



FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

TO: FPAC
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FROM: Michele DeHart

DATE: February 27, 2009

RE: Update Smolt Monitoring Program remote site data entry program upgrade

The purpose of this memorandum is to update FPAC on progress to date on development and implementation of the new remote data entry program for the SMP and to address concerns raised at various times by various individuals. The Fish Passage Center staff has continued to develop and test the new remote data entry program for the Smolt Monitoring Program throughout January and February. The objectives of this effort are to:

- Upgrade of the SMP program because the software platform of the previous data entry program is being discontinued.
- In response to an FPAC request, include fish condition monitoring data with the SMP data, for their use in daily and weekly passage management discussions.
- Standardize data collection and reporting among SMP remote sites.

In the previous update memorandum to FPAC, February 23, was established as the deadline for development, testing and the decision as to whether or not the new program would be

implemented at remote sites for the 2009. On that date after extensive testing, we decided that the new program was operational and should be implemented at the mainstem sites in 2009. The trap sites however, Lewiston, Salmon River, Grande Ronde River, Imnaha, will implement the old data entry program. This is because the primary modification to the program has been the addition of the fish condition data. The trap sites do not presently collect fish condition data. We will continue to improve the program at mainstem sites through 2009 and implement the new program at trap sites in 2010. Thus far the new program has been developed successfully as follows:

- Fish condition data collection and recording has been standardized.
- A fish condition data collection protocol and criteria manual has been developed.
- A new standardized data entry program has been developed; utilizing touch screen technology for data entry of condition data.
- A new manual has been written for the new data entry program.

Consistent with implementation of all new software programs, we are expecting that “bugs” will arise. Our plan is to address these as they occur and continue to improve the program as it is implemented. We will be working through the monitoring season with individual sites assisting in the transition to the new program. FPC staff will travel to each site prior to the beginning of sampling to work individually with site personnel to transition to the new program. In addition FPC staff will be present on site during the first sample day to assist site personnel. Finally, FPC staff will be present on site during the first date of transportation to assist site personnel. Below, is a table of the tentative program installation, training, implementation, and transportation dates for each of the remote data entry sites, except the traps (Table 1). We are dependent on the commitment of remote site personnel to make this program upgrade work and to assist the FPC in continued development of the program. Because Bonneville Dam starts sampling on March 2, a month before other sites, we will utilize the early experiences at Bonneville to improve the program before sampling starts at other sites. The scheduled training and site assist days are scheduled as follows:

Table 1. Scheduled dates for installation of remote data entry program and touchscreen computers, training on new software, first sample date, and tentative dates for the start of transportation for each of the remote data entry SMP sites.

Site	Installation	Training	First Scheduled Sample	Transportation Start*
BON	Feb. 25	Feb. 26	March 2	N/A
JDA	Mar. 13	Mar. 23	Apr. 1	N/A
MCN	Mar. 13	Mar. 17	Apr. 1	~June-July
LMN	Mar. 13	Mar. 18	Apr. 1	April 21 -May 11
LGS	Mar. 12	Mar. 25	Apr. 1	April 21 - May 5
LGR	Mar. 12	Mar. 19	Mar. 26	April 21 - May 1
RIS	Mar. 24	Mar. 24	Apr. 1	N/A

* Actual transportation start dates are still unknown at this time. The dates presented in this table reflect the range of possible start dates. Whenever transportation begins at these projects, FPC personnel plan to be at the data entry site(s) to assist in this process.

The first training took place on February 26, at Bonneville Dam. This training session went well and site personnel seemed pleased with the functionality of the new data entry program. Sergei Rassk is making a few minor changes to the program based on this training session. A new version of the program will be installed at BON prior to the start of sampling. Also, FPC staff have worked with personnel at BON on completing the reverse-engineering function tools to move data from the standardized database to their individual site databases. A few changes are being made to the tools to include some of the new data being collected that was not collected before. During the training session, FPC staff and BON personnel worked on a new summary hand log for the full (non-condition) sample, to make data entry easier and more straight forward. The hand log template is attached and FPC will circulate this summary hand-log template to the other remote data entry sites. We recommend this template be used to modify existing summary data entry forms but will not require it. We will continue to work through this year to develop a standardized form that we can then implement at all sites in 2010. Your help and input in this process will be critical to creating a hand log that will make data entry easier and facilitate data validation both at the sites as well as at FPC. We have attached a xls spreadsheet with the template so that you can incorporate your own data needs as you see fit. We can use your modifications as part of the process of designing the final standardized form.

Issues – COE transportation barge loading

There has been a significant concern expressed by individuals regarding the COE daily data needs for barge loading, and for COE weekly reports. The COE data for transportation barge loading, daily data needs and weekly reports is not standardized among transportation sites. Although the data is required for the same management purposes it is not recorded, reported or stored in the same manner at each site. This has created a challenge in developing the standardized data entry program. The most straightforward approach to meeting the COE data needs on a timely basis would be to include the COE data requirements into the report functions of the data entry program. This would result in a push button report provided to the COE. However, the COE has indicated that they do not want to change anything at any of the sites. This requires the FPC to reverse engineer function tools to go from the standardized data to the non-standardized data at each site. We are developing tools to maintain the non standard data as requested by the COE. This is not the approach that the FPC would follow in developing a data program for an agencies and tribes' project. We could develop the standardized COE report later on, if the COE decided this was beneficial for their purposes.

Issues- Program Enhancements

Several individual site personnel provided suggestions for program enhancements. We have not implemented all of these, but neither have we rejected them. Because of time constraints we prioritized tasks. We will continue to develop the program based upon our experiences in implementation in 2009.