

3/23/2009

To Dean Orbison:

These are my comments of the 2-23-09 version of the Blue Lake Sedimentation Study:

New wording was added to the report in two places, resulting in these questions:

Page 2. Due to the 20-foot contour interval, this map is not of sufficient detail to provide a suitable base for determining the volume of material accumulated in the current delta with any precision.

If the contours are 20 feet, and not useful for estimating volume of sediment deposits, the "General Approach" reference to "pre-impoundment" data should be changed also. Will this survey be used to determine the "extent" of sedimentation? Will the pre-impoundment survey be used to estimate the future longitudinal survey? It seems that 20 foot contours would be too large to be used in estimating longitudinal survey also.

Page 3. There is no record of daily inflows to Blue Lake, or any long-term records of daily flow in Blue Lake Creek upstream of the Dam. However, the pre-impoundment daily flows at the USGS gage in Sawmill Creek (drainage area 39 sq mi), which is located downstream of the Blue Lake Dam site, can be apportioned by drainage area to approximate the timing and magnitude of historic daily flows in Blue Lake Creek (drainage area 19.9 sq miles). Note that the pre-impoundment period of record for the Sawmill Creek gage is September 1920-December 1923, February 1928-September 1942, and October 1945 to September 1957, the equivalent of 28 years of daily flow records.

Have there been any changes in decadal patterns that should be considered when looking at this information as representative of the future?

Thanks

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3/26/2009