**FPOM Adult Delay Trigger Committee Meeting Notes** 11/12/2024

**Attendees:**

Trevor Conder (Chair) NOAA

Kelsey Swieca NOAA

Chris Peery USACE

Doug Baus USACE

Tiffany Stoeckig-Dixon USACE

Denise Griffith USACE

Tammy Mackey BPA

Charlie Morrill WDFW

Eric Van Dyke ODFW

Jon Ebel IDFG

Jay Hesse Nez Perce

Tom Lorz CRTFC

Tom Iverson Yakima

Susannah Iltis DART

Jennifer Gosselin DART

**Notable Outcomes**

Future task group meeting schedule announced based on the development of the FOP. Plan to meet Dec 10th and at least once in Jan. The task group has until Jan 21st to make recommendations to the USACE for consideration in the FOP.

The group reviewed and discussed summaries of environmental conditions, project operations, and adult passage metrics at Lower Monumental Dam in 2024. The group discussed and reviewed data associated with the initiation of the 40% operation. It was noted that this operation was delayed several days beyond initiation of the trigger language based on RIOG agreement. The group discussed the notable increase in adult passage (adult counts & PIT detections) when the 40% operation was initiated. Some members noted that adult passage began to increase the day before the 40% operation. This was investigated by the group and it was noted that the increase in project inflow had allowed an increase in priority unit 1 operation to above 19K (above the 11.5K minimum generation) since the 125% gas cap was being met and river flow increased. Some members of the group suggested this increase in generation may have changed or improved tailrace conditions causing delayed adults to pass. If true, this is evidence that this level of PH flow may be effective at reducing delay without reducing spill to 40%.

Based on the observed one day of passage increase with 19K outflow, it was suggested operating a priority unit to the upper 1% (19.0-19.5K) could be considered as a preliminary step or test to potentially improve passage prior to the current operation of 40%. It was noted it was unclear if this meets the criteria of refinements to the trigger or if this is a change in operation. It was noted this will be discussed internally and report back at the next meeting.

Another potential modification to the trigger discussed was adding an additional day or days of delay to the current trigger. This option will be discussed internally, and BPA will report back on how much notice is necessary prior to marketing a spill change. Feedback will be provided at the Dec 10 meeting.