

CRITFC SYSTEM OPERATIONAL REQUEST: 99-C2

TO: Brigadier General Griffin COE-NWD

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Roger Bradin Chelan County PUD

Don Goddard Grant County PUD

FROM: Kyle Martin, Mainstem Hydrologist, CRITFC Hydro Program

DATE: April 28, 1999; 11:20 am

SUBJECT: Grand Coulee operation to protect Hanford Reach chinook

SPECIFICATIONS:

The FCRPS operation of Grand Coulee needs to be flexible when following the flood control rule curve during April 29th through May 16th, 1999. Goal is to have additional water on an on-call basis to refill Middle Columbia projects and hence provide smooth and stable outflows at Priest Rapids. Since the COE-Reservoir Control Center is unable to provide a public SSARR run this week, it is impossible to give specifics, so the COE and BoR need to work out the details.

JUSTIFICATION:

The Columbia Basin treaty-tribes strongly want the Federal operators to meet their treaty obligations to protect the emerging Hanford Reach chinook. April 1999 SSARR runs show a major fluctuation in Middle Columbia flows in early May 1999 due to the tight adherence of FCRPS operations to the flood control rule curve. This inflexibility leads to greater fluctuating flows downstream in the Hanford Reach at a critical time in the life cycle of the emerging chinook. If this SOR cannot be accommodated, we would like the reasons in a detailed written response.