

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TITLE - 16BCL02 minimum flow

DATE - 19 May 2016

PROJECT - Big Cliff Dam

RESPONSE DATE - 02 June 2016

Description of the problem

Flows below Big Cliff Dam in the North Santiam River were below minimum criteria (1,500 cfs) on May 11 between 14:00 and 15:00 hours detailed in the Biological Opinion (BiOp) while bringing the turbine unit online after annual maintenance. Operators do their best to maintain steady flow while adjusting the spill gate while spinning the turbine unit back up to flows that provide generation. Flows were as low as 1,380 cfs.

Dates of impacts/repairs

11 May 2016

Expected impacts on fish

The minimum flow criteria of 1,500 cfs this time of year is to provide adequate flows for spawning winter steelhead. The river stage below that minimum flows provide was about an inch, thus, impacts were minimal.

Comments from agencies

Final results

Flows below Big Cliff Dam were increased back to the BiOp minimum of 1,500 cfs in less than an hour.

Please email or call with questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Chris Walker

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