

Figure 1. General Framework of Tiered Approach

TIER 1

- A. Species of concern known to be present?
 - 1. Noproceed to Tier 2
 - 2. Unknown - Insufficient or inconclusive dataproceed to Tier 2
 - 3. Yes.....abandon site or proceed to Tier 2

TIER 2

- A. Probability of significant adverse impacts?
 - 1. Unknown - Insufficient or inconclusive dataproceed to Tier 3
 - 2. Low.....proceed to obtain state and local permit (if required), design, and construction following BMPs
 - 3. Moderateproceed to Tier 3 and mitigate
 - 4. High, and:
 - a. can be adequately mitigated...modify project and proceed to Tier 3
 - b. cannot be adequately mitigated.....abandon project

TIER 3

- A. Probability of significant adverse impacts?
 - 1. Lowproceed to Tier 4
 - 2. Moderate to high, and:
 - a. certainty regarding mitigation proceed to Tier 4
 - b. uncertainty regarding mitigationproceed to Tier 4
 - 3. High, and:
 - a. can be adequately mitigated.....proceed to Tier 4
 - b. cannot be adequately mitigatedmodify or abandon project

TIER 4a (See Table 2, pg 39)

- A. Tier 3 studies indicate low probability of significant adverse impacts
 - 1. Documented fatalities are equal to or lower than predicted.....no further studies or mitigation needed
 - 2. Documented fatalities are higher than predicted, but not significant, and:
 - a. comparable data are available that support findings of not significant.....no further studies needed
 - b. comparable data not available to support findings of not significant.....additional year(s) of monitoring recommended
 - 3. Documented fatalities are higher than predicted and are significant.....communicate with Service

- B. Tier 3 studies indicate moderate probability of significant adverse impacts

- 1. Documented fatalities are lower than or no different predicted, and:
 - a. are not significant and no ESA or BGEPA species are affectedno further monitoring or mitigation needed
 - b. are significant *OR* ESA or BGEPA species are affectedcommunicate with Service
- 2. Documented fatalities are greater than predicted and are likely to be significant *OR* ESA or BGEPA species are affected.....communicate with Service

- C. Tier 3 studies indicate high probability of significant adverse impacts

- 1. Documented fatalities are less than predicted and are not significant, and no ESA or BGEPA species are affected.....no further monitoring or mitigation needed
- 2. Documented fatalities are less than predicted but are still significant, and no ESA or BGEPA species are affected.....further monitoring or mitigation needed
- 3. Fatalities are equal to or greater than predicted and are significant *OR* ESA or BGEPA species are affected.....communicate with Service regarding additional mitigation

TIER 4b (See Table 3, pg. 42)

- A. Species of habitat fragmentation concern potentially present?

- 1. No.....no further studies needed
- 2. Yes, and:
 - a. Tier 3 studies do not confirm presence...no further studies needed
 - b. Tier 3 studies confirm presence, but no significant adverse impacts predicted, and:
 - i. Tier 4b studies confirm Tier 3 predictions.....no further studies or mitigation needed
 - ii. Tier 4b studies indicate potentially significant adverse impactsTier 5 studies and mitigation may be needed
 - c. Tier 3 studies confirm presence, and significant adverse impacts predicted and mitigation plan is developed and implemented, and:
 - i. Tier 4b studies determine mitigation is effectiveno further studies or mitigation needed
 - ii. Tier 4b studies determine mitigation not effective.....further mitigation and, where appropriate, Tier 5 studies needed