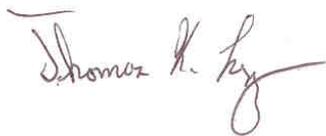


# State, Federal and Tribal Fishery Agencies Joint Technical Staff Memorandum

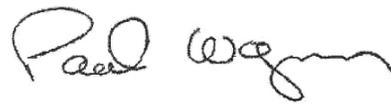
*Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission  
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NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife*

*Colville Tribes  
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TO: Fish Passage Operations and Maintenance Coordination Team



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SUBJECT: Revised Early Juvenile Bypass System Operation Implementation  
Recommendation for 2019

DATE: August 31, 2018

At the Fish Passage and Maintenance Coordination Team (FPOM) meeting in August, there was discussion about early sampling (i.e., March sampling) in 2019 and where this early sampling should occur. Subsequent to this meeting, the Fish Passage Advisory Committee

(FPAC) has discussed the limitations that were outlined at the FPOM meeting and has developed the following recommendation for the early operation of the juvenile bypass systems at FCRPS projects for 2019. Data from 2018 and 2019 will be reviewed to inform sampling procedures in 2020-2021.

**Recommendation:**

The FPAC recommends that PIT-tag monitoring and early sampling should occur at Lower Monumental (LMN) and McNary (MCN) dams in 2019 (Table 1). This recommendation has been modified from the FPAC October 2017 recommendation. This revision is in response to the COE’s needs to modify the operations scheduled at JDA and LGR due to maintenance and/or construction at these two projects. Early sampling at LMN and MCN will consist of a 24-hour sample, every-other-day, beginning March 1, 2019. The FPAC also recommends that all units at LMN should be screened during this early sampling period. However, at MCN, the FPAC recommends that only the first three priority units will be screened during this early sampling period. Screening the top three priority units at MCN should limit potential impacts of screens on juvenile lamprey while still providing some level of increased guidance to enhance the quality of data for juvenile salmonids.

The FPAC recognizes that it may not be possible to have all powerhouse units screened at Lower Monumental by the time sampling begins on March 1<sup>st</sup>. While it is ideal for all units to be screened, FPAC would support the prioritization of screen installation to those units that are highest on the unit priority list. It is important to note that, while a lack of screens in some lower priority units may impact the accuracy of the estimates of passage magnitude, it should not affect our ability to assess whether the historical system operation (i.e., starting in April) fully considered the entire migration period, particularly the early portion of the run.

**Table 1.** Actual (2018) and recommended (2019-2021) juvenile bypass system implementation schedule for injunctive early (March) operations.<sup>1</sup>

Project	2018	2019	2020	2021
BONN <sup>2</sup>	X	X	X	X
TDA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
JDA	X		X	X <sup>3</sup>
MCN		X <sup>4</sup>		X <sup>5</sup>
ICH	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LMN		X <sup>6</sup>		X
LGO	X		X	
LGR			X	X

<sup>1</sup> The FCRPS injunction court order provides that “[i]n light of the importance of the tails of a run for diversity and species adaptation, the Court orders PIT tag monitoring begin on March 1 of each year of the remand period, beginning in 2018.” This implementation schedule covers a time frame that is designed to provide data on early migration and account for maintenance and funding needs.

<sup>2</sup> Juvenile bypass system operation at Bonneville Dam currently starts in early March; no change required for injunctive early migration monitoring.

<sup>3</sup> Early operation of John Day JBS on odd years is desirable (optional) to support Umatilla juvenile lamprey monitoring and Umatilla and John Day basin salmonid migration timing monitoring.

<sup>4</sup> Top three priority units at MCN should be screened by start of early sampling period. Installation/operation of other turbine intake screens will be delayed until mid-April, per normal operations.

<sup>5</sup> McNary turbine intake screen installation/operation will be coordinated through FPOM

<sup>6</sup> Sampling at Lower Monumental will occur every-other-day from March 1 to the start of transportation