Minutes from 7/27 FPOM mtg LWG/LGS ladder temps

ATTENDEES: T. Marsh, D. Ogden, S. Sears, S. Everett, K. Kostow, C. Morrill, T. Condor, S. Bettin, B. Hevlin, D. Milks, J. Baumgartner, Cpt. Jacobs, D. Baus, L. Wright, E. VanDyke, J. Bailey, S. Scott, E. Plummer, C. Sullivan, D. Statler, J. Skalicky, E. Hockersmith, C. Pinney, S. Hall, J. Heitstuman, A. Setter

Inquiry into why we are not able to trap for longer interval at LWG to collect more sockeye (Setter) for hauling. The number of drivers with limitations of hours driving/day, personnel availability and fact that historically sockeye moved early in the day. S. Everett reiterated Nez Perce can still assist with drivers and trucks. E. VanDyke suggested shifting folks work schedules to accommodate when sockeye are passing.

Discussion then ensued specific to understanding better the upstream/downstream counts of sockeye, T. Condor will work with Corps to disseminate. Trevor will request fallback data from Little Goose.

Today’s conditions at LWG trap were 67.3°, trapping occurred 7-11:20. Fish movement was slow, fish were slightly larger, 3 sockeye were collected. The sockeye still have the open sores that have prevalent both this year and previous years. Weather was light rain with air temps in the 70’s.

D. Statler inquired about whether nighttime video counts were incorporated into web data reporting. J. Skalicky iquired about PIT data to investigate fallbacks. T. Condor inquired as to where Corps undertakes nighttime video and was told for Walla Walla District, Lower Granite and Ice Harbor.

D. Milks provided an update on Lyons Ferry effort (initial day). There had been chinook, steelhead but no sockeye collected. Russ Kiefer was snorkeling the ladder intake area to guage how many sockeye might be holding in the vicinity. Water leaving ladder was approximately 53°.

B. Hevlin briefed on potential NOAA path forward related to LGS operations. NOAA believes there are more advantages than disadvantages to doing a 2nd block of the PH only test. Another data point would help to understand the value of the operation. Advantage of the operation is to pass cool water downstream to offset adult passage issues. The disadvantage is that juvenile passage may be disrupted, however it is balanced with a higher amount of spill at night of roughly 55% of river flow. As well inriver conditions are poor for juveniles and transport during daytime is likely the better option. Effort is to provide a cool downstream flow along shore for adults to track upstream, and that we need to try every tool in the toolbox.

J. Skalicky inquired about how to best analyze the data. K. Kostow discussed the challenge of identifying trends, and suggested using the tail end of runs to demonstrate variation is different than normal.

T. Marsh inquired specific to ID Power releases and impacts in next couple weeks to reiver temps. S. Hall addressed both LWG, LGS water amounts and temperatures in conjunction with air temps and Dworshak outflow to meet 68°tailwater at Lower Granite.