

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD (17TDA01)**

**SUBJECT: Diluted Sewage Spill in East Fishway South Channel**

On January 25, 2017 approximately 50 gallons of diluted sewage was leaked due to broken pipe that crosses the south fishway channel in Westrick Park. The Lift Station had been out of service due to pipe freezing over the weekend. On Monday January 23, 2017 the Westrick Lift Station was pumped out and cleared of sewage. Once the sewage line thawed, the Lift Station was refilled with water to test. Cracks in the pipe were noticed spilling diluted sewage into the fishway south channel. The system was then isolated and repairs were made. Cleanup efforts not possible due to mixing with remaining water in the channel. Flushing prior to fish passage season is also not possible due to AWS backup contract schedule likely requiring work through Feb 28. Aside from the diluted sewage, the dilution will be extremely high once the fishway is back in full operation. Flow through the south entrance is roughly 2,000 cfs which is roughly 15,000 gallons per second.

- A. Species – NA
- B. Origin – NA
- C. Length – NA
- D. Marks and tags – NA
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – NA
- F. Cause and Time of Death – NA
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – Closer monitoring of pipes after freeze event

Sincerely,  
Bob Cordie  
Project Fisheries

Comments from agencies:

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

From: Gary Fredricks - NOAA Federal [mailto:gary.fredricks@noaa.gov]  
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 2:14 PM  
To: Cordie, Robert P CIV CENWP CENWD (US) <Robert.P.Cordie@usace.army.mil>  
Cc: Kovalchuk, Erin H CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil>  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: FPOM: Official Coordination 17TDA05 MFR Sewage Spill

It wouldn't be a bad idea to explain all that in the MFR so folks know what you are up against. What's the normal flow through that channel when it's running, i.e., do you have some idea of the "solution-to-pollution-is-dilution" factor? Something like on Feb 28 we plan to run 2000 cfs through the channel

which will flush out those 50 gallons of sewage in 14 milliseconds, or something like that. Just to put it in perspective. Thanks, Gary

On Mon, Jan 30, 2017 at 1:40 PM, Cordie, Robert P CIV CENWP CENWD (US) <Robert.P.Cordie@usace.army.mil <mailto:Robert.P.Cordie@usace.army.mil> > wrote:

Normally we would flush, but not until our AWS contractors are out of the lower ladder. Nor can the south channel cannot be safely isolated from the area they are working in. I expect any flushing to be Feb 28 at the earliest. Seeing the amount of equipment in the junction pool, Im sure they'll need every day.

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

From: Gary Fredricks - NOAA Federal [mailto:gary.fredricks@noaa.gov <mailto:gary.fredricks@noaa.gov> ]

Sent: Monday, January 30, 2017 12:35 PM

To: Kovalchuk, Erin H CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil <mailto:Erin.H.Kovalchuk@usace.army.mil> >

Cc: Cordie, Robert P CIV CENWP CENWD (US) <Robert.P.Cordie@usace.army.mil <mailto:Robert.P.Cordie@usace.army.mil> >; Lorz, Tom <lort@critfc.org <mailto:lort@critfc.org> >

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: FPOM: Official Coordination 17TDA05 MFR Sewage Spill

Erin, The words "Cleanup efforts were not possible due to mixing with remaining water in the channel." cause me a bit of concern. I know the ladder is down right now but can/will this channel be flushed out well prior to the fish passage season? Perhaps the MFR could reflect the plan for that.  
Thanks, Gary