CENWW-OD-McNary

07/13/2020

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD – 20 MCN 06

SUBJECT: Missed Sampling due to dewatering valve failure

Narrative: During the night of July 12th, the north side dewatering valve failed (one of two valves that regulate the channel water elevation) at about 50% open. The forebay elevation raised during the morning of July 13th topping the south valve out at 100% open. During a channel inspection, the biologist caught the high water alarms at about 0820. The separator attendant was contacted to switch to primary bypass at 0900. Though the water level fluctuated by 0.6 feet, the attendant reported no stressed fish at the separator. The biologist stabilized the channel with one dewatering valve by about 0930 hours. In order to lower the south side valve, three orifices were closed at unit 5, which is currently out of service. The electrical and mechanical crew leads examined the valve at 0930. It appears the valve has a failed coupler like occurred last year. The repair will take 3 to 4 days if all goes well.

With only one side dewatering valve functioning in automatic mode, the project will not be sampling until the second valve is disassembled, repaired, reassembled and tested. The fisheries staff will be monitoring the channel 24/7 to insure additional issues do not occur.

An estimated 46-hours of sampling will be missed (June 13 0900 to June 14 0700 and June 15 0700 to June 16 0700). GBT monitoring was completed the morning of July 13th. We are hopeful that 24- hour sampling will resume on July 17 0700.

Due to the Corona virus in our area, the project continues to work with two teams. One team (A) is on one week and off the next. The second team (B) works when the first team (A) is off. There project staffing is at 50 percent.

Location: McNary juvenile collection channel and fish facility.

Method: In order to monitor the channel 24/7, sampling will not occur at the facility until the north side dewatering valve returns to service.

Time Line - Duration: July 13 to July 17 is our current projection.

A. Species: No fish mortalities occurred. Index sampling will be missed for almost two full days if all goes well.

B. Origin: NA.

C. Length: NA.

D. Marks and Tags: NA.

E. Marks and Injuries Found on the Carcasses: NA.

F. Future and Preventative Measures: When, the valve is disassembled, the mechanics will try to determine the nature of the failure and the best course of action to reduce the probability of this type of

failure occurring again or at least less frequently. Also, we will insure proper spare parts are on hand if not already.

G. Photos Taken: No

Bobby Johnson Project Fisheries Biologist McNary Lock and Dam