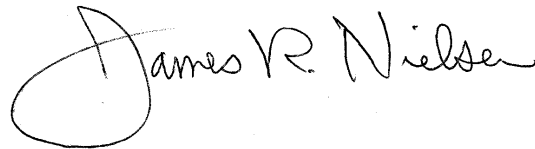


SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST:#98-23

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: June 16, 1998

SUBJECT: Operations at Grand Coulee, Hungry Horse, and Libby through June 28
Operations at Brownlee through June 28
Operations at Dworshak through June 28

SPECIFICATIONS:

All Projects

- All of the requested operations are based upon flow and operations projections provided by the federal operators and regulators. If projected conditions change significantly, Jim Nielsen, WDFW, or the Fish Passage Center should be contacted. Questions regarding the request should be referred to Jim Nielsen or the Fish Passage Center.

Dworshak

- Operate Dworshak to pass inflow through June 28.

Brownlee

- Pass inflow at Brownlee through June 28.

Libby

- Maintain Libby outflow at 18 kcfs June 26 through June 28.

Kootenai Lake

- Kootenai Lake elevations between June and August 31 should be managed to assure the ability to draft the Libby Project the full 20 feet and pass through that volume to augment flows in the Lower Columbia River for summer migrating salmon.
- The planned draft of Kootenai Lake from its present elevation to elevation 1743 on August 31 should be implemented in a manner that provides benefit for summer migrant salmon.

Grand Coulee, Hungry Horse

- Fill Grand Coulee and Hungry Horse prior to July 5.

Priest Rapids

- The federal operators and regulators, Grant County Public Utility District, and the Mid-Columbia Coordinating Committee should work together (including power exchanges and purchases) to minimize, as much as possible, hourly, daily, and weekly load factoring and flow fluctuations below the Priest Rapids project.

McNary

- Weekend flows should not decrease to less than 80% of the previous five-day average flow.

JUSTIFICATION:

The extended flow from Libby will provide additional protection for sturgeon, bull trout in the Kootenai River, and will provide additional flows for salmon in the lower Columbia River. This short-term operation is intended to retain several options for later summer operations.

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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, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.*

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James R. Nielse
