

SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST: #2018-2

WALLA WALLA DISTRICT

The following State, Federal, and Tribal Salmon Managers have participated in the preparation and support this SOR: NOAA Fisheries, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Colville Tribes, and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

TO:	Brig. Gen. Scott Spellmon	COE-NWD Commander
	Lt. Col. Damon Delarosa	COE-NWW Commander
	Jim Fredericks	COE-NWD-PDD Chief
	Steven Barton	COE-NWD-PDW Chief
	Tim Dykstra	COE-NWD-PDD
	Julie Ammann	COE-NWD-PDW-RC
	Doug Baus	COE-NWD-PDW-RC
	Steve Hall	COE-NWW-EC
	Ann Setter	COE-NWW-OD
	Lorri Lee	USBR-PN Regional Director
	John Roache	USBR-PN-6208
	Joel Fenolio	USBR-PN-6204
	Elliot Mainzer	BPA Administrator
	Kieran Connolly	BPA-PG-5
	Lorri Bodi	BPA-KE-4
	Jason Sweet	BPA-PGB
	Eve James	BPA-PGPO
	Tony Norris	BPA-PGPO-5
	Scott Bettin	BPA-KEWR-4
	JR Inglis	COE-NWD Tribal Liaison
	Dean Holecek	COE-NWW Tribal Liaison

FROM: Tom Lorz, FPAC Co-chair

DATE: March 27, 2018

SUBJECT: Spill flows in excess of screened units at Lower Granite Dam

OBJECTIVE

To maintain fish protection measures and provide an alternate passage route (i.e., non-turbine, non-powerhouse) for hatchery and wild salmon and steelhead juveniles at Lower Granite Dam during ESBS screen installation and prior to the initiation of the 2018 spring Fish Operations Plan spill.

SPECIFICATIONS

Flows through the Lower Granite Dam powerhouse should not exceed the capacity of the screened units. As soon as reasonably possible, spill all flows in excess of screened units through April 3 (0000). Spring spill to the 120/115% Gas Cap will commence on April 3, 2018 (0001), as specified in the 2018 Spring Fish Operations Plan.

JUSTIFICATION

Section 2.3.1.2.vii of the Fish Passage Plan (LGR) states that ESBSs will be installed in at least 4 turbine units (all 6 if possible) by March 24 and remaining screens will be installed by April 1. Recent issues with the emergency bypass hatch lifting system of the new JBS has resulted in a delay in the installation of ESBS screens. According to the latest coordination from the COE, installation of ESBS screens at LGR is not expected to be completed in all operational units after April 1st. Without an operational JBS or ESBS screens in place, wild and hatchery salmon and steelhead juveniles entering the powerhouse may experience delay in the gatewells or will be forced to pass through the turbines. For this reason, the salmon managers request spill of all flows in excess of screened units at LGR to provide an alternative non-powerhouse passage route and maintain fish protection measures for hatchery and wild fish passing LGR prior to the start of the 2018 spring Fish Operations Plan spill. The spill pattern during this operation should follow what is specified in Table LWG-7 of the 2018 Fish Passage Plan.