

**OFFICIAL COORDINATION REQUEST FOR  
NON-ROUTINE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**

**TITLE** - 18CGR04 Spring Chinook Disposition

**COORDINATION DATE** - 25 June 2018

**PROJECT** - Cougar Dam

**RESPONSE DATE** - 09 July 2018

**Description of the problem**

A landslide is currently blocking upstream release sites for adult spring Chinook salmon and bull trout above Cougar Dam. Currently, adults destined for release above the dam are being released into the reservoir. Temperatures in the reservoir will be soon be too warm to facilitate safe release of fish into the reservoir above Cougar Dam. Once this occurs, there are few options regarding their disposition once collected at the Cougar Adult Fish Facility below the dam. One option would be to close the Cougar Fish Facility until the landslide is cleared. Once reopened spring Chinook salmon could be placed immediately upstream (see ODFW recommendation, ‘Comments from Agencies’).

**Dates of impacts/repairs**

July 1-TBD (estimated)

**Expected impacts on fish**

Delay will occur for spawning spring Chinook salmon and migrating bull trout destined above Cougar Dam.

Current Temperature String Data (Cougar Reservoir elevation on June 27: 1,587.5 feet):

Date	Time	1504ft	1524ft	1536ft	1548ft	1560ft	1572ft	1578ft	1584ft	1590ft	1596ft	1602ft	1608ft	1614ft	1620ft	1626ft	1632ft	1638ft	1644ft	1650ft	1656ft	1662ft	1668ft	1674ft	1680ft
06/26/2018	00:00	41.1	42.1	43.2	44.5	48.4	55.5	57.8	60.1	57.6	57.4	58.2	57.5	57.2	57.2	57.3	57.8	58.2	56.9	56.8	57.4	57.1	57.3	56.8	57.6
	01:00	41.1	42.4	42.6	44.2	48.1	56.2	62.3	62.4	56.2	56.0	56.6	56.2	55.6	55.6	55.5	55.8	56.3	55.2	55.0	55.8	55.4	55.6	55.1	56.0
	02:00	41.2	41.9	42.5	43.8	48.8	57.9	62.7	62.7	55.3	55.0	55.6	55.0	54.6	54.6	54.7	55.1	55.3	54.1	54.0	54.7	54.4	54.4	53.9	54.7
	03:00	41.1	41.5	42.2	43.9	48.4	59.4	62.8	63.2	54.4	53.7	54.0	53.8	53.3	53.3	53.1	53.4	53.9	52.8	52.7	53.6	53.2	53.4	52.8	53.7
	04:00	41.0	41.5	42.2	43.1	47.8	60.3	62.0	63.3	53.7	52.7	52.7	52.8	52.4	52.4	51.8	52.1	52.9	52.1	51.9	52.8	52.5	52.7	52.0	52.9
	05:00	41.1	41.8	41.8	42.8	48.5	60.0	61.7	63.3	52.8	52.1	52.3	52.0	51.6	51.5	51.4	51.8	52.2	51.1	51.0	51.8	51.5	51.6	51.1	51.9
	06:00	40.9	41.8	42.2	43.2	49.1	58.0	62.4	63.0	52.6	52.0	52.1	51.9	51.5	51.5	51.4	51.5	51.8	51.1	51.0	51.5	51.3	51.3	50.9	51.5
	07:00	41.0	41.8	42.1	43.4	49.6	54.8	62.9	63.0	51.6	51.4	51.4	50.7	50.8	50.8	51.4	51.6	51.8	51.3	51.9	51.9	52.0	52.3	53.7	53.6
	08:00	41.2	41.9	42.5	43.2	47.4	55.5	63.2	63.2	79.6	89.8	76.4	72.4	80.3	77.5	88.3	80.1	71.4	73.2	81.9	65.2	68.8	64.7	71.6	66.2
	09:00	41.0	41.5	42.6	43.4	47.8	54.5	63.8	63.8	82.9	89.8	78.0	81.2	90.1	87.9	85.0	79.2	79.5	82.9	90.4	76.6	81.3	76.4	83.9	80.0
	10:00	41.2	42.2	42.7	43.6	45.5	55.6	61.9	64.2	79.0	84.7	78.1	78.9	85.9	86.3	83.9	78.5	79.4	81.4	87.2	78.4	83.3	77.9	81.5	78.8
	11:00	41.3	42.1	42.7	43.8	46.8	56.4	64.1	64.2	80.0	78.9	76.0	80.3	82.9	81.3	75.8	75.5	79.5	80.4	81.9	81.6	84.4	79.8	78.6	78.0
	12:00	41.1	42.0	42.5	43.6	45.7	54.5	59.1	64.9	79.6	78.2	80.0	77.4	79.4	76.3	78.3	77.7	77.4	77.5	78.1	78.5	80.5	77.6	77.5	76.0
	13:00	41.1	41.8	42.5	43.4	46.0	52.7	61.7	65.4	82.9	78.2	81.1	78.1	79.2	79.8	80.4	80.9	80.5	79.5	79.3	80.6	83.2	80.7	75.9	76.2
	14:00	41.0	41.5	42.3	43.1	45.8	50.4	58.3	65.9	72.5	73.3	73.8	73.6	73.6	73.5	73.7	74.0	74.1	73.6	73.8	73.8	73.7	73.6	73.6	73.7
	15:00	41.0	41.5	42.2	43.1	47.8	51.8	58.8	65.8	72.8	73.5	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.8	73.9	73.9	73.8	74.0	73.9	73.9	73.9	73.9	73.9
	16:00	40.9	41.5	41.6	43.0	46.2	53.9	56.5	66.3	73.1	73.9	74.1	74.2	74.3	74.3	74.4	74.5	74.5	74.5	74.6	74.6	74.6	74.6	74.6	74.6
	17:00	40.9	41.1	41.5	42.0	45.5	52.2	63.1	63.2	73.0	73.9	74.1	74.1	74.3	74.3	74.3	74.4	74.4	74.4	74.6	74.4	74.4	74.5	74.5	74.4
	18:00	41.0	41.3	41.7	41.8	44.8	53.8	59.4	64.3	72.8	73.5	73.6	73.6	73.7	73.7	73.7	73.8	73.8	73.8	74.0	73.9	73.9	73.9	74.0	74.0
	19:00	41.0	41.8	42.0	44.7	49.8	55.6	60.8	64.7	71.0	71.8	72.1	72.2	72.3	72.3	71.9	72.2	72.6	72.3	72.3	72.5	72.4	72.5	72.4	72.8
	20:00	41.2	42.0	42.6	46.7	51.7	58.4	62.2	65.8	68.1	68.5	69.2	68.8	68.9	68.9	69.0	69.2	69.6	68.9	69.0	69.4	69.3	69.5	69.3	69.9
	21:00	41.1	41.7	42.4	43.9	51.6	60.2	63.7	64.8	64.7	64.7	65.6	65.1	64.9	64.9	65.0	65.5	65.8	64.6	64.6	65.2	65.0	65.2	64.8	65.9
	22:00	41.2	42.0	42.3	43.4	51.9	61.4	62.9	65.3	62.4	62.5	63.3	62.6	62.4	62.4	62.6	63.0	63.3	62.1	62.1	62.7	62.5	62.8	62.4	63.4
	23:00	41.3	42.1	42.3	43.5	47.3	58.9	62.3	64.1	60.9	60.7	61.5	61.0	60.5	60.5	60.7	61.1	61.5	60.3	60.2	60.8	60.6	60.7	60.4	61.1

## Comments from agencies

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeffrey Ziller [mailto:Jeffrey.S.Ziller@state.or.us]  
Sent: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 7:22 PM  
To: Lance Kruzic - NOAA Federal <lance.kruzic@noaa.gov>; Traylor, Andrew W CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Andrew.W.Traylor@usace.army.mil>; WALKER Christopher <christopher.walker@state.or.us>; Michael Hudson <michael\_hudson@fws.gov>; Taylor, Gregory A CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Gregory.A.Taylor@usace.army.mil>; Helms, Chad K CIV USARMY CENWP (US) <Chad.K.Helms@usace.army.mil>; NikZymonas <nik.zymonas@oregonstate.edu>; Ryan Couture <ryan.b.couture@state.or.us>  
Cc: Jeremy D Romer <Jeremy.D.Romer@state.or.us>; Kelly Reis <Kelly.E.Reis@state.or.us>  
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Cougar Trap Operation

Given the amount of time it will take to open the road to the South Fork McKenzie above Cougar Reservoir, we would like to entertain a change in operation of the upstream migrant trap. In the next two weeks, we would like to cease operation the trap until the road is open (probably sometime in August). This would allow Chinook to hold in the river below the dam where water temperature should remain cool through the July - August period. Because bull trout may still be looking to ascend the dam, we would like to see the trap operated (typically Mondays and Thursdays) during the rest of June ending on July 2nd. Bull trout captured during these dates could be released into the forebay and we assume they would descend to cooler waters and migrate upstream. During the past 4 years, no bull trout have been captured at the upstream migrant facility after July 6th although there have been 13 bull trout captured in July and one in August since the trap became operational in 2010.

For Chinook, we suggest tagging and releasing the untagged fish back into the tailrace or at another location downstream to the FR 19 bridge through July 2nd. We do not recommend transporting Chinook below the South Fork McKenzie restoration project area until after the project is completed in mid-August. Tagged fish could be released into the forebay along with any bull trout. After the trap is shut down in early July we do not anticipate moving any Chinook until the road opens in (hopefully) August. If the road is not cleared in August, we would recommend reconvening to consider other alternatives for moving fish into the South Fork McKenzie above Cougar Dam.

We hope these changes to the Cougar Upstream Migrant Trap operation will minimize prespawning mortality for Chinook while allowing bull trout to ascend to spawning locations in a timely manner. Please let us know your thoughts on the proposed operation. Thanks!

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**Final results**

The rock slide was cleared and Cougar Fish Facility Operations recommenced on July 31, 2018.

Please email or call with questions or concerns.  
Thank you,

Chris Walker  
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Fish Biologist  
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