



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: Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC)
From: FPC Staff
Date: July 25, 2017
Subject: Action Notes from July 25, 2017, FPAC meeting

On July 25, 2017, FPAC met via conference call for its weekly meeting. The following people participated in the meeting:

Paul Wagner (FPAC Co-Chair NOAA)	Erin Cooper (FPC)
Tom Lorz (FPAC Co-Chair CRITFC)	Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe)
Bob Rose (Yakama Nation)	Jennifer Graham (Warm Springs Tribe)
Brandon Chockley (FPC)	Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC)
Charlie Morrill (WDFW)	Michele DeHart (FPC)
Dave Swank (USFWS)	Sheri Sears (Colville Tribe)
Dave Statler (Nez Perce Tribe)	Steve Williams (PSMFC)

AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of Notes

- FPAC notes from July 18th were approved with the following changes:
 - Fall Chinook Transportation (Page 3) - The dates of transportation were corrected to trucking starting on August 16th or 17th and ending on September 30th at Lower Monumental
 - Fall Chinook Transportation (Page 3) - The number of additional adults due to transportation was corrected to 17 to 600 with an average of 330

- Spill Update (Page 2) – the date for the cessation of the spill treatment at JDA was corrected to July 19th
- Sort by Code (Page 6) - Dave Swank's concern with tagging adult steelhead was corrected to gastric tagging (not acoustic tagging).

Water Supply/Flood Control

- Dave Benner (FPC) provided a summary of the current reservoir operations and water supply forecasts, snowpack estimates, and ESP runoff volumes. See the attached document.
- Flows at Dworshak will be reduced to 9.5 Kcfs in August.

Weather

- Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC) provided a summary of weather conditions and water year status. As there has been no additional precipitation in the region over the past week, see last week's attached report for precipitation totals.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) mentioned that NOAA's long term forecast calls for above average temperatures over next 90 days.

Juvenile Fish Passage Status

- For passage indices on July 25, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated indices, use the FPC website.
- Mid-Columbia sites are currently under high temperature sampling protocols.
- Due to elevated temperatures and mortalities of recovering fish, GBT monitoring at MCN and BON has been reduced to once-per-week.

Adult Fish Passage Status

- For adult counts on July 25, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated counts, use the FPC website.

Spill Update

- For spill and TDG from July 18 to July 24, please see the attached document. For updated information, please use the FPC website.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) reported to FPAC that BPA has discussed the potential necessity of reducing spill at Ice Harbor to meet power requirements. This spill could be offset at another site. Spill would likely be reduced to 30%, but it is not clear when or for how long the reduced spill would continue.
 - Paul suggested that Lower Granite Dam might be the most logical location to increase spill if it is reduced at Ice Harbor.
 - Tom Lorz (CRITFC) asked how FPAC members can know if the power load is really required if BPA will not declare a power emergency. Tom suggested that requests of these types be put in writing by BPA and sent to fisheries managers.

Temperatures

- Brandon Chockley (FPC) provided temperature information. For the Bonneville, McNary, and Ice Harbor forebays and at the Anatone gauge, current temperatures are mostly above the 10 year average but below the 2015 temperature. At the Lower Granite Dam forebay, 2017 is one of the hottest years, likely due to receiving less cool water from Dworshak. The Clearwater River at Peck is above the 10 year average. The Salmon River (at Whitebird) location has only a few years of temperature data available, but 2017 is not the hottest year.

Dworshak Operations

- FPAC members discussed options for Dworshak operations. Currently, TDG limits are not at the maximum of 120 so flows could be increased some.
- Dave Swank (USFWS) reported that the Dworshak Hatchery would prefer if flows were not increased due to concerns of GBT in hatchery smolts. He will distribute hatchery reports to FPAC members.
- Currently, temperatures at Lower Granite are around 68°. Tom Lorz (CRITFC) suggested that if temperatures are going to increase over the next week, the water travel time from Dworshak to Lower Granite is around three or four days so the decision to release more water for temperature control should be made soon.

Removal of Spillway Weirs

- Brandon Chockley (FPC) reminded FPAC members that the RSW was removed from Lower Granite on the afternoon of Wednesday, July 12th. This operation was taken to reduce tailrace temperatures with the understanding that there would be a likely increase in juvenile powerhouse passage. To inform future operations, FPAC members should discuss and evaluate the operation.
- Dave Swank (USFWS) pointed out that there was no obvious change in tailrace temperatures.
 - Paul Wagner (NOAA) stated that temperatures did decrease eventually, and have dropped over the past week. However, it is not possible to tell if this is directly related to the removal of the RSW. He also pointed out that juvenile collection numbers did not significantly increase.
- Michele DeHart (FPC) stated that this might be a good time for fisheries managers to look at past years of surface passage removal to determine impacts on temperature and populations.
 - Paul Wagner stated that the COE is working on temperature modelling with relation to surface passage routes. Michele requested that FPAC members be allowed to review those models. PNNL is also working on a report that will discuss juvenile migration depth.
 - Dave Statler (Nez Perce Tribe) requested that Paul Wagner keep FPAC members updated on the status of COE modelling and PNNL reports.

FPAC request ERDC Model Data

- Dave Benner (FPC) provided a draft Joint Technical Staff Memo (JTSM) for FPAC members to review. This JTSM will request that the COE distribute ERDC model results to FPAC members.
- The draft will be discussed at the next FPAC meeting.

Early Juvenile Monitoring Operations

- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) has provided a draft recommendation for FPAC members to submit to FPOM regarding the early monitoring of juveniles in 2018.
- FPC will convert the draft letter to a draft JTSM for FPAC review. Given that most FPAC members will be in ERDC next week, FPAC members are encouraged to get comments to Brandon Chockley by the end of this week. If no major changes, draft JTSM will be finalized and sent to FPOM. Otherwise, FPAC may discuss at next week's meeting..

Coordination

- There will be a TMT Wednesday, July 26th.
- There will be a FPOM meeting on August 10.

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