

Large Wood Debris Management License Article

The Licensee shall, beginning the first full calendar year after license issuance, make a reasonable effort to return large wood to Bear Creek by allowing large wood debris (LWD) to pass over the Bear Creek Diversion Dam spillway during spill. The Licensee will also collect LWD from the impoundment in the vicinity of the intake gates and dam for placement below the diversion dam. For purposes of this Article, LWD is defined as dead or dying wood 10 feet or longer and at least 4-inches in diameter. The Licensee may cut large pieces of wood that otherwise would not be feasible to collect and move from the Bear Creek Forebay as long as the minimum dimensions for LWD, as defined above, are maintained.

LWD shall be placed downstream of the United States Geological Survey (USGS) gaging weir below the dam ensuring there is no obstruction of the flow recording equipment at the gage. Individual wood pieces shall be placed so at least a portion lies within the channel to help ensure that it will be captured during spill events and transported downstream. Wood debris should be distributed, as access allows, for approximately 100 to 200 feet downstream of the gaging weir.

At the Annual Consultation Meeting, the Licensee shall describe to the FS and other interested governmental agencies the past year's LWD placement. The licensee, together with the governmental agencies, will decide if adjustments to the amount of LWD placed in the Bear Creek channel or procedures for placing LWD are necessary to provide adequate transport downstream during spill events. Future placement and the procedures for placing and distributing LWD in the Bear Creek channel may be modified based on the annual consultation.