# Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Request Form

**Change Form # & Title**: 20JDA003 – TSW Installation

**Date Submitted**: September 2, 2020

**Project**: John Day Dam

**Requester Name, Agency**: Erin Kovalchuk, Corps NWP

**Final Action: WITHDRAWN – October 8, 2020**

**FPP Section**: JDA section 2.3.2.4. (Juvenile Facilities / Fish Passage Season / TSWs)

**Justification for Change**: JDA must pay overtime for a crew to come in on the weekend to install the TSWs when spill starts Friday–Sunday. In 2021, April 10 falls on a Saturday. With budgets being tighter, money spent on overtime is money that is not spent on maintenance. This change would add the same criteria for installing the TSWs on a work day that already occurs for removing the TSWs.

**Proposed Change**:

**2.3.2.4. Temporary Spillway Weirs (TSWs).**

John Day Dam has two temporary, or top, spillway weirs (TSWs) that provide surface passage routes for fish via spillbays 18 and 19. When open, each TSW spills approximately 9.7 kcfs. Opening and closing the TSWs requires a crew and gantry crane and must be done during daylight hours as weather allows.

Both TSWs will be installed as early as possible on the first normal work day of spring spill and operated throughout spring and summer spill. Spill for fish passage will start April 10, pursuant to the FOP (**Appendix E**). Spill patterns with and without TSWs are defined in **Tables JDA-8** and **JDA-9**, respectively.

During high flows, TSW removal is recommended before river flow exceeds 685 kcfs.

Both TSWs will be closed as late as possible on the last normal work day of summer spill (no later than August 31). Spill for juvenile fish passage will be maintained through midnight on August 31, pursuant to the FOP (**Appendix E**).

**Comments**:

September 10, 2020 – FPOM:

* This change form is to install the TSWs on a normal work day. In years when April 10 falls on a Fri-Sun, the project would start spill using the No TSWs pattern until the TSWs are installed as early as possible on Monday. This is the same routine that is used to remove the TSWs (see bullet #**iv**). JDA spent $10K on overtime costs installing the TSWs on the weekend.
* Swank recommending installing then starting spill early. The spill agreement doesn’t allow for spill to start earlier than April 10.
* Van Dyke finds this topic sensitive and wants to review closer.
* Lorz asked if the tainter gate can be used to stop spill while the TSWs are in place. Kovalchuk doesn’t think so. Bettin thinks it can. The FPP says “*Opening and closing the TSWs requires a crew and gantry crane and must be done during daylight hours as weather allows.*” Van Dyke requested more information on the opening and closing techniques.
* ACTION: Fielding will investigate the possibility of installing the TSWs on a work day, then closing until spill starts on April 10. **PENDING**

October 8, 2020 – FPOM:

* Fielding confirmed the TSWs cannot be installed then closed until spill starts. Once they are installed, they are spilling.
* Kovalchuk estimated that not having to schedule a crew on overtime to install the TSWs on a weekend would save at least $10k in maintenance costs.
* Wright clarified that the current operation is to start spill at midnight on April 10 in the non-TSW pattern until a crew installs them during daylight hours as early as weather allows. So if this change form is approved, the duration of the non-TSW spill pattern would be extended until Monday morning if April 10 falls on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.
* Van Dyke wanted to review the information on the TSW installation process before deciding.
* The two options for consideration are:
1. Status quo (current FPP operation): start spill at midnight April 10 in the non-TSW pattern, then a crew installs the TSWs as early as possible during daylight hours. If April 10 falls on a non-work day (Fri-Sun), a crew is brought in on overtime.
2. Proposed operation: start spill at midnight April 10 in the non-TSW pattern, then a crew installs the TSWs as early as possible on the first normal work day.
* Bellerud and Conder want to look at juvenile passage data for those dates (April 10-11) and evaluate impacts to passage and SPE. **PENDING further review.**

October 8, 2020 – email from Erin Kovalchuk, NWP, and Scott Fielding, JDA:

* After further discussion with the project, Kovalchuk requested to withdraw this change form. JDA is fine with scheduling a crew on overtime to install TSWs if April 10 falls on Fri-Sun.

**Record of Final Action**: WITHDRAWN on October 8, 2020.