

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD - 22 IHR 08

SUBJECT: Adult steelhead mortality found on September 7, 2022, adjacent to the juvenile fish collection channel.

- A. Species – *Oncorhynchus mykiss*.
- B. Origin – unknown.
- C. Length – approximately 24”
- D. Marks and tags – none, unclipped.
- E. Marks and injuries found on carcass – marks from the grating.
- F. Location – The fish was found on the walkway grating of the juvenile fish collection channel, above and adjacent to orifice 6BS.
- G. Cause and time of death – The fish had jumped out of the channel sometime over the past day. The existing jump-netting extends 11-12’ above the water surface. There is plastic mesh attached all along the hand rail, from the jump netting down to the toe board. The jump barrier was intact above orifice 6BS. However, there was a tear in the plastic mesh above orifice 6BN just large enough for the fish to squeeze through. The fish must have flopped around on the grating for about 15’ to where it was found.
- H. Future and preventative measures – All of the deteriorating sections of plastic mesh were cut out and replaced with new plastic mesh in early 2021. A monthly inspection of the jump barrier was performed by the Project Fish Biologist on September 6, 2022, and a couple of frayed spots on the plastic mesh were mended with plastic cable ties on the same day. Unfortunately, the hole in the plastic mesh by orifice 6BN was missed by the biologist. This hole has been mended and the jump barrier was re-inspected. During the next winter maintenance period, the newer plastic mesh will need to be replaced with thicker plastic mesh or with some other type of barrier material that can withstand fish that jump against it, but not cause injury.
- I. Pictures – none.

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