

SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST: #2000-11

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

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Marvin S. Yoshinaka

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

DATE: **April 14, 2000**

SUBJECT: **Flows and Ramp Rates at Bonneville Dam**

GOAL: **To prevent standing and entrapment of juvenile salmonids in the Ives/Pierce Island Area.**

SPECIFICATIONS: Beginning immediately, at flows of 260 Kcfs or less, limit fluctuations in flow to no more than 10 Kcfs in a three-hour period. If flows should exceed 260 Kcfs, then flows should be maintained at this level.

JUSTIFICATION: Juvenile chinook and chum salmon have been observed stranded and entrapped at the Ives/Pierce Island complex. Two types of stranding occur in this area. First, fish are stranded at the periphery of the wetted areas by rapid fluctuations in hourly flows. To avoid this issue the 10 Kcfs ramp rate in three hours is requested. Second, at flows estimated above 260 Kcfs (based on data collected to-date), fish have access to the lagoon/channel area located in the middle of Pierce Island. If flows drop below 260 Kcfs, then these fish become entrapped. Consequently, the request is for flows to stay above 260 Kcfs if the flows achieve this level. Considerable effort has been spent by all parties to protect these fish through spawning, incubation and emergence. Failure to provide protection from stranding and entrapment could significantly diminish the results of the efforts taken thus far.