

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD: 23 LGS 10 Adult Chinook Mortality**SUBJECT: Adult Chinook Mortality**Background

On the morning of July 5, an adult fish mortality was found on the ground below the the lower run fish ladder (see photos). Fish scales were found on the ladder walkway toe plate along the upper ladder near the location of the secondary dewaterer and the ladder exit. It appears the fish jumped from the fishway and over the chainlink-lined railing (56" height) to the walkway and then fell to the ground.

- A. Species – Chinook salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*
- B. Origin – Wild
- C. Length – 36 inches
- D. Marks and tags – None, adipose intact
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – Descale, embedded and dried on gravel, underside postmortem levidity, wet blood pooled beneath the underside operculum where fish lay.
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Blunt force trauma, hypoxia. Estimated window for time of death from dawn to early sunrise the morning of July 5, 2023, based upon degree of rigor mortis and tissue desiccation.
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – LGS has experienced very few adult ladder jump mortalities, with an occurrence rate of approximately 1 every 3 years. Taller plastic mesh lining options at steeper ladder inclines are being considered, however addition of netting / mesh infrastructure presents major obstacles in regards to ladder access and fish rescue operations during annual unwatering activities in preparation for winter maintenance.
- H. Regional coordination and responses/comments –
- I. Next FPOM meeting (add to agenda for review) – 13 July 2023





Sincerely,
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