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Stumpy Meadows Reservoir and El Dorado Ditch - Effects on Game Species

Stumpy Meadows Reservoir is generally west of the normal fawning area of the migratory deer herd of this area. It is felt that the inundated land occupied by the reservoir will not be a measurable loss in fawning ground.

The El Dorado Ditch generally runs parallel to the primary migration routes of the deer. However, considerable meandering of migratory deer and the activities of resident deer will expose many deer to the ditch.

The ditch is too wide for deer to jump across. Flows at maximum capacity of 100 second feet would undoubtedly be a lethal hazard to adult deer as well as fawns. Information presently at hand indicates that the season of maximum flows in the ditch will be from May through October with an anticipated flow of 60 second feet as maximum.

Since migratory deer are normally on their summer range by May and do not migrate to the winter range until November or December, the ditch will not present a hazard to them if there is little or no flow.

If the maximum anticipated flow of 60 second feet is exceeded or high flows occur in the ditch during the deer's fall or spring migrations, then deer protective devices such as escape ramps and deer-proof fences at critical locations will be necessary.

To protect fawns at the presently anticipated volume and pattern of operation, protective devices in the form of deer crossing bridges over the open canal should be installed at the junctions of main ravines and other natural crossing points.

No detrimental effects to other game species are anticipated.

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Water Projects