

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: MFR 14 MCN 25 Adult steelhead mortality

Narrative: Yesterday a bio tech reported that she observed a dead steelhead on the walkway grating near orifice 14C North. It had been dead for less than an hour before she found it while going down to reset the orifices after a VBS inspection. All of the netting was in place. The netting is lower at this location, because the north orifices are not normally in use. However, this orifice was opened as a reliever orifice for about an hour when other nearby orifices were closed during VBS inspection and cleaning operations.

A. Species: Steelhead

B. Origin: Unclipped.

C. Length: About 3'.

D. Marks and Tags: None obvious.

E. Marks and Injuries Found on the Carcasses: Injury on the nose and on the lower caudal fin, probably due to landing on the steel grating.

F. Future and Preventative Measures: About the only way you could prevent this type of rare incident would be to raise the netting to 12' around all north end orifices. Currently the netting is raised that high only over the south orifices at the north end of the juvenile collection channel, where fish have an infrequent history of jumping over the railings onto the grated deck. It happens there about once every two years. Covering all the orifices with netting that extends 8' above the walkway and 12' above the channel would be a major commitment of time and money, for the few times that the north orifices are actually in operation.

G. Photos Taken: Photo attached.

Carl R. Dugger

Supervisory Fisheries Biologist

McNary Juvenile Fish Facility

