FISH PASSAGE CENTER

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MEMORANDUM

TO: FPAC

FROM: Jerry McCann

DATE: June 6, 2007

RE: GBT exceedance at Lower Monumental Dam

Data from GBT exams has shown the waiver criteria of 15% incidence has been exceeded at Lower Monumental Dam. Although only 66 fish were examined on June 4, there were 12 steelhead with fin signs; a total of 18% fin signs. No severe signs were observed, but several fish had bubbles in more than one fin. There was also a relatively high incidence of signs recorded the following day, June 5 at Little Goose Dam.

Table 1. Summary of GBT signs at Little Goose and Lower Monumental in the past two days sampling.

Site and Date	Number Examined	Number with GBT	Number with Fin GBT	% Fin GBT	Fin Rank 1	Fin Rank 2
Little Goose						
05/29/07 Ch1 + St	100	8	8	**8.0%**	8	0
06/05/07 Ch1 + St	100	14	14	**14.0%**	13	1
Lower Monumental						
05/28/07 Ch1+ St	100	5	5	**5.0%**	5	0
06/04/07 Ch1+ St	66	13	12	**18.2%**	11	1

All the signs were in steelhead, and with only a few Chinook examined. It should be noted that we typically see an increase in signs in steelhead as the season progresses, typically increasing to 10% incidence or less by this time of the season. And also, steelhead numbers are declining while subyearling Chinook indices are increasing. It is likely that the incidence level in subyearling chinook will be lower when we switch over to monitoring them in the next week. If necessary, additional sampling can occur over the next few days, in the Snake River to provide more information about the levels of signs occurring. The next samples are not scheduled until June 11 and 12th.

Another consideration is the potential effect of the tailwater eddy at Little Goose Dam. It may be that longer egress times results in longer exposure to higher tailwater TDG. There has been some discussion in FPAC regarding the bulk spill pattern causing a moderate eddy at low flows and this may have made fish more susceptible to GBT due to increased time in tailwater at that site.