CENWP-OD-McNary

08/26/2020

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Emergency debris spill on August 25, 2020

Narrative: Large logs had accumulated in bay 19 over the season. Before the spill season closure on September 1 at 0001 hours, we felt it would be prudent to spill this debris so it would not migrate to the powerhouse after the spill closure. The debris was spilled to clear the bay on August 25, from 1016 to 1130 hours.

Location: Spillbay 19.

Method: The project staff used spillbay 19 operated in split leaf mode, which expedited debris removal from the bay. Bay 19 was closed to convert it to split leaf configuration prior to the debris spill and then again after the debris spill to return to normal configuration. The latter outage was delayed because of an electrical issue (see below). During bay 19 outages, spill was switched to bay 17 to maintain spill volume.

Timeline - Duration: Adjusting the spillgate and spilling the debris occurred from 1016 to 1130 hours. Bay 19 was opened to approximately 14 feet and passed approximately 23 kcfs during the operation. However, an electrical issue with the hoist after the debris was removed had to be resolved, resulting in bay 19 not returning to service until 1308 hours. The gate's settings were verified visually.

A. Species: There were no known fish losses. Subyearling Chinook are the primary race/species of juvenile salmonids passing through the spillway currently. With the subyearling Chinook outmigration tapering off, juvenile fish numbers are currently relatively low. With overall spill volume being maintained, juvenile passage should not have been adversely affected. Fall Chinook salmon are the predominate adult species passing along with summer steelhead. Coho and sockeye adults are present in lower numbers. The operation in bay 19 should not have had any impact on adult passage.

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: River debris loads are uncontrollable, and the accumulation points are unpredictable. Removing the debris in a timely and proactive manner minimizes potential impacts to juvenile and adult fish passage.

G. Photos Taken: None.

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