

Lower Snake River Fixed Block/Lack of Load Decision Criteria

This guidance was reviewed and approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA Fisheries in order to ensure consistency amongst the federal agencies in clarifying operative guidance identified in the 2022 Fish Operations Plan. During spring spill operations on the lower Snake River projects (April 3 – June 15), Performance Standard Spill (PSS) operations will occur in 2022 for up to 8 hours at Little Goose, Lower Monumental, and Lower Granite dams. During the implementation of PSS, guidance was prepared for real-time schedulers at BPA on best practices to follow if lack of load conditions arise during the targeted window of operation between the hours of 04:00 and 12:00 for this operation. The intent of PSS is to minimize the duration of the delay of adult spring Chinook salmon passage observed during previous years of gas cap spill.

The guidance provided below is for BPA duty scheduling staff during real-time implementation, which is consistent with the (1) 2022 *Stay* Agreement, (2) 2022 Fish Operation Plan (FOP)¹, and (3) staff coordination between BPA, the Corps and the Services (NOAA and USFWS).

- The planned operation is to implement a fixed block of performance standard spill (PSS) for 8 consecutive hours between the hours of 04:00 – 12:00 at LWG, LGS and LMN
 - The 8 consecutive hours of PSS at LGS would occur from 05:00 – 13:00 if adult fish criteria is met between April 3-15
 - To maximize the likelihood of achieving PSS operations in the AM hours, the spill priority list order would be modified as follows:
 - Increased spill starting at CHJ, GCL and DWR up to 110%, then increase JDA, TDA, LWG, LMN, and LGS
 - IHR, MCN and BON are not included since these projects cannot further increase spill within the state water quality standards given the level of spill (up to 125% all hours) included in the 2022 FOP
 - Operations must be consistent with state water quality standards at each project
- If lack of load conditions preclude the implementation of the PSS during the targeted 04:00 – 12:00 timeframe, the following guidance will be used to achieve up to 8 hours of PSS:
 - The PSS block may begin after 12:00
 - The block must contain at minimum 2 consecutive hours of PSS

¹ Including Section 4.1 Planned and Routine Operational Adjustments of the 2022 FOP.

- The block must conclude by the 20:00 ramping period between 19:50-20:10, which would be HE20 (19:00-20:00) for power scheduling purposes²
- If unable to implement 8 consecutive hours of PSS in the initial block, a second block of PSS can be implemented such that:
 - The second block of PSS should start as soon as practicable and must conclude by the 20:00 ramping period 19:50-20:10, which would be HE20 (19:00-20:00) for power scheduling purposes
 - The second block must contain at minimum 2 consecutive hours of PSS
 - No more than 8 total hours of PSS can be implemented in a day
- Priority for the PSS is designated by the project order of the spill priority list (see above)

² Schedules are adjusted for ramps by applying the Western Electricity Coordinating Council (WECC) guidelines for hourly and intra-hour e-Tag default ramp rate of a linear ramp of 20 minutes across the top of the hour and 10 minutes for start, stop and transition times.