

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD 17 LMN 05 Separator Exit Debris Blockage**SUBJECT: Juvenile Salmonid Mortalities due to Debris Blockage in the Separator Exit**

Small woody debris caused a blockage in the B-side (larger fish) of the juvenile fish separator exit at Lower Monumental Dam on 24 May, 2017. The blockage resulted in the mortality of 157 juvenile salmonids. The debris blockage most likely began in the early morning hours but due to the location and nature of the debris was not detected until around 0700 hours when flow decreased in flume downstream of the separator. This area is checked frequently by the technicians, however this debris blockage was not discovered immediately due to the way it formed, location, and overall low numbers of fish passing through the system at the time. The technicians will increase inspections and the flow exiting the separator hourly for any sign of future obstructions.

Clipped Yearling Chinook	Unclipped Yearling Chinook	Clipped Steelhead	Unclipped Steelhead	Clipped Coho	Unclipped Coho	Clipped Sockeye	Unclipped Sockeye	Total
49	38	13	11	6	10	25	5	157

- A. Species – Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, Steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss*, Coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* and Sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka*.
- B. Origin – Hatchery and Wild
- C. Length – N/A
- D. Marks and tags – All fish were examined for PIT tags. Of the 157 mortalities 8 were PIT-tagged. PIT-tag codes will be uploaded to PTAGIS.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcasses – Descaling and injuries associated with debris impingement.
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Debris blockage between the separator exit and flume downstream of the separator exit on the morning of 24 May 2017.
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – Project staff will increase monitoring to hourly inspections of the separator exit and the flow levels in the flume downstream of the separator exit.
- H. Pictures – None taken.

Sincerely,

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