



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Ed Bowles, ODFW

FROM: Michele DeHart

DATE: August 27th, 2008

RE: Natural Flow Component of Upper Snake Flow Augmentation

In a follow-up to our August 11th, 2008 memorandum, and your subsequent request, the Fish Passage Center staff has further investigated the "Natural Flow" component of the USBR flow augmentation water from the Upper Snake River. The volume of water released by the USBR in the Upper Snake River depends on the water year but typically is approximately 487 Kaf. This total is divided into four sub-categories: the Upper Snake, the Payette River, the Boise River, and "Natural Flows". For flow augmentation in 2008, the BOR expects to release 185.7 Kaf from the Upper Snake, 175 Kaf from the Payette River, and 48.7 Kaf from the Boise River. The remaining 77.6 Kaf to make up the full volume of 487 Kaf is expected to come from Natural Flows.

The Natural Flow Component (total 77.6 Kaf) of USBR's 487 Kaf of Upper Snake Flow Augmentation is made up of two categories 1. IWRB Lease (Idaho)- referred to as Bell Rapids (60 Kaf), and 2. Skyline Farms (Oregon, 17.6 Kaf). Most of the Natural Flow USBR flow augmentation water is released between April 3rd and August 31st. The IWRB Lease of 60 Kaf is comprised of 49.5 Kaf released within the April 3rd to August 31st period, and 10.5 Kaf scheduled to be released before and after the migration period (April 3-August 31).

Natural Flow water is flow augmentation water that has been purchased from water rights. As an example, in 2005 the Idaho Water Resources Board (IWRB) purchased approximately 98,000 acre-feet of water rights from the Bell Rapids Mutual Irrigation Company; this was water that served roughly 25,000 acres via high-lift pumps. USBR then entered into a 30-year lease with the State for 60,000 acre-feet of this water for salmon augmentation.



MD

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DATA REQUEST FORM

Request Taken By: Michele Date: 8-14-2008

Data Requested By:

Name: Ed Bowles Phone: _____

Address: ODFW Fax: _____

attach-email Email: _____

Data Requested:

Description of Natural Flows
in USBR - Upper Snake flow
augmentation