

Weekly Temperature Report

McNary Dam

August 8, 2022

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Report Period: July 29 through August 4

Report No. 2022 MCN Temperature Report 0729–0804 by EAS

Re: USACE Walla Walla District Biological Services: Temperature Monitoring Program at McNary Dam

Temperature monitoring at the McNary juvenile collection system began at 0700 hours on June 14 and will continue through 0700 hours August 31. Wind speed data used in this report are from the National Weather Service station at the Hermiston Municipal Airport in Oregon. The air temperature data was obtained via Hobo probe at the JFF. Due to elevated river temperatures, the “sawtooth pattern” (operate every other unit) unit operation mode begun on July 24 continued through this report period to reduce thermal stress to juvenile salmonids passing through the collection system.

Fish Collection

An estimated 14,441 juvenile salmonids were collected and 14,426 were bypassed at the McNary JFF (Table 1). There were 15 fish mortalities in the sample for the reporting period.

River Conditions

Average river flow for this reporting period was 196.7 kilo cubic feet per second (kcfs) with an average spill of 112.6 kcfs (Table 1).

Temperature Logger Operations

Temperature loggers were deployed on June 14. All temperature loggers performed normally.

Weather Conditions

The weekly average air temperature from July 29 to August 4 was 90.4°F. Air temperatures ranged from a maximum of 129.1°F on July 29 to a minimum of 66.6°F on August 3 (Figure 1). Wind speeds averaged 8.9 mph with gusts of 26.5 mph (Table 1). Wind direction was predominantly from the north.

Water Temperatures

Average water temperatures within dam locations varied with air temperatures and wind velocities (Figure 2). The weekly average temperatures within dam locations were: 71.4°F, forebay (weekly average of eight positions); 70.7°F, gatewell (weekly average of 14 positions); 70.9°F, collection channel (weekly average of positions at Units 1, 8, and 12); and 70.8°F, JFF (weekly average of the separator and sample tank “B”). Forebay Unit 12 had the highest weekly average temperature, 72.1°F (Figure 3). The maximum temperature, 79.9°F, was recorded in forebay Unit 10 at 17:00 hours on July 29.

The average weekly temperature differentials within dam locations were: 2.7°F, forebay; 2.9°F, gatewells; 0.8°F, collection channel; and 0.07°F, JFF (Figure 4). The largest temperature differential, 9.7°F, was recorded in the forebay at 20:30 hours on July 28 (Unit 14 high, Unit 3 low).

The average weekly temperature differential between the forebay and corresponding gatewell was 1.1°F. The forebay was warmer than the corresponding gatewell on average across the powerhouse. The largest temperature differential was 10.9°F at 1700 hours on July 29 at Unit 10 (forebay warmer than gatewell; Figure 5). The average weekly temperature differential between the gatewell and corresponding collection channel location was 0.39°F. On average, the gatewells were warmer than the collection channels at Unit 1, and cooler at Units 8 and 12. The largest temperature differential between the gatewell and corresponding collection channel location was 4.45°F at 16:30 hours on July 29 at Unit 1 (gatewell was warmer than the collection channel).

Table 1
Bypass, Mortality, and River and Weather Conditions from July 22 to July 28

Date	Fish Collected	Fish Bypassed	Mortality		Avg. River Flow	Avg. Turbine	Avg. Spill	Air Temperature		Wind Speed	
			Sample	Facility				Avg.	Max	Avg.	Max
29-Jul	0	0	0	0	196.4	79.2	112.4	88.2	129.1	5.4	10.4
30-Jul	3,221	3,214	6	1	208.1	84.5	118.9	87.3	117.3	5.4	9.2
31-Jul	0	0	0	0	203.7	82.2	116.8	85	109.3	4.7	8.1
1-Aug	6,300	6,295	5	0	207.6	84.1	118.8	82.4	95.1	8.4	18.4
2-Aug	0	0	0	0	198.1	80.1	113.4	82.7	113.3	15.2	26.5
3-Aug	4,920	4,917	3	0	174.1	69.5	99.9	80.7	106.5	8.0	15.0
4-Aug	0	0	0	0	189.0	76.6	107.8	76.5	106.6	12.9	21.9
Weekly Avg	2063.0	2060.9	2.0	0.1	196.7	79.5	112.6	83.3	111.0	8.6	15.6

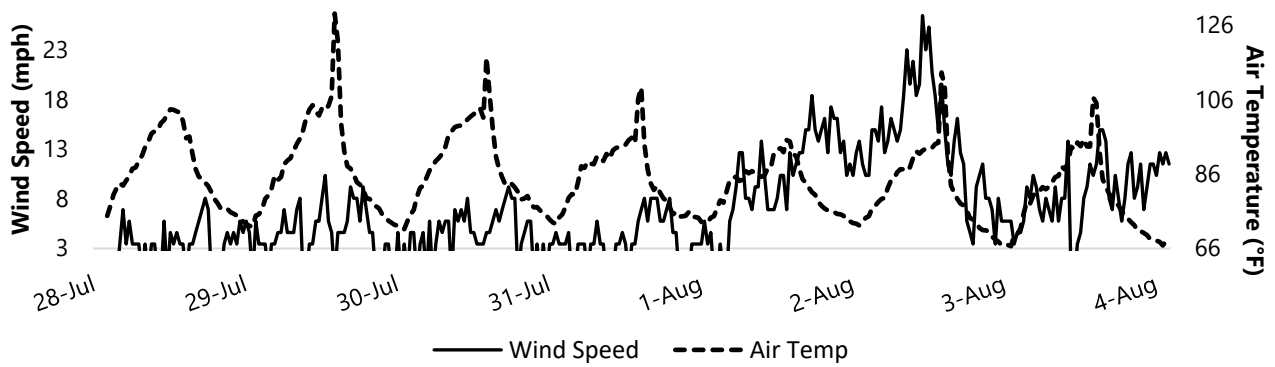


Figure 1
Average Wind Speed and Air Temperature for Each Half-Hour Interval from 22 to July 28

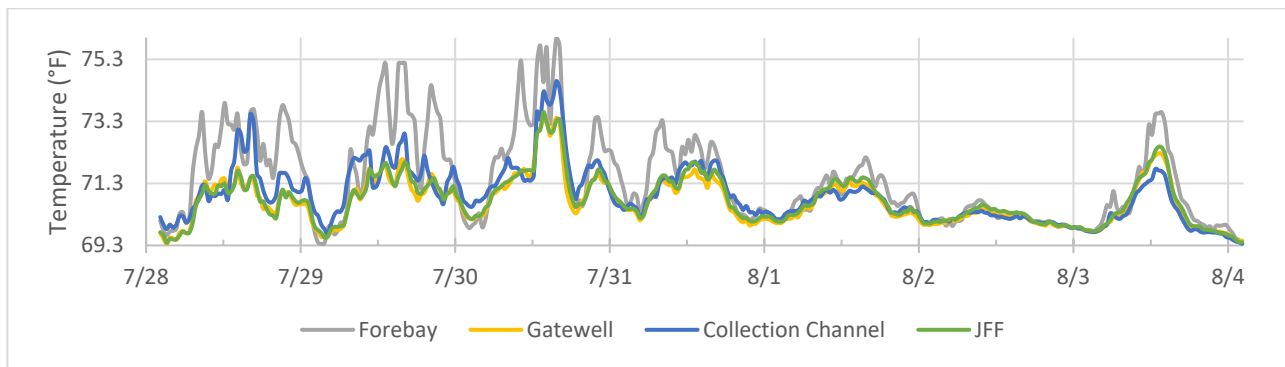


Figure 2
Average Water Temperatures for Each Half-Hour Interval for Four Dam Locations from 22 to July 28

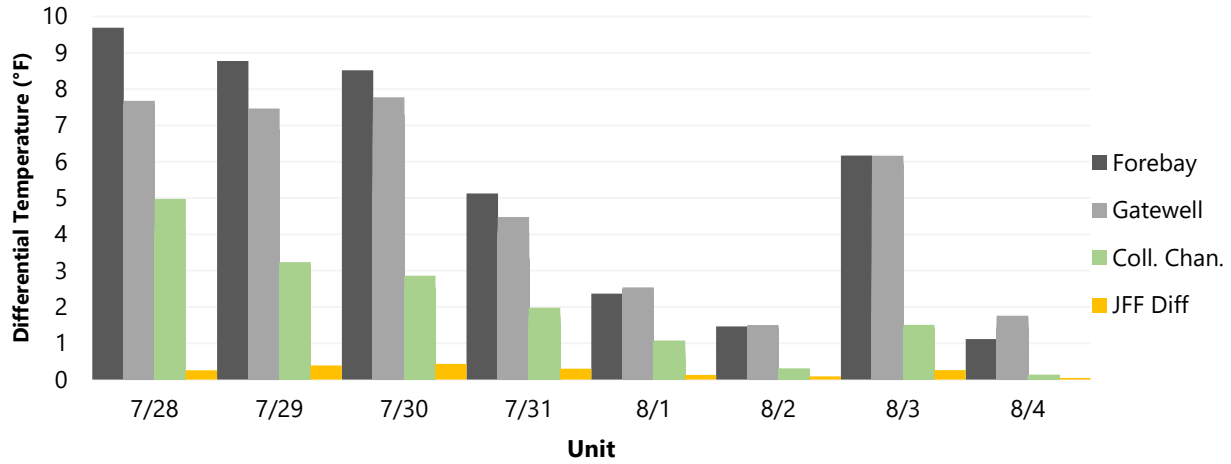


Figure 3
 Average Weekly Water Temperatures by Position for Five Dam Locations from July 22 to July 28

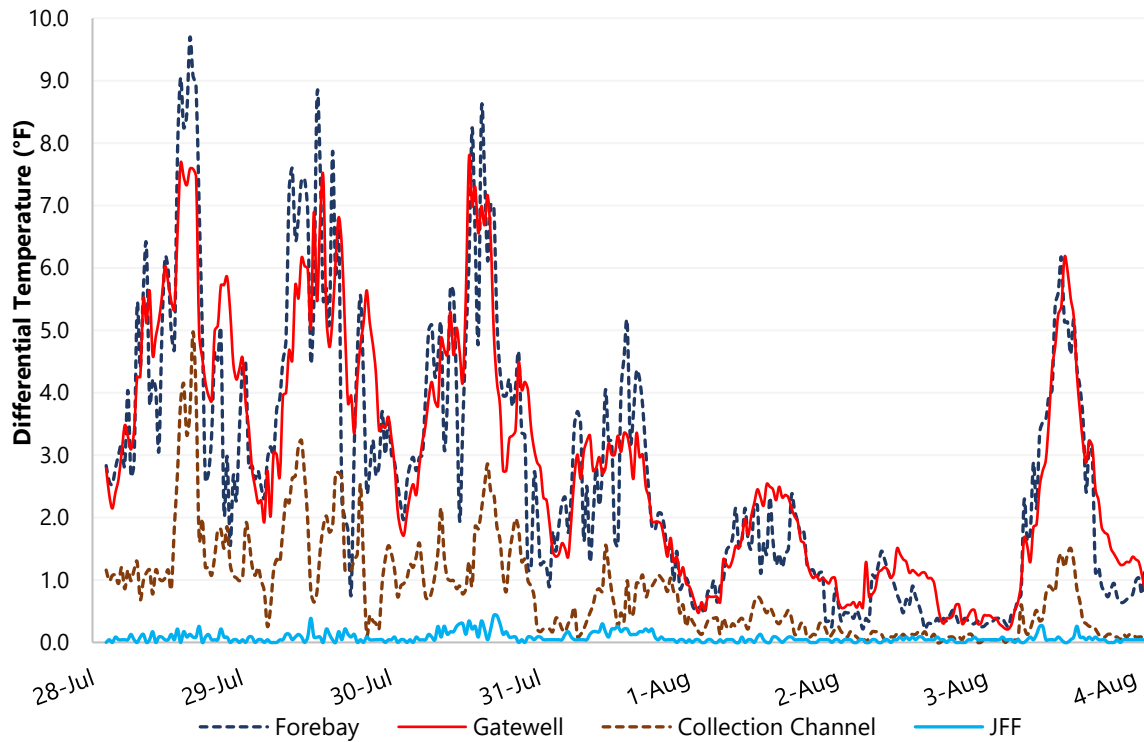


Figure 4
 Average Differential Temperatures within Four Dam Locations from July 22 to July 28

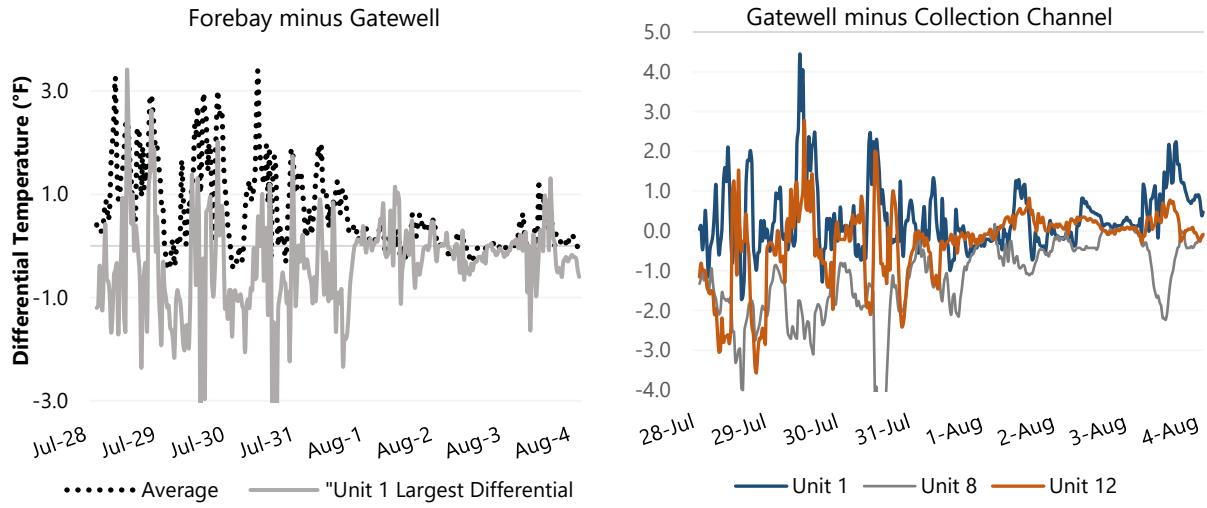


Figure 5
Average Differential Temperatures across Three Dam Locations from July 22 to July 28