



September 30, 2013

**VIA E-MAIL**

Mr. Colin Hoag, Policy Advisor  
Ontario Waterpower Association  
380 Armour Road, Suite 264  
Peterborough, Ontario K9H 7L7  
CANADA

Qualifications Statement for Scott Ault  
Species Expertise – Regulation 242/08 – Endangered Species Act

Dear Mr. Hoag:

I present this statement of qualifications to the Ontario Waterpower Association for consideration as a subject matter expert for both the American Eel and Lake Sturgeon relevant to Ontario Regulation 242/08.

I joined Kleinschmidt Associates (Kleinschmidt) in 1997 as a fisheries biologist and currently hold the title of Senior Vice President overseeing the Ecological Services Department. I have over 30 years of experience in determining the potential impacts of hydroelectric generation on aquatic resources. Kleinschmidt is a member of the Ontario Waterpower Association.

**EXPERTISE / EXPERIENCE RELEVANT TO THE AMERICAN EEL**

Twenty years of American eel experience in eastern Ontario (St Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers) and the mid-Atlantic and New England Regions of the USA, including:

- Engineering and biological design and evaluation of upstream eel passage facilities;
- Feasibility, engineering, and costing assessments of downstream passage facilities;
- Design and execution of state of the art behavioral deterrent studies for downstream migrants including large-scale studies on the effect of underwater light;
- Mark/recapture studies to determine population dynamics, abundance, and distribution;
- Telemetry studies to determine outmigrating behavioral preferences; and,
- Age, growth, and sexual maturation studies.

**EXPERTISE / EXPERIENCE RELEVANT TO THE LAKE STURGEON**

Fifteen years of Lake Sturgeon experience in eastern Ontario and the upper mid-West and New York Regions of the USA, including:

- Engineering and biological design of Lake Sturgeon spawning beds on the St Lawrence River;
- Habitat assessments to determine feasibility and selection of location for installation of Lake Sturgeon spawning beds;
- Feasibility, engineering, and costing assessments of upstream and downstream passage facilities for Lake Sturgeon at hydroelectric projects;
- Tropic level studies of Lake Sturgeon on the Ottawa River; and,
- Desktop assessments of potential mortality due to turbine passage.

**EXPERTISE/EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MITIGATION, EFFECTS MONITORING, AND EFFECTIVENESS MONITORING**

Thirty years of experience in the USA and eastern Canada developing and implementing studies to determine the impact of hydroelectric generation on aquatic resources, designing and implementing mitigation efforts to offset or minimize impacts, and conducting studies to determine the effectiveness of mitigation efforts over time. Studies and mitigation topics include:

- Water level fluctuation impacts to aquatic and riparian habitats and species;
- Riverine fragmentation impacts to resident and migratory fish species;
- Scour and sedimentation impacts to habitat;
- Shoreline erosion and protection measures; and,
- Impacts of hydroelectric operation on water quality.

**EXPERTISE/EXPERIENCE IN HYDROELECTRIC SECTOR**

Thirty years of experience as a fisheries scientist working in the hydroelectric industry throughout the USA and eastern Canada. I have worked on over 100 hydroelectric projects on dozens of river systems in the following drainages/regions including but not limited to:

- Ottawa River;
- St. Lawrence River;
- Niagara River;
- New England;
- Mid- Atlantic;
- Southeast;
- Mid-West;
- West Cost;
- Pacific Northwest; and
- Inland Northwest.

Please see attached for my resume of direct relevance to the above mentioned criteria.

Mr. Colin Hoag  
September 30, 2013

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Please contact me at 717.687.7211 or at [scott.ault@kleinschmidtusa.com](mailto:scott.ault@kleinschmidtusa.com) should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

**KLEINSCHMIDT ASSOCIATES**



Scott R. Ault  
Senior Vice President, Ecological Services

SRA:FHW  
Attachment: Resume

Scott Ault is a Sr. Vice President at Kleinschmidt managing the Ecological Services Department. Primary responsibilities include business development, technical oversight and direction, personnel management, and quality assurance. Scott has over 30 years of experience assessing and mitigating the impact of hydropower operations on aquatic environments. He has served as project manager for aquatic habitat assessments, fishway designs, and development of basin wide restoration and management plans on more than 90 projects since 1987. Scott is a nationally recognized expert on American eel passage at hydroelectric facilities.

**Key Expertise**

- Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences
- Scoping, Study Plan Development, and Implementation of Biological Impact Assessments
- Fish Passage Feasibility Studies
- Upstream and Downstream Eel Passage Design and Facility Evaluation
- Fish Population Assessments and Baseline Studies
- Habitat Improvement & Restoration
- Project Management

**Education**

B.S. Biology, Millersville University, 1981

**Years of Experience**

With Kleinschmidt: 16  
Total: 31

**American Eel and Lake Sturgeon Studies, Various Generating Stations Ontario Power Generation (OPG), St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, ON, Canada**  
Manager and lead scientist for American eel and lake sturgeon studies on the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers including the tailwater survey of American eels at the Saunders Generating Station, design of the eel ladder extension and operation of the eel ladder at Saunders Generating Station, evaluation of habitat characteristics for lake sturgeon spawning in the tailrace of the Saunders Generating Station, investigations of American eel morphology, physiology, and energetics on the St. Lawrence River, technical feasibility and economic assessment of upstream passage, fish diversion, and bypass systems for American eel and sturgeon for various OPG projects on the Ottawa River and other river systems, and strategic advice and study plan development for OPG's use in developing Water Power Agreements on the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers.

**Ecological Studies, St. Lawrence / FDR Power Project New York Power Authority, Massena, NY**

Manager responsible for managing all ecological studies associated with the relicensing of this project and preparation of a Third Party Environmental Impact Statement. Kleinschmidt's responsibilities include: study plan development, develop and issue Requests for Proposal for the work, select contractors, and manage all aspects of the studies. Led over 15 studies of adult and juvenile American eels over the course of the relicensing, including state of the art investigations on protection and guidance of downstream migrating eels and the design and operation of an upstream eelway.

**Wetland Mitigation and Aquatic Habitat Improvement, Niagara Power Project New York Power Authority, Niagara Falls, NY**

Project Manager for the evaluation and implementation of aquatic habitat improvements projects on the Niagara River related to the relicensing of the Niagara Power Project. Sixteen large-scale projects were evaluated from an engineering and biological perspective including the construction of islands and wetlands, fish attraction structures, improvements to Lake Erie breakwalls for common tern nesting, and shoreline protection measures. Eight projects are now being implemented.

**Endangered Species Restoration, Clark Fork Projects****Avista Corp., northern ID and northwestern MT**

Project Manager and Principal Biologist responsible for leading a team of state, federal, and utility representatives in the development of the "Clark Fork River Native Salmonid Restoration Plan." The plan was developed within the context of the cooperative consultation process for relicensing of the projects and is designed to direct all restoration actions for the next 40 years. Cooperation among the state and federal agencies was of particular importance since the primary species of interest are federally listed as threatened or endangered. After acceptance of the plan, responsible for leading periodic technical reviews of the implementation efforts for a period of 15 years.

**Fish Protection Study, Eleven Hydroelectric Projects****Consumers Power Company, AuSable, Muskegon, and Manistee Rivers, MI**

Project Manager and team coordinator for the feasibility, conceptual design, and cost evaluation for fish protection and bypass measures at these projects. The work was completed under a settlement agreement between Consumers Power Company and state and federal agencies.

**Entrainment and Mortality Studies, Youghiogheny Hydro****Project D/R Hydro Company, Confluence, PA**

Project Manager for 24 hour a day, year-long full discharge netting study that conclusively proved all fish mortality at the project was related to phenomenon not associated with project power production. Designed the study, one of the most comprehensive ever conducted, in response to a U.S. Congressional inquiry requesting immediate shutdown of the project due to observed fish kills.

