FPOM Adult Count Subcommittee

Fact finding update on current usage or needs by other parties of adult count information collected by USACE (NWW, NWP):

NOAA Forecasting of Columbia River Adult Returns uses Bonneville, McNary, Ice Harbor, Lower Granite counts.

TAC uses adult counts at Bonneville, McNary, and Lower Granite. In addition, TAC has designated both Harvest and Abundance Indicator stocks to monitor run reconstruction progress. Harvest indicators used are either the number of fish returning to the mouth of the Columbia River (spring, summer, fall chinook, sockeye) or the number to Bonneville for summer steelhead. Harvest indicators are used directly for managing fisheries. Abundance indicator stocks use dam counts at Lower Granite for Snake R. spring/summer Chinook, sockeye, A & B run Snake R. steelhead, Snake R. fall Chinook. Abundance indicator stocks provide more information related to natural origin stocks or populations that currently limit fisheries, and may be revised as other information becomes available should it be more suitable.

Harvest rates are abundance based for Snake River fall Chinook and B-run steelhead. Must be managed to not exceed a 2% harvest rate on B run steelhead. Therefore, forecasted run size dictates allowable harvest for a given year.

NMFS 2008 Biological Opinion – RPA 50.2 Monitor adult returns at mainstem hydroelectric dams using both visual counts and the PIT – tag detection system (Annually).

RPA 52.3 Monitor and evaluate adult salmonid system survival upstream thru the FCRPS

Overall for RPA 52 - Monitoring adult passage counts is a cornerstone monitoring activity that must be performed on an annual basis. Adult fish counting is typically performed 16 hours per day, during daylight hours, by either video or visual counting methods, at all of the Corps projects that pass fish. Adult fish counting will continue at a minimum on the schedule presented in Table 8.

Table 8. Minimum Adult Fish Counting Schedule

Dam	Duration of Operation	Duration of Counting	Hours of Count
Bonneville	January 1 - December 31	January 1 - December 31	04:00 - 20:00
The Dalles	February 20 – December 7	February 20 – December 7	04:00 - 20:00
John Day	February 20 – December 7	February 20 – October 31	04:00 - 20:00
McNary	March 1 – December 31	March 1 – October 31	04:00 - 20:00
Ice Harbor	March 1 – December 31	March 1 - October 31	04:00 - 20:00
Lower Monumental	March 1 – December 31	April 1 - October 31	04:00 - 20:00
Little Goose	March 1 – December 31	April 1 - October 31	04:00 - 20:00
Lower Granite	March 1 – December 31	March 1 – March 31	06:00 - 16:00
		April 1 - June 14	04:00 - 20:00
		June 15 - August 31	24 hours
		August 31 - October 31	04:00 - 20:00
		November 1 - December 31	06:00 - 16:00

RPA 53.4 Monitor and enumerate adult salmonids passing through fishways in the FCRPS, identify potential problems, and evaluate implemented solutions.

RPA 54.11 Install and maintain adult PIT-tag detectors in fish ladders at key dams in the FCRPS and evaluate adult survival (conversion rates).

RPA 54.12 Monitor and evaluate the effects of fish ladder operations and configurations on adult passage rates.

Unknown Needs- Zone 6 fishery for both tribal and non-tribal, OR & WA provide catch estimates annually, do they verify forecasting methodology using in-season dam counts?

Little Goose and Lower Monumental counts are currently used to diagnose adult passage issues associated with operation of the TSW. Can PIT detection adequately address this oversight in future?

Lamprey counting is undertaken to satisfy Fish Accords commitments.

<u>Questions brought to Subcommittee by FPOM</u>

Provide Summary of Historical data collection effort- attached draft summary of previous efforts (Moody).

Do we have enough information that we can stop collecting at some locations? Discuss feedback from forecasters of what might be more valuable.

Should we consider changing time of year or time of day at any data collection sites?

Are there any other relevant data gaps?