

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: 19JDA01 MFR – Steelhead Mortality Found During JBS Dewatering

PROBLEM:

On 30 January 2019, JD Fisheries dewatered the Juvenile Bypass System (JBS) and entered its Collection Channel to salvage all fish remaining there. The first attempt to enter the Collection Channel occurred earlier, but it had to be aborted due to excessive and unsafe flows caused by leaking orifices (upstream.) To remedy the situation, JD Fisheries personnel worked with JD Operations to identify the problem orifices which then required cycling to assure their full closure. The delay of nearly 2 hours occurred before all leaking orifices were sealed and the entry conditions were sufficiently improved.

Two live adult steelhead were found inside the Channel, near the entry point, where the flow was still considerable; they were bagged and released into Forebay in good condition. Unfortunately, one adult steelhead mortality was found further inside, where the water flow was insufficient for keeping it alive, for an extended amount of time.

INFORMATION:

1. Species – Steelhead (Adult)
2. Origin – Unknown
3. Length – ~22 inches
4. Marks and tags – Unknown
5. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – None
6. Cause and Time of Death – Suffocation due lack of water, January 30th approximately 1330
7. Future and Preventative Measures – Pay more attention and spend extra time on identifying the leaking orifices by evaluating them visually through the Light Tubes located in the orifice gallery. Then cycle the leaking orifices before the Clearance cards are hanged. Additionally, reopen an orifice at MU16 immediately (it provides flows at the terminal end of Collection Channel) if the fish salvage operation is delayed and more time is necessary to seal all problem orifices.

Sincerely,
JD Fisheries

Comments-
USFWS

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

From: Swank, David [mailto:david_swank@fws.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 01, 2019 10:24 AM

To: Kovalchuk, Erin H CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil>; Zyndol, Miroslaw A CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Miroslaw.A.Zyndol@usace.army.mil>; Traylor, Andrew W CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Andrew.W.Traylor@usace.army.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] FPOM: Official Coordination 19JDA01 MFR Steelhead Mortality JBS dewatering

Hi Erin and Miro,

I'm wondering why this MFR has "unknown" under marks and tags. Did they not check to see if the adipose was clipped? Seems this should be standard practice. I'm guessing NMFS at least (and maybe others) would want to keep track of whether morts are of wild or hatchery origin.

Dave

Response:

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

From: Zyndol, Mirosław A CIV USARMY CENWP (USA)

Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 2:31 PM

To: Swank, David <david_swank@fws.gov>; Kovalchuk, Erin H CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil>; Traylor, Andrew W CIV USARMY CENWP (USA) <Andrew.W.Traylor@usace.army.mil>

Cc: Grosvenor, Eric G CIV (US) <Eric.Grosvenor@usace.army.mil>; Lotspeich, Michael D CIV (USA) <Michael.D.Lotspeich@usace.army.mil>

Subject: RE: [Non-DoD Source] Re: [EXTERNAL] FPOM: Official Coordination 19JDA01 MFR Steelhead Mortality JBS dewatering

Hi Dave,

My employee who was doing the fish salvage only returned to work today and confirmed that he forgot to check for the adipose fin. Although it is standard practice for us to check for adipose clips, dewaterings/salvage operations are difficult and stressful especially those like the JBS that are underground (dark) and it was missed. I reminded him to check for clips and we will report this in the future.

Thanks!

MZ