

FPP Change Form

January 12, 2010

Change Request Number: 10AppGBON003

Date:

Proposed by: CRITFC, WDFW, IDFG

Location of Change- 09AppG_ BON 4.1, 4.1.2, 4.2, 4.12

Current Language:

4.1. Trapping will not occur when fish ladder water temperatures meet or exceed 70°F as measured in the trail pool. The only exception is for US v Oregon requirements and for nighttime lamprey trapping.

4.1.2. Temperatures are both instantaneous readings and 0000 to 2400 daily averages.

Researchers can review a web based reported temperature from an agreed upon location for the trap to determine if the trap is within temperature criteria. Instantaneous temperature will still be used to determine if the trap operations will continue for the day.

4.2. Sampling will be permitted up to 4 days per week from 0600-1000 when water temperatures are between 70°F and 72°F to allow for US v Oregon requirements and for nighttime lamprey trapping, mandatory steelhead sampling.

4.2.1. Researchers may continue to work through fish in the holding pool after picket leads have been raised, for not more than one hour.

4.12. This operation will remain in effect until daily average water temperatures drop to 69.9°F.

4.13. All sampling will cease when temperatures reach 72°F. No sampling may resume until daily average water temperatures drop to 71.9°F.

Reason for Change:

Proposed language is consistent with operating protocol within this document for both Ice Harbor and Lower Granite research stations in temperatures between 70°F and 72°F. Adequate safeguards to reduce the risk of salmonid mortality are already in place, including strict monitoring of temperature and oxygen levels.

1. Allows salmonid sampling to occur during water temperatures of 70°F and 72°F under strict guidelines and reduced trap operation hours. Language is consistent with trap operations conducted at other hydro facilities on the mainstem Snake River (IHD, LWG).
2. Allows 4 picket leads to operate in order to optimize trap efficiency and reduce trap bias during times of restricted usage (4hr/day) to maximize research objectives.
3. Clarifies language pertaining to hours of trap operation and biological data collection (4hr with pickets in and additional time to work up fish diverted prior to picket closure, but still moving through research facility)
4. Allowing minimal trap operations to occur (four hours a day, one day a week) during times when ladder temperatures are within 72°F -74°F will fulfill the mandatory steelhead sampling requirement under the U.S. v Oregon policy agreement. Sampling

steelhead within these temperatures was allowed in past FPP in order to meet the same mandatory sampling requirements.

5. Considering the strict regulations designed to reduce risk of steelhead mortalities and the importance of the biological data required to produce accurate run size estimates of steelhead federally listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the requesting agencies feel that trap operation protocol can be a balancing of risks and benefits, and in this case, the balance is appropriate.
6. This monitoring supports the data needs of the Pacific Salmon Commission's U.S. Chinook Technical Committee, U.S. v. Oregon's Technical Advisory Committee, Harvest BiOp, 2008 FCRPS BiOp, and 2009 Adaptive Management Implementation Plan and the Columbia River Accords for monitoring ocean abundance, in-season harvest, run reconstruction and forecasting, and stock specific escapement of Chinook and sockeye salmon, and steelhead. Sampling at BON allows for fisheries agencies to meet international treaty obligations (Pacific Salmon Treaty), federal court decision (US V Oregon), and develop the best available science for fisheries management, ESA risk assessments, and many other purposes. We need to continue to work together to meet joint goals such as recovering salmon and steelhead populations and using the best available science for extinction risk, harvest, hydro, and other assessments
7. Change (4.1.2). Daily average temperatures would be collected (noon-noon) and be the criteria for allowing sampling to occur the following day. Previously, sampling staff have been notified of AFF closure after the conclusion of the business day, which was too late to communicate with staff of the schedule change. Allowing a noon-noon daily average, and have that information communicated to sampling staff prior to the end of the business day, would allow for reasonable adjustments to the following day's schedule.
8. Removing the instantaneous temperature readings makes the temperature language consistent for both temperature increases and decreases (4.12). Currently, both the instantaneous and daily average temperature are used when determining trap closure, but when determining resumption of operations, only the average daily temperature is used. Consistency among both protocols seems appropriate. Maintaining the average daily temperature protocol would also be consistent with the protocol used for the Juvenile system
9. Allowing trap operations to resume at 70°F (or 72°F for steelhead sampling) is consistent with temperature in this section regarding closure, and consistent the language used for other trap operations (IHD and LWG).

Comments from others: Wills asked what the sample rate is. Fryer said 1% of the run is the target for each species except steelhead. Geneticists want 225 fish per week. Fredricks wants to see a breakdown for the sampling and the numbers of fish needed. Fredricks suggested these fish numbers are not covered in the BiOp.

Record of Final Action: Lorz will send the temp table that correlates AFF temp with a web-based temp.