# Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Request Form

**Change Form # & Title**: 18LWG001 – Remove Section for Work Near Fishways

**Date Submitted**: November 16, 2017; REVISED July 25, 2018

**Project**: Lower Granite Dam

**Requester Name, Agency**: Ann Setter, Corps

**Final Action:**

**FPP Section**: Section 2.1. Fish Facility Operations - General.

**Justification for Change**: In the FPP, a paragraph was added beginning in 2015 FPP in the general section 2.1 indicating that construction activities will not occur within 100 ft of fish ladders during the fish passage season unless coordinated. Research was undertaken at Lower Granite to determine if there was merit to the assumption that non routine maintenance work within 100 ft of fishways was discernable over routine baseline noise and vibration. Study findings did not detect any difference in transit rate through the adult ladder, and activity specific to the operation of the adult trap has emerged as a factor with a higher likelihood of promoting passage delay. Due to this finding, NWW would like to have the language added in 2015 removed at all NWW projects.

**Proposed Change**:

**2.1.2.** Research, and the non-routine maintenance, and construction activities listed below will not be conducted within 100' of any fishway entrance or exit, within 50' of any other part of the adult fishway, or directly in, above, or adjacent to any fishway, unless coordinated with FPOM or FFDRWG by the Project, District Operations and/or Planning or Construction office. These distances are approximate and the common sense of Project biologist is required to evaluate for risk of inducing impact to adult fish passing thru the ladder. The following list identifies the non-routine maintenance or construction activities that cannot occur unless previously coordinated: pile driving, rotary impact drilling with larger than 2” bits, concrete mining, concrete cutting, jack hammering, soil and ground compaction by mechanical devices that pound. Any new research or monitoring equipment installation requires Regional coordination. The threshold for adverse impacts to adult fish behavior has been identified as 80 db of particle acceleration, however it has been noted that many daily routine activities such as the closing security gates, starting of turbines, etc. often exceed this threshold.

**Comments**:

1/10/18 – email from Trevor Conder, NOAA: “Exit and passage success rates were significant for Steelhead and Fall Chinook, and the differences were substantial in some cases (see tables 12 and 13). To me, these important metrics indicate construction noise and vibration are still important considerations, but I'm always willing to discuss and refine as needed.”

1/11/18 – FPOM Meeting: Recommendation is to modify the section 2.1.1 to be more specific about types of activities and thresholds that require coordination. Setter will work with Conder, Lorz, project staff, and others to develop language.

7/11/18 – email from Ann Setter, Corps NWW: “Based on our conference call yesterday, I have revised Section 2.1.2 of the FPP to address our discussion and our proposed revision for the FPP language change. Please let me know if you have any further recommendations or comments by July 25. Shortly after that time I will plan to distribute the document to the Regional fishery reps for discussion at the August FPOM meeting.”

7/25/18 – email from Ann Setter, Corps NWW: “Attached is a revised FPP change form for review and comment. We will plan to discuss at August FPOM meeting.”

8/9/18 – FPOM Meeting: Conder has concerns about the list of equipment. A rotor drill with less than 2” bit isn’t included but is a very loud piece of equipment. The language is not quite right yet. NWW thought it would be easier to define what actions require coordination versus defining those that don’t. This topic might need a phone call discussion. Conder will send comments.

**Record of Final Action**: