

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD** - 14 LWG 04 – MFR Research Fish Loss at LWG-07May2014

**SUBJECT:** Research Fish Loss at LGR, Intake Deck, Slot 5A – 07 May 2014

University of California – Davis researchers and their subcontractor, Blue Leaf Environmental provided the following description of research fish loss that took place on the Lower Granite Intake deck at slot 5A. These fish were collected in support of overflow weir and 14” investigations in slot 5A.

On the night of May 7, 2014 one fish transport and release tank was not properly operated to provide flow-through river water for PIT tagged juvenile steelhead and yearling Chinook salmon that were placed in the tank to allow recovery from tagging. As a result 81 clipped juvenile steelhead and 10 clipped yearling Chinook salmon expired.

The tank was on a truck parked in the truck bay on the south side of the Lower Granite Dam Juvenile Fish Facility. At approximately 19:55, all release tanks were unhooked from flow-through water to complete a release of fish at Gatewell 5A. After completion of the release, all tanks were returned to the truck bay at approximately 20:30 and water was reconnected to all tanks. The incident was a result not opening the valve controlling water in-flow to the tank. This mistake was noticed by the shift leader at approximately 23:30, by which time the fish mortalities had occurred.

To guard against this situation we have created a fish transport tank inspection log with hourly check-ins to ensure that our fish tanks are managed properly. A template of this log is attached to this memo.

- A. Species – 81 Clipped Juvenile Steelhead, 10 Clipped Juvenile Yearling Chinook.
- B. Origin – All Hatchery
- C. Length – not provided.
- D. Marks and tags – all clipped fish, all PIT-tagged.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – none.
- F. Cause and Time of Death – 2330 Hours
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – See body of report above and attachment

Chris A. Pinney  
Fishery Biologist  
Contract Officer Representative (COR)  
US Army Corps of Engineers

201 North Third Avenue  
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876  
Phone (509) 527-7284  
Email: [chris.a.pinney@usace.army.mil](mailto:chris.a.pinney@usace.army.mil)