CHANGES IN HABITAT, WATER QUALITY, AND DAM OPERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABILITY: WATER YEAR 2021 vs 2022

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) operates and maintains a system of 13 dams and reservoirs within the Willamette River Basin, Oregon. This system operates for multiple authorized purposes including: Flood Damage Reduction, Hydropower, Navigation, Water Quality, Irrigation, M&I, Recreation, and Fish and Wildlife. Water supply forecasts in March for Apr-Sep (Salem) were similar in 2021 and 2022. After March, observed water supply at Salem was 2525 KAF in 2021 and 7241 KAF in 2022 (Apr-Sep). This difference in water supply results in significant differences in habitat, water quality, and dam operations to support fish. This presentation compares those changes using the 2021 and 2022 water years.