

## **SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST: #2005-10**

*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:** Priest Rapids Flows to Improve Migration Conditions in the Middle Columbia River

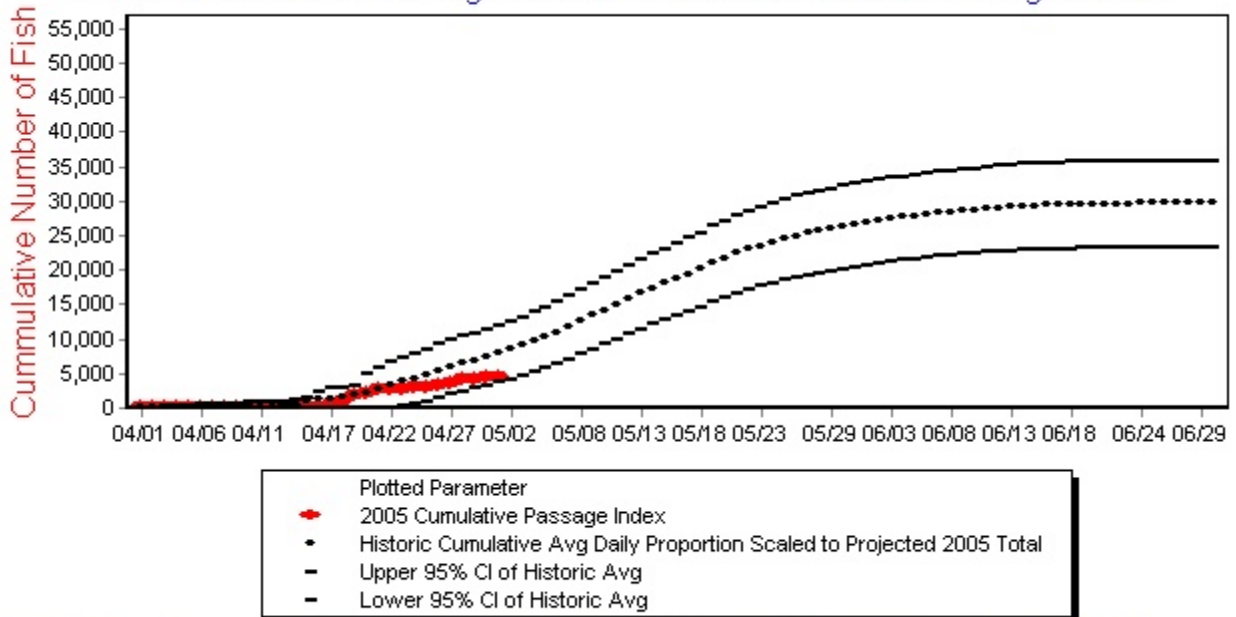
### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

- Increase flows at Grand Coulee Dam to provide 135 Kcfs at Priest Rapids Dam beginning May 4, 2005 and continue through the month of May. Do not draft Grand Coulee below elevation 1240 feet and assure refill to elevations 1280-1285 feet by late June.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

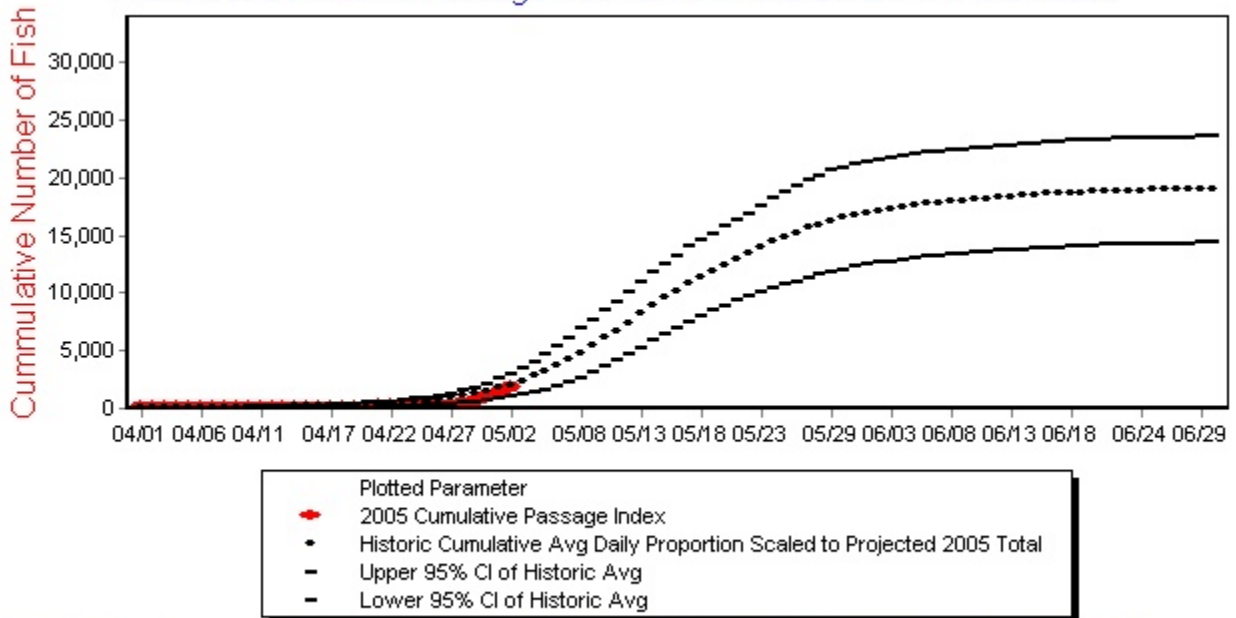
The Passage Index for combined yearling chinook at Rock Island Dam on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005 was 408; the combined steelhead passage index over the same day was 451. Based on historic passage information, both combined yearling chinook and steelhead numbers are expected to continue to increase over the next few weeks. The flow target of 135 Kcfs is the seasonal flow objective listed in the NMFS 2000 Biological Opinion, and in the 2004 Updated Proposed Action.

### Historic and Realtime Passage Index at Rock Island Dam For Yearling Chinook



Historic daily proportions average of 1985-04. Curve scaled to projected 2005 index, using NOAA estimated population, and a 1% FGE.

### Historic and Realtime Passage Index at Rock Island Dam For Steelhead



Historic daily proportions average of 1985-04. Curve scaled to projected 2005 index, using NOAA estimated population, and a 2% FGE.