



# FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Fish Passage Advisory Committee (FPAC)  
From: FPC Staff  
Date: XX, 2017  
Subject: Action Notes from August 8, 2017, FPAC meeting

On August 8, 2017, FPAC met via conference call for its weekly meeting. The following people participated in the meeting:

Paul Wagner (FPAC Co-Chair NOAA)  
Tom Lorz (FPAC Co-Chair CRITFC)  
Alex Saint (FPC)  
Brandon Chockley (FPC)  
Charlie Morrill (WDFW)  
Dave Benner (FPC)  
Dave Swank (USFWS)

Erick Van Dyke (ODFW)  
Erin Cooper (FPC)  
Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe)  
Jennifer Graham (Warm Springs Tribe)  
Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC)  
Tom Iverson (Yakima Nation)

## AGENDA ITEMS

### ***Approval of Notes***

- FPAC notes from July 25<sup>th</sup> and August 1<sup>st</sup> were approved without changes.

### ***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.

- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) asked where Brownlee was at in getting the water out that was allotted for summer flows. Dave and Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) responded that they haven't received an update at this time.

### ***Weather***

- Kyle Dittmer (CRITFC) provided a summary of weather conditions and water year status. See attached.

### ***Juvenile Fish Passage Status***

- For passage indices on August 8, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated indices, use the FPC website.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) noted that Lower Granite is done sampling for the year. He also noted that roof repairs at BO2 are underway. These repairs will require modifications to powerhouse operations, which will effect collections for the SMP. Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked for clarification on the roof repair at BO2 and how it relates to the lower passage index. Brandon responded that due to repairs, flows through the powerhouse will be reduced at times. For example, the powerhouse was shut down for several hours on Monday, meaning no fish could be collected during this time. Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked if Powerhouse 1 is run while Powerhouse 2 is off. Brandon replied that on Monday Powerhouse 1 was in operation from 10-4 while Powerhouse 2 was down to less than 1 Kcfs.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) also noted that BO2 was unable to do a GBT Sample on Sunday due to the absence of fish. He has advised them to try again next weekend as is their normal schedule. If there are still roof repairs going on it may affect their ability to collect fish. The crew at Lower Monumental has been advised to stop GBT sampling for the year due to small sample sizes. GBT sampling continues at Little Goose, McNary, and Rock Island.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) asked if the FPC could look at past year's data in regards to what this year's collection at Little Goose since the closing of the juvenile bypass at Lower Granite. Brandon responded that looking at the Passage Index, there has been no increase in Little Goose collection since Lower Granite has stopped collecting.

### ***Adult Fish Passage Status***

- For adult counts on August 8, 2017, please see the attached document. For updated counts, use the FPC website.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) updated that 13 sockeye were counted at Redfish Lake.

### ***Spill Update***

- For spill and TDG from August 1 to August 7, please see the attached document. For updated information, please use the FPC website.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) noted that yesterday (August 7) was the first day at Little Goose where the flow was low enough that they will start the fixed spill operation.

### **Temperature Status**

- Brandon Chockley (FPC) noted that temperatures are either the highest they have been in the past ten years and well above the 10 year average.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) asked that if it was a concern that the temperature differential in the Little Goose ladder is about 4 degrees.
- Dave Benner (FPC) noted that the cool-water donuts and pumps will be installed at LGS by this time next year.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) asked what the status was on adult sampling at Lower Granite.
  - Dave Swank (USFWS) responded that the temperature threshold has not been reached so adult sampling has not been shut down yet.
  - Erick van Dyke (ODFW) noted that Lower Granite and Little Goose are both stratified with deeper cold water.
  - Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that if it wasn't for the pumps at Lower Granite the operation would have been shut down by now.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) asked if we have seen *Columnaris* at Lower Monumental. Brandon responded that the disease rate is 15% but with only 13 individual subyearlings. Don't know off hand what disease was present at that time.

### **Dworshak Operations**

- Dave Swank (USFWS) noted that the fish at the hatchery are doing relatively well, and all examined had full stomachs. There are still some bubbles present in the gills and lateral lines. STP calls for decreases in flows. He will confirm this at the next TMT call.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked FPAC members if the preference will be to remain at 11 Kcfs from Dworshak or to reduce outflows. Dave responded that they are hoping for a break in the weather to allow for reduction in outflows. They would prefer temperatures at Lower Granite to not exceed 70° and keep the trap open. He will ask Steve Hall (COE) tomorrow if there are any major changes planned.
  - Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that his preference would to have flows at the higher level for temperature control.
  - Dave Swank (USFWS) responded that higher flows are not ideal for the fish, but since conditions appear to be relatively well, they should be good to continue for another week.
- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) asked what the mortality rate was as compared to previous years. Dave responded that there is no unusual mortality rate so far.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribes) noted that he is curious to see what Steve Hall's (COE) thoughts are on water availability, at some point there needs to be a reduction in flows, or there will be a shortage of cold water before the end of August. He suggested a reduction in flows to 9 Kcfs by Friday in anticipation of the cool off that is projected for the following Monday.
- Paul Wagner (NOAA) asked if there was any update to the TMT website. Erick noted that the current plan is at 11kcfs until the end of August. Brandon noted that the data hasn't been updated since the 1<sup>st</sup> of August.

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) noted that there will be more discussion at TMT to discuss alternatives.

#### ***FPAC Memo***

- Paul Wagner (NOAA) requested the wording of “obstacles” be changed to “issues”.
- Erick Van Dyke (ODFW) requested to add “request trip report and whiteboard snapshots”.
- FPAC members discussed the time frame the JTS is asking for. Paul suggested the end of the year. Charlie suggested the end of September.
- Brandon Chockley (FPC) noted that we should specify the dates that are being requested. All present agreed to the proposed changes.

#### ***ERDC LGS Trip Report***

- Charles Morrill (WDFW) reported that there was great collaboration on the ERDC trip to model hydraulic conditions at Little Goose Dam. He also reported that operating the north powerhouse units and south spillbays appeared to provide good adult attraction flows and juvenile egress conditions. Charlie noted that this is contrary to current operation of prioritizing south shore units (Unit 1 and 2). Second take-away was that peninsula at south shore is a significant contributor to undesirable flow conditions for adults being able to find the south ladder entrance. Finally, there is a desire to add PIT-tag detection at the ladder entrances.
- Jay Hesse (Nez Perce Tribe) agreed with Charlie’s summary of the meeting. He added that gas cap spill levels do not look as good as the current fish passage plan for adult movement but were intrigued by potential in using north powerhouse units. There is optimism for implementation. Previous week for MCN came up with slightly modified flow patterns that should meet gas cap standards. Erick van Dyke (ODFW) shared Jay and Charlie’s remarks. Continuing to see that should be able to provide spill cap operation with the caveat that we need to be cognizant with what’s happening during the year and be able to respond.

#### ***FDX/HDX Lamprey Update***

- Charlie Morrill (WDFW) provided a summary of a recent issue regarding PIT-tagged lamprey hanging up in the adult ladder at Rosa Dam which interfered with adult PIT-tag detections for salmonids. He noted that the PIT-tag Steering Committee is working on a solution and will keep everyone informed. Possible solutions include installing Vexar material to keep lamprey from getting into areas where they may hold up and potentially switching adult detection systems to dual mode, which will allow them to detect both Half Duplex and Full Duplex tags. He will provide more updates as things progress.

***Coordination***

- There will be an FPOM Thursday, August 10.
- There will be a TMT tomorrow at 9:00AM.
- The next FPAC face-to-face meeting will be on August 15 at 10:00 AM.

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