

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD – 22 LGS 05 MFR Juvenile Salmonid Barge Loading Mortality**SUBJECT: Juvenile salmonid mortality due to barge loading pipe failure.**

On May 13, 2022, the Little Goose Juvenile Fish Facility was hit with a fish collection run triple in volume to prior collection cycles. While loading the last of 7 different raceways, spillage of fish was immediately noted and loading activities were halted. The spillage occurred from a cleanout hatch critical for debris removal of the barge pipe loading system. Picture references noted below.

- A. Species – Chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*; coho salmon, *O. kisutch*; and steelhead, *O. mykiss*.
- B. Origin – 27 clipped and 3 unclipped yearling Chinook salmon, 5 unclipped coho salmon, and 13 clipped steelhead.
- C. Length – Ranged from 125 to 230 mm.
- D. Marks and tags – Coded wire nose tags were present in 2 unclipped yearling Chinook salmon, no pit tags present.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – Blunt force trauma, hypoxia, and descale from a 15' fall onto concrete pad, gravel, and river rip rap surfaces.
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Loading activities of May 13, 2022, at 1435 hours due to barge loading pipe debris cleanout hatch malfunction.
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – The cleanout hatch failed hinge was replaced with a longer piano hinge, a second latch pin was installed, and an original latch modification was completed on May 14, 2022.

Cleanout hatch condition leading to incident



Cleanout hatch condition after hardware installation



Sincerely,
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