22	5.16(e)
Green Lake Power	File Final License Application	3/31/22 <sup>5</sup>	5.17
Green Lake Power	Issue Public Notice of License Application Filing	4/14/22	5.17(d)(2)

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<sup>5</sup> Pursuant to the Federal Power Act section 15 and 18 C.F.R. § 5.17, any application for a license for this project must be filed with the Commission at least 24 months prior to the expiration of the existing license. Because the current license expires on March 31, 2024, all applications for license for this project must be filed by March 31, 2022.

Document Content(s)

P-7189-014 Scoping Doc 5-31-19 (1).DOCX.....1-33