McNary Fish Early Start Up

Early start will really change how we do the winter outage period for a number of reasons:

Fish screens are pulled out in mid-December with the last of our power house and spillway work finishing up before we start the winter outage period 1 January. Winter outage period includes both fish ladders, fish pump house and Navloc. Because we have limited people in certain key spots, and more screens (44 ESBS) than other dams in the District, the tight schedule is needed to ensure all work is completed.

Equipment scheduling will also be a factor to consider if the screens go down early, as all of the same repairs and requirements like trash raking and main unit semi annuals will have to be done early also. Cranes that would normally be scheduled to support the fish ladder outages would then need to be used for ESBS repairs.

The early start up will impact work schedules by having crews work at times they are not normally scheduled for, while needing resources like cranes and the painter. Since we only have one painter and one crane that can do some of the work required it will stop work on other fish projects. The other alternative is to complete that work on overtime so normal fish repair work can continue during the work week. Since the budget cuts, fish money is tight and we have depleted the budget the last few years.

Early start up will limit the amount of repairs we can make to the known fish issues (see below) and repairs for the problems encountered when we unwater either fish ladder or the fish pump house.

1. Rehab of floating orifices should be scheduled for 3 a year as they are in very bad shape.

2. Rehab telescoping weirs and regulating weirs – to include change out of flat wire rope that is discontinued, to round wire rope.

3. Fish pump #1 rehab (work was halted this year due to lack of funding).

Below are some of the extra costs associated with an early start up:

1. Overtime - $50K depending on repairs needed, may go as high as $100 K.

2. Crane rental - $15K for ESBS repairs.

3. Early start up of JFF would cost $43K at full burden rate.

Without extra money for early start up, it will affect how much can be spent on supplies and parts to repair fish equipment and will also affect next year's winter outage if we can't re-stock the needed parts and supplies we used this year.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.