

## **SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST: #2005-9**

*The following State, Federal, and Tribal Salmon Managers have participated in the preparation and support this SOR: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, NOAA Fisheries, Nez Perce Tribe, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.*

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**FROM:** David A. Wills, Chairperson, Salmon Managers

**DATE:** May 3, 2005

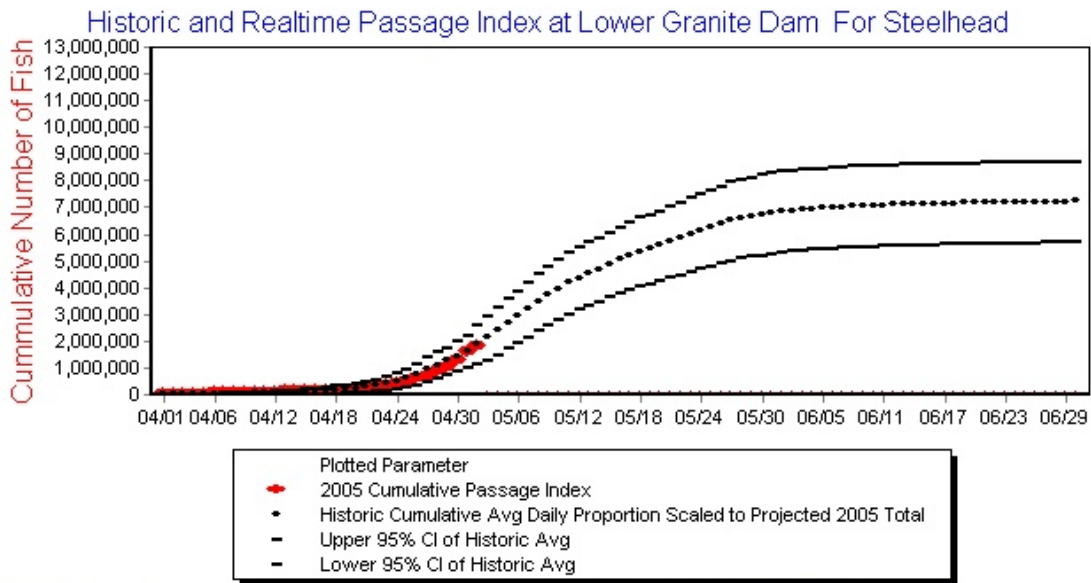
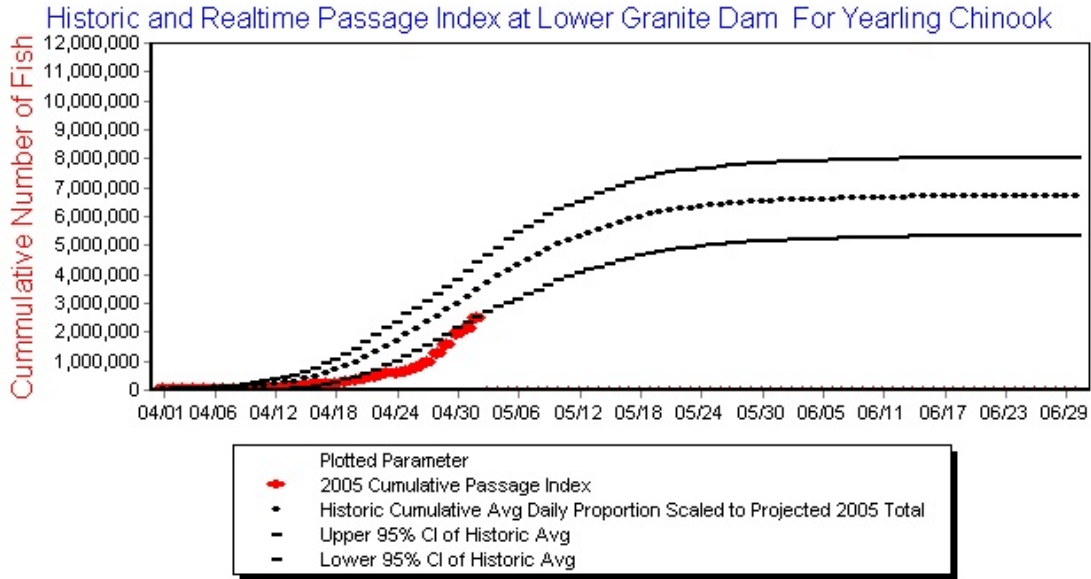
**SUBJECT:** Spring Dworshak Operations to Provide Improved Migration Conditions in the Snake River

### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

- Increase Outflows at Dworshak Dam to full powerhouse capacity along with spill to the 110% TDG level in the Dworshak tailrace for a period of one week (approximately 14 Kcfs day average flow). We estimate this operation will use 174 Kaf of reservoir water from Dworshak reservoir, above the 1.5 Kcfs minimum outflow.
- Assure refill of Dworshak reservoir by June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- This request is for this coming week, anticipate further requests as new information based on fish numbers and water supply forecast becomes available.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Increased outflows at Dworshak Dam will aid in the passage of yearling chinook and steelhead in the Lower Snake River. The passage indices of combined yearling chinook have increased dramatically at Lower Granite Dam over the last week. The passage index at Lower Granite for combined yearling chinook for 5-2-05 was 412,325. Passage indices for steelhead have also been increasing over the last week at Lower Granite Dam, with a daily passage index of 228,980 on 5-2-05. Based on historic timing, peak passage of yearling chinook and steelhead should be occurring over the next few weeks (see figures for cumulative passage timing).



Historic daily proportions average of 1985-04. Curve scaled to projected 2005 index, using NOAA estimated collection no spill