CENWW-ODH August 12, 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD - 20 IHR 06

SUBJECT: Gatewell 3B temporary orifice closure

At 0746 hours on August 6, the light for orifice 3BN in the juvenile fish channel was observed to be burned out. Orifice 3BN was closed and orifice 3AS was mistakenly opened in its place, until the burned-out light was replaced at 0807 hours on August 10. The other orifice (3BS) in gatewell 3B should have been opened up, instead of 3AS. Consequently, both orifices in gatewell 3B were closed for over 96 hours. The maximum allowable Fish Passage Plan holding time for fish in a gatewell slot of a unit that is not operating, with both orifices closed, is 48 hours.

The Project Biologist forgot to notify the electricians on August 6 that the light was burned out, so electricians were not notified until August 10. The Biologist had assumed that 3BS orifice was opened in place of 3BN on August 6, and found out on August 10 that the wrong orifice was opened. The Biologist will make sure that Fish Facility staff are aware of the requirement to have at least one orifice open per gatewell slot.

Any fish in gatewell 3B were delayed for four days while the orifices were closed. There were likely very few fish that were affected. Typically there are less juvenile and adult salmonids migrating in early August. Unit 3 has been out of service since last year for the blade runner replacement, so unit 3 STSs have not been installed this year. Thus, there has not been any flow to draw fish into unit 3 gatewell slots.

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