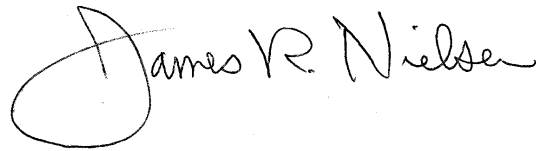


## **SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST:#98-15**

**TO:** Brigadier General Griffin COE-NPD  
William Branch COE-RCC  
Cindy Henriksen COE-RCC  
Bolyvong Tanovan COE-RCC  
Dave Geiger COE-P  
John Keys III USBR-Boise  
Jack Robertson Acting BPA-Administrator  
Greg Delwiche BPA-PGP-5  
Mark Maher BPA-PG-5



**FROM:** Jim Nielsen, Chairperson, Salmon Managers

**DATE:** April 23, 1998

**SUBJECT:** Operations at Grand Coulee for the week ending May 3.  
Operations at Dworshak through April 28.  
Operations at Brownlee for the week ending May 3.

### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

#### **Grand Coulee**

- Operate the Grand Coulee project to provide a daily average flow of at least 100 kcfs at Priest Rapids through April 26.
- Operate the Grand Coulee project to provide a daily average flow of 110 kcfs at the Priest Rapids project from April 26 through May 3. If inflows to Grand Coulee is greater than anticipated, the additional flows should be stored.
- Operate the Grand Coulee project to reach elevation 1290 by June 30.
- We anticipate, based on projected flows, that the Grand Coulee reservoir will reach an elevation range of 1274 to 1276 by April 26

#### **McNary**

- The weekend average flow at the McNary project should not decrease to less than 80% of the previous five day week average flow.

#### **Brownlee**

- Pass inflow through May 3.

#### **Dworshak**

- Operate the Dworshak project to provide daily average flows at the Lower Granite project of 95 kcfs beginning immediately, April 23 through April 28.
- The project should be operated to reach full by June 30.
- Dworshak outflow should not exceed 20 kcfs for the April 23 through 26 period. We anticipate that, based on projected flows, Dworshak outflows required to meet the Lower

Granite flows will be approximately 10 kcfs for the period of April 27 through May 3. If natural flows increase, Dworshak outflow should be reduced to maintain 95 kcfs at Lower Granite Dam.

### **All Projects**

- If actual flows change significantly so that projected reservoir elevations or projected flows are not met, the operators should contact the Chairperson of the Fish Passage Advisory Committee, Jim Nielsen, WDFW, or the Fish Passage Center for clarification or additional consideration based on changing conditions.

### **JUSTIFICATION:**

Passage indices at all monitoring sites continue to increase for all species. The attached passage index plots indicate that the 10 % point of passage for chinook has been reached at all projects. PIT tag recaptures at Lower Granite indicate that juvenile salmon migrants originating from all major watersheds are presently passing Lower Granite Dam. In addition, mark recaptures at McNary Dam show that juvenile salmon originating from Lyons Ferry are present in the sample daily. Steelhead originating from the Dayton acclimation pond are also passing the project. PIT tag recaptures at McNary Dam indicate that juvenile salmon and steelhead originating from the Snake River, marked at Lewiston, Rapid River Hatchery, the Imnaha trap, Lyons Ferry, Looking Glass, Dworshak hatcheries and tags at Rock Island. Yakima spring chinook are a dominant portion of the PIT tag recaptures at McNary. Wild and hatchery PIT tag steelhead of Snake River origin have been detected at McNary Dam in the past few days.

168-98.doc

*\*The Salmon Managers are state, federal and tribal entities who have legally recognized mandates and jurisdictions to manage salmon resources in the Columbia River Basin. The following have participated in the preparation of this SOR: Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.*