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MEMORANDUM

TO: Rick Kruger (ODFW)

Michele DeHart

FROM: Michele DeHart

DATE: February 28, 2013

RE: Review of Draft 2013 Fish Operations Plan compared to 2012 Fish Operations Plan

In response to your request, the FPC staff has reviewed the Draft 2013 Fish Operations Plan (2013 FOP) and compared it with the 2012 FOP to determine whether it represents a roll-over of the 2012 FOP. Below is a list of our findings on where the two documents differ. Page numbers and paragraph references in this list correspond to the 2013 FOP and may be slightly different from the 2012 FOP.

Page 7 – First paragraph, last sentence MOP+2 operation is rolled over from 2011 FOP

Page 9 – First and second paragraphs. Transition dates from spring to summer spill will be coordinated through **SRWG** and TMT. 2012 FOP only specified coordination through TMT.

Page 12 – Second bullet concerning ADCP survey is new for 2013. There is a Fish Passage Plan change form concerning this bullet.

Page 12 – First bullet under Little Goose Changes in Operations for Research Purposes. Testing will start in June. Testing in 2012 FOP started in late April. This change is due to the elimination of research on spring migrants.

Page 13 – Spring Spill Operations for LMN specifies that the bulk spill pattern will be used in 2013. In a different section the 2012 FOP also specified that bulk pattern would be used but also

provided justification for this pattern, which the fish managers objected to. This section of the 2013 FOP also states to “see Operational Considerations” but there is no reference to the bulk pattern in the Operational Considerations section for LMN.

Page 13 – First bullet under LMN Changes in Operations for Research Purposes. Testing in 2013 will start in June. Testing in 2012 began in late April. This change is due to the elimination of research on spring migrants. 2013 FOP also states that the dates of testing will be dependent on subyearling Chinook run timing. 2012 FOP only specified the dates of testing were dependent on size and availability of fish for tagging. As it stands, the new language in the 2013 FOP could be used to justify switching to summer spill volumes prior to June 21. 2013 FOP also removed language about survival being higher under bulk pattern compared to uniform pattern (see previous bullet).

Page 15 – Spring Spill Operations at McNary Dam. The 2013 FOP states that the spillbay weirs at MCN will be removed by June 8 (or next business day as coordinated through the FPOM). The 2012 FOP also had a June 8 date for spillbay weir removal but did not have the “or next business day...” statement. June 8, 2013 is a Saturday.

Page 15 – First paragraph last two sentences under MCN states the following. Temporary spill pattern changes to allow removal of the spillway weirs will occur, however spill will continue at 40% during the spillway weir removal process using the spill pattern identified in FPP Table MCN-10. Following removal of the spillway weirs, the spill pattern contained in Table **MCN-9** in FPP section 5 will be used for the remainder of the spring. The 2012 FOP specified Table MCN-10 to be used during both TSW removal and following TSW removal. In both the 2012 FPP and Draft 2013 FPP table MCN-9 is titled **McNary Dam Spill Pattern After Both TSWs Removed (discharge in kcfs at Forebay Elevation 339 ft).** * and Table MCN-10 is titled: **McNary Dam Spill Pattern during TSW Removal (discharge in kcfs at Forebay Elevation 339 ft).*** It appears that the change in the 2013 FOP corrected the 2012 FOP.

Page 16 – First two paragraphs under John Day. The 2013 FOP changed the time of spill level changes to 2000 hours. The 2012 FOP had spill changes happening at 0600.

Page 16 – First bullet under Operational Considerations. Is the need for flexibility in rearranging treatments necessary, given that no research is planned for 2013?

Page 17 – First bullet under The Dalles Dam Operational Considerations. 2013 FOP changed first river flow band to 92 and 160 Kcfs as opposed to the 2012 FOP which had flows of 90 and 150 Kcfs. 2013 FOP also removed flow bands of 150-300 Kcfs and 300-420 Kcfs, which were in the 2012 FOP.

Page 17 – Third bullet under The Dalles Dam Operational Considerations. 2013 FOP added spill bay #9 to list of spill bays that are operationally restricted.

Page 17 – Fourth bullet under The Dalles Dam Operational Considerations. 2013 FOP says spill pattern based on nominal forebay elevation at The Dalles Dam of 158.5 feet. The 2012 FOP stated spill pattern would be based on forebay elevation at Bonneville Dam of 74 feet.

Page 18 – In the Seasonal Effects of Transportation study, the 2013 FOP states fish will be collected at LGR starting on April 17 and marked on April 18. The 2012 FOP had dates of April 4th and 5th for collection and marking.

Several sections of the 2012 FOP were removed for the 2013 FOP, due to their no longer being relevant for 2013. These sections include but are not limited to: 1) spring performance standard testing at Snake River sites, 2) performance standard resting at Lower Columbia sites, 3) debris issues in the Bonneville Dam spillway, and 4) discussion of the Latent Mortality testing.