



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

To: Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC)
From: FPC Staff
Date: June 5, 2017
Subject: Action Notes from June 5, 2017, FPAC meeting

On June 5, 2017, FPAC met via conference call for its weekly meeting. The following people participated in the meeting:

Tom Lorz (FPAC Co-Chair CRITFC)
Brandon Chockley (FPC)
Dave Benner (FPC)
Dave Swank (USFWS)
Erick Van Dyke (ODFW)
Erin Cooper (FPC)

Jennifer Graham (Warm Springs Tribe)
Margaret Filardo (FPC)
Russ Kiefer (IDFG)
Tom Iverson (Yakama Nation Fisheries)
Trevor Conder (NOAA)

LITTLE GOOSE OPERATIONS

Russ Kiefer (IDFG) described that adult passage did not increase over the weekend with a reduction in spill to 40% for the hours of 4AM to 10AM. There are two options currently available:

- 1) Return to normal operations and wait for flows to naturally decline
- 2) Repeat the special operation for another few days, with spill reduced to 30% instead of 40%. However, screen cleaning begins today, which means there will be even less turbine capacity available to control flows.

Margaret Filardo (FPC) expressed concern that powerhouse operations varied widely during the weekend, so it is impossible to separate powerhouse flows from spill operations. Russ Kiefer responded that these operations were included in the proposal.

Trevor Conder (NOAA) stated that the 40% operation caused the reservoir to fill only 1.5' to 2' over MOP, and that more space is available if needed. Given that TDG never increased above 130% and no symptoms of TDG have been noted at the adult trap at LGR, NOAA is willing to try a 30% or 35% spill operation.

Russ Kiefer suggested that when screen cleaning is completed, there will be more powerhouse capacity and a new test operation can be started. Spill would be reduced during 4 hours or so, based on what is operationally possible. Dave Swank (USFWS) asked if spill can only be reduced for 4 hours, would any change in adult passage be detectable.

Erick Van Dyke (ODFW) stated that he did not believe that further disrupting flows and changing spill operations is necessarily the best for the hydrosystem, but he is interested in any potential effects on adult passage.

Margaret Filardo pointed out that counts have increased at Lower Monumental, which could increase counts at Little Goose independent of operations. It will be hard to narrow down what operations or conditions are assisting or hindering adult passage at Little Goose. Russ Kiefer responded that adult Chinook are clearly delayed under current conditions.

Trevor Conder (NOAA) reminded managers that previous discussions of a 30% spill cap at Little Goose Dam were focused on low to mid-band flows. This year is the first time that there has been an observed adult delay under high flows at Little Goose Dam.

Margaret Filardo asked about the spill pattern. Although the TSW is in use, it can only spill a portion of the spill volume. With other spill bays open, the spill pattern is almost uniform.

Dave Swank (USFWS) asked if the timing is a problem, if overall conversion rates will improve by the end of the season. In looking at conversion rates for past years, it is not known how long each adult spent between projects. Russ Kiefer stated that there are problems with energy expenditure and overall success when passage is delayed.

Trevor Conder stated that NOAA is interested in maintaining 30% spill for two to three days, followed by an evaluation of the passage data. Brandon Chockley (FPC) pointed out that in a worst-case scenario, screen cleaning will take all week. Waiting until Friday may be the only way to make sure that screen cleaning does not interfere the proposed operation..

A decision on the operation will be made at TMT, when screen cleaning projections are available from the COE.