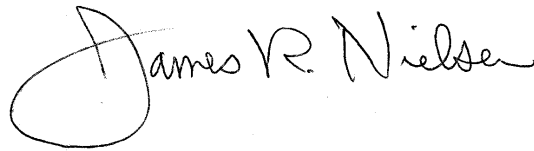


SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST:#98-24

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 23, 1998

SUBJECT: Operations at Grand Coulee, Hungry Horse through July 5
Operations at Brownlee through July 5
Operations at Dworshak through July 5

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.

Lower Granite

- Maintain a minimum weekly average flow of 70 kcfs at Lower Granite Dam through July 5. (Based on the 6/19/98 SSARR it is anticipated that passing inflow at Brownlee and Dworshak will most likely result in an average weekly flow of 70 kcfs at LGR).

Dworshak

- Operate Dworshak to pass inflow through July 5.

Brownlee

- If flow augmentation is required, utilize Brownlee as necessary to increase flows*at Lower Granite.

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

- Operate Grand Coulee and Hungry Horses inflow through 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.
- Maintain minimum weekly average flow of approximately 200 kcfs.

* Idaho does not support drafting Brownlee Reservoir to maintain a weekly average flow of 70 kcfs at LGR at this time.

JUSTIFICATION:

Concerns regarding the temperature of the water released from Brownlee Reservoir have prompted the Salmon Managers to recommend that water from the Snake River be given priority for use to augment flow during July. In addition, this request is consistent with the recommendation of the Nez Perce Tribe to delay releasing water from Dworshak into July in order to minimize impact on Clearwater River fall chinook migrants.

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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.*