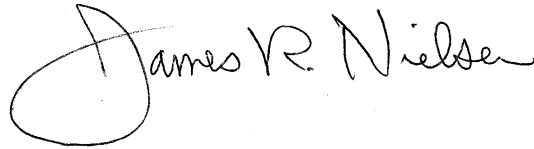


## **SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST:#98-19**

**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:** May 19, 1998

**SUBJECT:** Operations through May 31  
Flows at Lower Granite, Priest Rapids, and McNary Dam  
Reservoir operations Grand Coulee, Dworshak and Hells Canyon Complex  
operations

### **SPECIFICATIONS:**

All of the recommendations of the agencies and tribes are based upon the most current flow projections provided by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Modifications in projected operations could result in modifications of recommendations. If projected conditions change significantly, Jim Nielsen, WDFW, or the Fish Passage Center should be contacted. Questions regarding this request should be referred to Jim Nielsen or the Fish Passage Center.

### **Snake River**

#### **Dworshak**

- Operate Dworshak Reservoir to meet a minimum daily average flow of 100 kcfs at Lower Granite Dam while still achieving refill by June 30.
- Dworshak outflow should not exceed 10 kcfs.

#### **Hells Canyon Complex**

- Operate Brownlee Reservoir to maintain full elevation 2077 feet through June 30. Pass inflow through the Hells Canyon Complex.
- Operate Hells Canyon Complex outflows to not exceed the 110 % dissolved gas water quality standard.

## **Mid-Columbia River**

### **Grand Coulee**

- Operate Grand Coulee to a straight-line refill to reach a revised May 31 flood control elevation. This operation is anticipated to provide a minimum daily average flow at Priest Rapids of at least 135 kcfs, as projected by the federal parties.

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### **Priest Rapids**

- The federal operators and regulators, Grant County PUD, the mid-Columbia coordination agreement parties should work together, to minimize as much as possible, hourly, daily, weekly load following to reduce flow fluctuations and resulting fish stranding below Priest Rapids.

## **JUSTIFICATION:**

Passage indices at all smolt monitoring program sites are showing significant passage of all salmon stocks and increased passage indices for steelhead migrants and sockeye migrants in the Snake River. Passage indices in the Lower Columbia River continue at a steady rate. Mark recaptures and PIT tag recaptures continue to represent the entire spectrum of upstream mark releases.

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*\*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.*

