

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**SUBJECT: 23JDA33 Chinook Morts in Gatewell 1C**

On Monday 21 August 2023, at approximately 0800, JDA fisheries personnel found 2 Chinook subyearling morts in gatewell 1C. They were removed from the gatewell, scanned for PIT tags (no tags), and returned to the river. The morts were older, and both descaled. Personnel will continue to perform daily gatewell inspections to ensure no other mortalities appear.



- A. Species – Chinook subyearling
- B. Origin – Clipped
- C. Length – Subyearling ~12cm
- D. Marks and tags – None
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – Descaled
- F. Cause and Time of Death – Unknown
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – JDA discovered that MU1 gatewell C was not in auto cycle mode and there was a problem with the air lines. Upon that discovery the bios cycled the orifice. If more morts float up, they will install bulkheads and manually inspect the orifice. Maintenance will repair the air system as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,
JDA Project Fisheries

Comments from others –

-----Original Message-----

From: Lotspeich, Michael D CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Michael.D.Lotspeich@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:20 AM

To: Grosvenor, Eric G CIV USARMY (USA) <Eric.Grosvenor@usace.army.mil>; Mackey, Tammy M CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Tammy.M.Mackey@usace.army.mil>; Ricketts, Laura A CIV USARMY CENWP

(USA) <Laura.A.Ricketts@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: 23JDA34 MFR Chinook Morts in Gatewell 1C

We have just completed the JBS backflush. It lasted from 09:40 - 10:10 if interested.

~Michael Lotspeich
Fish Biologist
John Day Dam (Rufus, OR)
(541) 739-1064
Alt: (541) 506-7861

-----Original Message-----

From: Grosvenor, Eric G CIV USARMY (USA) <Eric.Grosvenor@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 9:47 AM
To: Mackey, Tammy M CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Tammy.M.Mackey@usace.army.mil>; Ricketts, Laura A CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Laura.A.Ricketts@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: 23JDA34 MFR Chinook Morts in Gatewell 1C

Tammy,

We took some extra precautions and rov'd the gatewell slot and fish orifice. Front side was free of debris and we're closing the tainter gate to backflush the orifice just to be safe.

Cycling the orifice yesterday could have cleared a blockage but we can't be sure. The screen was inspected last week and no issues were found.

It could be due to heat stress and gatewell density amongst the juv shad. MU 1 C slot would see the most fish passing the powerhouse and there's a lot of juv shad in there.

-Eric

-----Original Message-----

From: Mackey, Tammy M CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Tammy.M.Mackey@usace.army.mil>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 4:19 PM
To: Ricketts, Laura A CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Laura.A.Ricketts@usace.army.mil>
Cc: Grosvenor, Eric G CIV USARMY (USA) <Eric.Grosvenor@usace.army.mil>; Lotspeich, Michael D CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Michael.D.Lotspeich@usace.army.mil>; Morris, Keith R CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Keith.R.Morris@usace.army.mil>
Subject: RE: 23JDA34 MFR Chinook Morts in Gatewell 1C

Yes, I have questions... so many questions.

Just to run through the list -

1. Did you check the orifices? Did you backflush them?
2. Did you check the screens for anything that might result in fish death?
3. What are your theories on the cause of death in the gatewells?

Tam