CENWP-OD 20 April 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

**COORDINATION TITLE** - 16WVP02 Willamette mainstem flow target at Salem

**DATE** - 20 April 2016

**PROJECT** - Willamette Valley Projects

**RESPONSE DATE** - 04 May 2016

**Description of the problem**

The minimum flow target for the mainstem Willamette River at Salem was decreased below criteria (17,800 cfs) detailed in the Biological Opinion for the remainder of April to 16,400 cfs as proposed and recommended by the Corps, NMFS, and ODFW to be conservative for meeting other fish needs later in the year (e.g. spawning flows in the South Santiam).

**Type of change/outage required**

The minimum flow target for the mainstem Willamette River at Salem was decreased for the remainder of April to 16,400 cfs. At the time of this writing flow at Salem in the Willamette River was 16, 900 cfs.

**Impact on facility operation**

This will increase storage at Willamette Valley Projects.

**Dates of impacts/repairs**

The temporary minimum flow target at Salem in the Willamette for April was effective April 14 through April 30.

**Length of time for changes/impacts/repairs**

Approximately 2 weeks

**Expected impacts on fish**

There will be minimal impacts to fish and possibly fish benefits later in the year depending on hydrologic conditions.

**Comments from agencies**

-----Original Message-----  
From: Richard Domingue - NOAA Federal [mailto:richard.domingue@noaa.gov]   
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 10:18 AM  
To: Walker, Christopher NWP; Anne Mullan - NOAA Federal; Stephanie Burchfield - NOAA Federal; Kimberly Hatfield - NOAA Affiliate  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Willamette mainstem flow target (UNCLASSIFIED)

NMFS concurs that in order to maintain/enhance the amount of stored water at several reservoirs in the Willamette basin, a reduction in the April Salem flow target from 17,800 cfs to 16,400 is appropriate. Current water temperatures are well within the tolerance of spring Chinook adults and outmigrating juveniles of both spring Chinook and steelhead. Given the adequate conditions in the river currently, we believe that adding water to storage now to provide greater surety of maintaining adequate flows throughout the fish migration/spawning season is prudent.

-----Original Message-----  
From: Elise X Kelley [mailto:elise.x.kelley@state.or.us]   
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2016 12:25 PM  
To: Walker, Christopher NWP; Domingue, Rich; bernadette.n.graham-hudson@state.or.us  
Cc: Ann Mullan; Teed, Tina J NWP  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Willamette mainstem flow target (UNCLASSIFIED)

Hi Chris,

ODFW concurs that target flows for the Willamette River at Salem should be reduced to 16,400 as soon as possible to conserve water for later this year when the water will be needed to meet fish flow and temperature control targets.

Best,

Elise

**Final results**

The temporary minimum flow target at Salem in the Willamette for April was effective April 14 through April 30.

Please email or call with questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Chris Walker

NWP Operations Division Fishery Section

503.808.4316

[Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil](mailto:Christopher.E.Walker@usace.army.mil)