

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD – 17 LGS 06 MFR Secondary By-pass Mortality

SUBJECT: On April 28 at 0730 a debris blockage was found near the barge loading junction box above the barge dock. The barge loading junction box is a gate that allows fish to be routed either to the river via secondary by-pass or routed into the barge loading line for barge transportation. A total of 395 juvenile Chinook salmon and steelhead were found on the ground below the junction box next to the barge dock due to a debris blockage that caused the junction box to overflow. Project staff were able to clear the debris blockage without changing the current configuration.

Clipped Chinook	Unclipped Chinook	Clipped Steelhead	Unclipped Steelhead	Unclipped Sockeye	Total
248	78	48	20	1	395

- A. Species – Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*, Steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss* and Sockeye salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka*
- B. Origin – Hatchery and Wild
- C. Length – NA
- D. Marks and tags – All fish were checked for PIT tags and the data was uploaded to PTAGIS by ODFW SMP employees. The number of mortalities that were PIT-tagged by species included 5 clipped Chinook salmon, 3 unclipped Chinook salmon, and 1 clipped steelhead. All unclipped fish were checked for coded wire tags (CWT by ODFW SMP employees. Of the 78 unclipped Chinook, 20 were tagged with CWT. None of the 20 unclipped steelhead were tagged with CWT.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – NA
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Debris blockage near the barge loading junction box caused the junction box to overflow
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – For the remainder of every other day sampling, the barge loading junction box will be checked every two hours to ensure debris blockages are not developing in the transition area associated with the barge loading junction box. Additional efforts to manage debris within the juvenile collection channel are ongoing due to higher than normal flows and increased debris in the river. Additionally, Little Goose will be receiving a trash shear boom the winter of 2017-2018 which will help alleviate debris management issues in the future.
- H. Pictures – None
- I. Comments from agencies:

Email from Bill Hevlin, NOAA Fisheries on 5/1/17

Eric & Ann,

If I'm not mistaken this is the second debris caused high mortality incident in the Little Goose juvenile sampling and collection system in April. I know we all hate to see these incidents that can usually be avoided by due diligence and observation. I am wondering if its time for you to meet with the staff at Goose and walk through the system to identify areas that may get plugged and point out how continued observation can alert staff to a developing problem. I am hopeful this may emphasize the needs and help to avoid further problems.

Thank You!

Bill Hevlin

NOAA Fisheries

- J. After Action Follow-Up – District biologist Ann Setter and Eric Hockersmith met with the project biologist on May 4, 2017 and discussed areas where past debris blockage have developed and operational strategies to minimize debris blockage problems.

Sincerely,

Richard Weis

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