

CENWW-OD-T

Date: 9 July 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

LOCATION: McNary Project, CENWW-OD-WM

SUBJECT: 14 MCN 17 MFR Power interruptions at McNary Project Oregon Fish Ladder Exit

Narrative: At approximately 0056 on Sunday, July 6, alarms sounded on the Oregon ladder forebay section. After further examination, the operators found the exit weirs and half the count station without power. Two fuses were tripped, which was worrisome. The PIT tag system remained energized. At 0855, Assistant Biologist Johnson inspected the exit and called the control room. The forebay had not changed much over night and though the ladder was high and slightly out of criteria, fish were passing well (head over weir was 1.6 and count station differential was 0.7). At about 1030 (Sunday), two electricians and one mechanic were on the Project. Also, Mr. Johnson saw PSMFC on the Project, so he knew they were monitoring the PIT tag equipment.

The Project was forced to cut power totally to the exit so that the electricians could trace the problem. PSMFC was going to try to keep the PIT system running with a generator. The PIT tag system lost power for up to 4 hours on Sunday, and for about 3 hours on Wednesday (today) during the switchover. The fish counters had to record their counts on paper until the power came back. Project staff connected a generator to place the entire exit back on temporary power Sunday night.

The Project traced the problem to a fault in the underground wiring. They brought in Umatilla Electric to trace the problem. It was located, and repairs began. The repair site was recovered, and the system was shut down from 0915 to 1130 on Wednesday, July 9 to reconnect the lines.

No known fish loss; unlikely any fish delay. There was temporary loss of adjustable and tilting weir automatic operation in the upper ladder, but no loss of power or other problems in the lower ladder or elsewhere.

Results:

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