

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: 17BON10 MFR** – Juvenile salmonid mortalities in the Unit 3 scroll case.

On 25 April, a Project Biologist inspected the Unit 3 scroll case from above and declared the unit clear of fish. On 26 April, Project Fisheries was informed of fish in the scroll case and conducted a fish salvage. Roughly 700 fish were salvaged, all juvenile salmonids, but hundreds of mortalities were left behind. The next day the mortalities were recovered and counted. Five additional live fish were salvaged, along with 728 dead juvenile salmonids. The fish were of all species, but primarily Chinook and steelhead.

Information collected is provided below:

- A. Species – Juvenile salmonids.
- B. Origin – Unknown.
- C. Length – Varied; smolt-sized.
- D. Marks and tags – Unknown.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – Not identified.
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Between 1600 on 25 April and 1100 on 26 April.
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – Historically, the scroll cases were not accessed for fish salvages as large fish are normally not present and juvenile fish normally drain into the draft tube. Several years ago Bonneville added scroll case visual inspections to the unit dewatering protocol but the presence of fish of any size remained infrequent. The only time actual salvages were conducted were during the juvenile outmigration periods. From now on, during months of juvenile passage, the scroll case will be entered for inspection/salvage, rather than relying on a visual inspection from above.





Sincerely,  
Bonneville Fisheries

#### Agency Comments

-----Original Message-----

From: Hausmann, Benjamin J CIV USARMY CENWP (US)

Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 4:12 PM

To: Gary Fredricks - NOAA Federal <gary.fredricks@noaa.gov>; Kovalchuk, Erin H CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil>; Lorz, Tom <lort@critfc.org>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Re: FPOM: Official Coordination 17BON10 MFR MU3 Juvenile salmonid morts

Gary,

Historically, we have seen no fish whatsoever in scroll cases. BUT, we never even checked scroll cases when I first started working here. We changed that many years ago to add a visual inspection by a bio from up top but it is a very difficult environment to get a good feel for from our vantage point above. We would normally let the water drain almost to empty then close the drain if we saw any sign of fish. The only other time we have had fish is in this same juvenile outmigration period. The unit was run and shut down normally and we had very few fish in the draft tube. Please keep in mind, if the scroll case drain hadn't have plugged, these juvenile mortalities would have dropped down into the draft tube. So it was a combination of issues. We will not put a bio into the scroll case on all dewaterings during the juvenile outmigration season.

Hope this helps. I'm happy to talk more if you'd like to call to discuss this further.

Ben

-----Original Message-----

From: Gary Fredricks - NOAA Federal [mailto:gary.fredricks@noaa.gov]

Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 2:36 PM

To: Kovalchuk, Erin H CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil>; Hausmann, Benjamin J CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Benjamin.J.Hausmann@usace.army.mil>; Lorz, Tom <lorz@critfc.org>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: FPOM: Official Coordination 17BON10 MFR MU3 Juvenile salmonid morts

This is a lot of juveniles to be trapped in the scroll case at one time. I'd like to know a bit more about how the unit was shut down. Was there a lot of leakage over a period of time that could have caused a build up? Any other thoughts?