

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TITLE - 18DET01 MFR Temperature Operations Delay Due to Algal Bloom

PROJECT - Detroit Dam

RESPONSE DATE - 25 June 2018

Description of the problem

Salem city officials issued a do-not-drink advisory on May 29 following the detection of low levels of toxins in city drinking water pulled from the North Santiam River. On May 29, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers received a formal request from the City of Salem endorsed by the Oregon Health Authority to delay releasing water through the spillway at Detroit Dam due to algal blooms in the Detroit Reservoir. Use of the spillway is required to commence temperature management operations June 1 each year stated in the Biological Opinions issued by the Services (National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service). The Flow Management and Water Quality Team met on May 30 and concurrence was received from NMFS to delay the operation for a week while the situation is continually assessed and additional information becomes available.

Dates of impacts

June 1-7, 2018 (estimated)

Extended to end of day on June 21.

Expected impacts on fish

Adult upstream migration of spring Chinook salmon will be delayed due to continued colder temperatures without temperature management operations. Fish collection at the Minto Fish Facility will be hindered. There are potential impacts to incubating winter steelhead redds and later this fall to incubating Chinook salmon redds. The level of impact is dependent upon the length of the delay to begin spilling for temperature management operations.

Comments from agencies

See attachments 1 and 2.

Final results

Temperature management operations (use of the spillway) began on June 21.

Temperatures increased and were within the temperature target range. Soon thereafter, several hundred fish entered the Minto Fish Facility.

Please email or call with questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Chris Walker

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Fish Biologist

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