

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**

**SUBJECT: 17JDA05 MFR** – Two juvenile chinook mortalities found crushed under SMF switch gate.

**PROBLEM:**

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 two juvenile chinook smolts were found crushed under the SMF switch gate during a routine inspection. It appears that a stick got caught under the gate while it was moving between the sampling and bypass modes. Then, other small debris accumulated around the stick, and this caused a short, 1 foot section of its gasket to expand/ bulge out from its proper sitting, mid gate. Total length of gate is ~25 feet. The bulged out gasket was pushed under the switch gate on 4/24 AM, but it is likely to come out when the gate is moved again. JD Maintenance is investigating if the loose gasket can be secured underneath the gate without lifting it up with a mobile crane (a major and lengthy procedure which is best delayed until the winter maintenance season.)

Information collected is provided below:

- A. Species – (x2) juvenile chinook
- B. Origin – unknown
- C. Length – N/A
- D. Marks and tags – One adipose fin clipped, another intact. No other marks or tags observed.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – Both smolts were crushed and severely mutilated.
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Crushed by switch gate, exact time unknown
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – Switch gate will be lifted with a mobile crane for an inspection and necessary repairs the next winter. We hope that the gasket can be secured in place with the gate in place.



Sincerely,  
JD Fisheries