



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

847 NE 19th Avenue, #250, Portland, OR 97232

Phone: (503) 833-3900 Fax: (503) 232-1259

www.fpc.org/

e-mail us at fpcstaff@fpc.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: FPAC

FROM: FPC Staff

DATE: May 11, 2015

RE: Action Notes from May 4, 2015, FPAC meeting

On May 4, 2015, FPAC met via conference call to discuss Dworshak Operations and Grand Coulee/McNary Flows. Present for the meeting were: Paul Wagner (FPAC Co-Chair, NOAA), Brent Nichols (Spokane Tribe), Charlie Morrill (WDFW), Russ Kiefer (IDFG), Kathryn Kostow (ODFW), Michele DeHart (FPC), Brandon Chockley (FPC), Erin Cooper (FPC), and Margaret Filardo (FPC).

Agenda Items

Dworshak Operations

- Steve Hall (COE) provided FPAC with an update of reservoir status and projected flows. From this and the assessment provided by Dave Benner (FPC) at FPAC on May 1st, it appears that there is some water available for shaping flows.
- Russ Kiefer (IDFG) suggests that any available water from Dworshak be used to add to the hydrograph, rather than providing constant flows for migrating smolts. Under this plan, Dworshak could go to full powerhouse right away. Flows would be 10 Kcfs for four days, followed by one day at 7.5 Kcfs, one day at 5 Kcfs, then on Monday, May 11th, flows would drop to 2.4 Kcfs. This would potentially leave some water available for later usage in May.
- FPAC agreed to propose this plan at the TMT meeting immediately following FPAC. FPAC will review this operation throughout the week, along with flow forecasts and passage indices.

Grand Coulee/McNary Flows

- The Bureau of Reclamation informed FPAC that they will not draft below 1,243' at Grand Coulee. To maintain flows of 180 Kcfs at McNary, as requested by FPAC on

Friday, May 1st, 3' have already been drafted. To maintain flows at McNary, it is estimated that the draft limit of 1,243' will be reached in two weeks.

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) suggests that FPAC can either request flows of 180 Kcfs at McNary for as long as possible, or go to 165 at McNary.
- Michele DeHart (FPC) raised the point that some mitigation for low flows for juvenile migration can be achieved by increasing spill levels.
- Paul Wagner suggested an operation that would pass inflow plus some volume of water, but did not specify a flow target.
- Further discussion will be had at the TMT immediately following FPAC.

FPAC Action Notes

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) inquired as to why FPAC meeting notes have increased in frequency (as opposed to face-to-face meetings only) and expressed a concern that the FPAC action notes provided by FPC may have a bias.
 - Michele DeHart (FPC) explained that the increase in frequency is related to recent events where FPAC members seem to be forgetting FPAC discussions when they come up in other arenas.
 - Without a record of all FPAC meetings, there is no way for FPAC members to review notes from non-face-to-face meetings.
- Michele DeHart (FPC) pointed out that professional facilitators may provide notes that do not accurately represent meeting discussions and content.
- Paul Wagner will provide a written proposal to FPAC on how meeting notes may be improved.