

SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST: #2000-2

- *The following State and Federal Salmon Managers have participated in the preparation of this SOR: Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service, Idaho Department of Fish & Game, and Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.*

TO: **Brigadier General Strock** **COE-NPD**
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Marv Yoshinaka

FROM: **Marv Yoshinaka, Chairperson, Salmon Managers**

DATE: **February 29, 2000**

SUBJECT: **Dworshak Outflow**

SPECIFICATIONS:

Beginning immediately and until further notice limit the instantaneous outflow from Dworshak Dam to the amount necessary to meet the requested 9,500 cfs Peck gage height.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Nez Perce Tribe is operating a juvenile fall chinook acclimation facility at Peck near the mouth of Big Canyon Creek. The temporary site is dependent upon a river flow level not falling below the pump intakes. The flows that are presently necessary to maintain pumping operations for the facility are 9,500 cfs at Peck. The salmon managers are concerned that Dworshak is presently being drafted at a high rate to achieve the end of the month flood control elevation (the project is presently about one foot above the elevation). We recommend that it would be prudent to decrease the draft at this point to no more than that necessary to meet the Peck objective, pending receipt of the final March Runoff Volume Forecast.

The need for the flow at Peck would extend until June 15, 2000 because of the presence of fish on-site until that time. Recognizing the difficulty that this request may cause to the operation of Dworshak Reservoir for flow augmentation, flood control and recreation, the Nez Perce Tribe is currently exploring structural modifications that may take place in the near-term. These modifications are being discussed with the Idaho Water Resources Board and if feasible will be brought to the COE for their cooperation and support for implementation.