Re:	WILLAMETTE VALLEY FISH PASSAGE MONITORING VIA ROTARY
Report No.:	2021 Willamette RST Bi-Weekly Report 12/16 – 12/31 by EAS
Report Period:	December 16 to December 31, 2021
Prepared by:	Matt Paulsen and Cole Lindsey, Environmental Assessment Services, LLC

SCREW TRAPS

# **Project Schedule**

Site	Task	Start	End	Days					
Hills Creek RO and PWR	Deployment	10/12/21	10/12/21	1					
Hills Creek RO	Operation	10/21/21	3/15/22	146					
Hills Creek PWR	Operation	10/23/21	3/15/22	144					
Hills Creek	Trap Efficiency Release (1,200 fish, 600 per route) <sup>a</sup>	12/13/21	12/13/21	1					
Cougar Dam RST	Operation	12/01/21	12/31/22	396					
Big Cliff Dam RST	Operation	12/01/21	2/15/22	292					
Big Cliff Dam RST	Operation	3/15/22	10/15/22	292					

#### Table 1. Project Schedule

<sup>a</sup> Tentative schedule of first trap release.

## **Summary of Rotary Screw Trap Data**

Rotary screw traps (RSTs) were operated at three locations in the southern Willamette river watershed: on the Middle Fork Willamette River below Hills Creek Dam (Hills Creek), the South Fork McKenzie river below Cougar Dam (Cougar Dam), and on the North Santiam River below Big Cliff Dam (Big Cliff). The locations of the RST's are depicted in Figures 1, 2 and 3 respectively. Sampling sites generally monitor individual routes for fish passage at the dams, including powerhouse (PWR) and regulating outlets (RO). Sampling began at the Hills Creek site on October 21, 2021, and at the Cougar and Big Cliff sites on December 1, 2021. Sampling dates and catch summaries are provided in Tables 2 and 3, respectively.

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Figure 1. Hills Creek Dam RST Locations

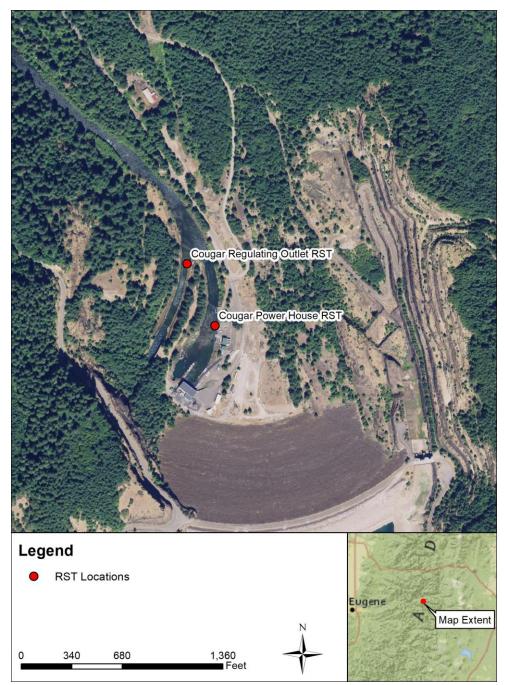


Figure 2. Cougar Dam RST Locations



Figure 3. Big Cliff RST Location

Site	Total Sampling Period Start	Current Reporting Period Start	Current Reporting Period End	Days Sampled This Period	Total Days Sampled
Hills Creek RO	10/21/21	12/16/21	12/31/21	15 days	61 days
Hills Creek PWR	10/21/21	12/16/21	12/31/21	15 days	61 days
Cougar RO	12/1/21	12/16/21	12/31/21	15 days	30 days
Cougar PWR	12/1/21	12/16/21	12/31/21	15 days	30 days
Big Cliff	12/1/21	12/16/21	12/31/21	15 days	30 days

# Table 2. Sampling Dates for Reporting Period

Site	Species	Catch (Reporting Period)	Recaptures (Reporting Period)	Total Catch	Total Recaptures
Hills Creek	CHS	19	0	72	0
Cougar	CHS	6	0	24	0
Big Cliff	CHS	46	39	56	39

#### Table 3. Willamette Valley Rotary Screw Trap Monitoring Catch Summary

## Middle Fork Willamette – Hills Creek Dam

## **Target Species**

This reporting period began on December 16 and ended on December 31. A total of 19 Chinook salmon (CHS) were captured during the 15-day sampling period (Figure 4). Sampling durations were 87% for both RO RST and Powerhouse RST, the traps were raised and not sampling for 2 days due to inclement weather. Table 4 provides life stage, length, and weight data for all Chinook salmon that have been caught at the Hills Creek site to-date and Figure 5 shows length frequency data to-date.

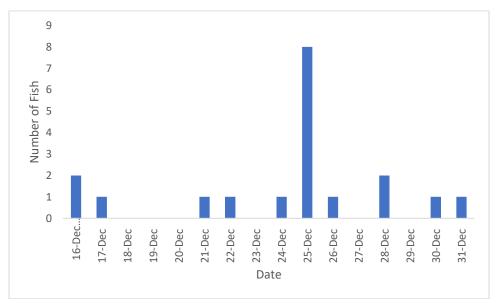


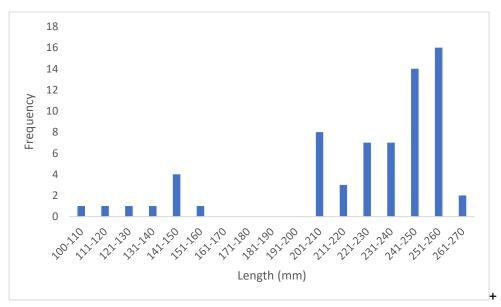
Figure 4. Chinook Captured Per Day 12/16/2021 to 12/31/2021 (Hills Creek)

Table 4. Descriptive Statistics of Target Species Captured at Hills Creek Dam Season To-
Date and for the Reporting Period

	To-Date												
Site R	Route	Species	Life	Collected	Length (mm)*			Weight (g) <sup>*</sup>					
		Species	stage	Collected	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean			
Hills	RO	CHS	Smolt	26	143	264	230.2	107.8	192.3	159.3			
Creek	RU	CHS	Parr	3	102	141	123	10.3	23.4	17.3			
Hills Creek P	PWR	CHS	Smolt	42	137.0	262.0	225.7	27.4	202.2	131.1			
	FVVK	CHS	Parr	1	111.0	111.0	111	11.9	11.9	11.9			

	December 16-31, 2021											
Site	Route	Route I Species I	Life		Length (mm) <sup>*</sup>			Weight (g) <sup>*</sup>				
			stage	Collected	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean		
Hills Creek RO	PO	CHS	Parr	3	102.0	141.0	123.0	10.3	23.4	17.3		
	ĸŬ	CHS	Smolt	4	201.0	264.0	232.8	120.5	192.3	148.3		
Hills Creek PWR	PWR	CHS	Smolt	11	205.0	260	246.6	100.9	202.2	171 2		
		CHS	Parr									

Fish that were missing heads are not included in length and weight calculations. One fish was a head only and could not be assigned a life stage



\*Figure does not include fish without heads



# **Injuries and Copepod Infection**

Partial descaling <20% was observed on 2 of 7 Chinook collected at the RO RST (29%), and 7 of 12 Chinook collected at the PWR RST (58%). Descaling >20% was observed on 2 of 7 Chinook collected at the RO RST (29%), and 4 of 12 Chinook collected at the PWR RST (33%). 15 of 19 Chinook fish collected during this reporting period had copepods present (79%). Of the 19 Chinook captured, 2 displayed body injuries and 2 had eye injuries present. There were 2 Chinook mortalities collected in the RO RST, and 6 collected in the PWR RST (Table 5). A summary of injuries observed during the reporting period, and for the duration of the season are provided in Appendix A.

Site	# CHS Collected	# DSC* <20%	# DSC* >20%	# with Body Injuries	# with Eye Injuries	# with COP* In B.C.	# with COP* on Fins	Mortalities
Hills Creek RO	7	2	2	1	0	6	3	2
Hills Creek PWR	12	7	4	1	2	11	7	6

#### Table 5. Number of Descaled and Partially Descaled Chinook Salmon.

\*DSC=Descaled, COP=Copepods, B.C.=Branchial Cavity

### **Non-Target Species**

A total of 16 non-target fish were captured at Hills Creek during the reporting period; the data is summarized below in Table 6.

Species	RO Capture	RO Mortality	PWR Capture	PWR Mortality	Season Total	Season Total Mortality
Bluegill	3	2	3	2	30	10
Brook Lamprey	0	0	0	0	1	0
Bullhead	0	0	0	0	1	0
Bull Trout	1	0	0	0	1	0
Crappie	1	1	0	0	54	39
Longnose Dace	0	0	0	0	2	0
Red-Sided Shiner	0	0	2	0	16	2
Sculpin	0	0	1	0	33	0
Spotted Bass	0	0	1	0	6	1
Sucker	0	0	0	0	2	1
Whitefish	0	0	0	0	1	1
O. mykiss	4	4	2	1	48	15
Totals	9	7	9	3	195	69

### Table 6. Summary of Non-target Species (Hills Creek).

## **Stream Statistics**

Basic stream statistics at the Hills Creek site were calculated from data downloaded from the U.S. Geological Survey stream gage number 14145110. Gage height (feet) is the only metric provided at this gage. During the reporting period, daily maximum values for instantaneous gage height ranged from 1,225.12 feet to 1,227.41 feet (mean: 1,225.96 feet). Figure 6 shows instantaneous gage height.

Stream temperatures were recorded every 2 hours for the both the RO RST and the PWR RST (Figures 7 and 8). Temperature probes operated normally throughout this reporting period.

Flows through the PWR and RO during the reporting period averaged 846.6 and 1,159.5 cubic feet per second (cfs) respectively (Figure 9). The average flow of the PWR while the PWR was generating was 725.2cfs and the RO was 721.4cfs. Catch per unit of effort (CPUE) data are summarized in Table 7. Discharge and capture data for the duration of monitoring efforts at this location are provided in Appendix B.

	Chinook					
Description	RO (5ft)	PWR(8ft)				
Catch	7	12				
Effort (hrs)	385	331.52				
CPUE (fish/hr)	0.018	0.036				

Table 7. Summary of Chinook CPUE, Hills Creek.

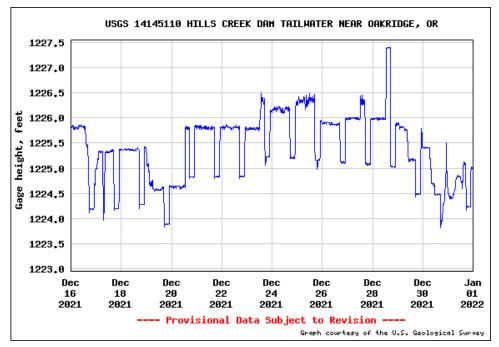


Figure 6. Gage Height (feet); below Hills Creek Dam, Middle Fork Willamette River

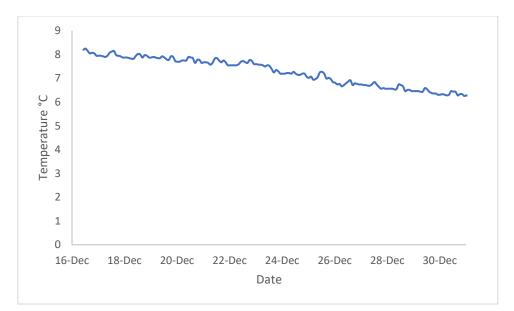


Figure 7. Temperature at RO RST (Hills Creek)

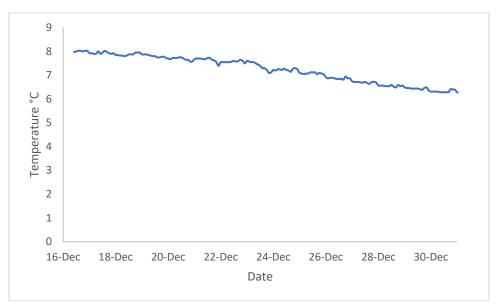


Figure 8. Temperature at Powerhouse RST (Hills Creek)



Figure 9. Hourly Flows PWR vs. RO (Hills Creek)

## South Fork McKenzie – Cougar Dam

## **Target Species**

This reporting period began on December 15 and ended on December 31. There was a total of 6 Chinook salmon (CHS) during the 15-day sampling period (Figure 10). Sampling durations were 93% for the RO RST and 43% for the Powerhouse RST. There was no flow through the powerhouse until December 23<sup>rd</sup> during the reporting period, so the RST cones were lifted out of the sampling position for the PWR traps to avoid damage until that time. Additionally, inclement weather prevented reliable access to the site on the 27<sup>th</sup> and the RST cones were lifted for that day. Table 8 provides life stage, length, and weight data for all Chinook salmon that have been caught at the Cougar Dam site to-date and Figure 11 shows length frequency data to-date.

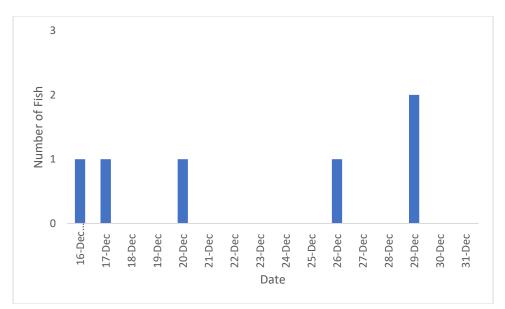




Table 8. Descriptive Statistics of Target Species Captured at the Cougar Dam Season To-
Date

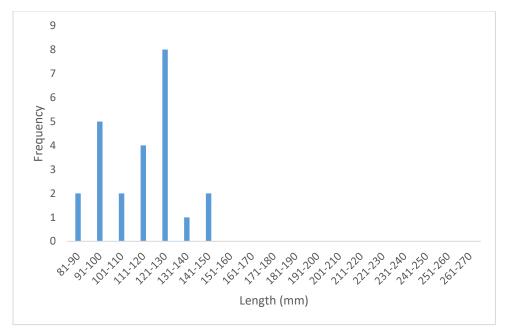
	To-Date												
Site	Route	Route Species	Life	Collected	Length (mm)*				Weight (g) <sup>*</sup>				
			stage	Collected	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean			
Courser	RO	CHS	Smolt	2	127.0	127.0	127	20.6	22.4	21.5			
Cougar	ĸŬ	CHS	Parr	22	90.0	145.0	112.8	7.34	30.6	16			
Cougar PW		CHS	Smolt	0									
	PWR	CHS	Parr	0		-			-				

	December 16-31, 2021														
Site	Route	Species	Life	Collected	Le	ength (mn	n)*	1	Neight (g	)*					
Sile	Roule	Species	stage	Collected	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean					
Courser	PO	CHS	Parr	6	90.0	127.0	112.5	8.6	24.1	15.8					
Cougai	Cougar RO -		Smolt	0											
Courser	CHS		Smolt	0											
Cougar PWR		CHS	Parr	0					-						

\*Fish that were missing heads are not included in length and weight calculations.

## 24-Hour Post Collection Holding Trial

A total of 4 Chinook captured in the RSTs were held for ~24 hours in holding tanks and then evaluated for survival rates. All fish were captured in the RO trap. All fish (100%) held during this period were released alive.



\*Figure does not include fish without heads

# Figure 11. Length Frequency of Juvenile Chinook Sampled Season To-Date (Cougar Dam)

## **Injuries and Copepod Infection**

Partial descaling <20% was observed on 4 of 6 Chinook collected at the RO RST (66%), and descaling >20% was observed on1 of 6 Chinook collected at the RO RST (17%). The PWR RST was not in operation for this reporting period due to low water levels. 4 of 6 Chinook fish collected during this reporting period had copepods present. Of the 6 Chinook captured, 0 displayed body injuries and 0 had eye injuries present. There were 2 Chinook mortalities collected in the RO RST, and 0 collected in the PWR RST (Table 5). A summary of injuries observed during the reporting period, and for the duration of the season are provided in Appendix A.

Site	# CHS Collected	# DSC* <20%	# DSC* >20%	# with Body Injuries	# with Eye Injuries	# with COP* In B.C.	# with COP* on Fins	Mortalities
Cougar RO	6	4	1	0	0	4	2	2
Cougar PWR	0							

\*DSC=Descaled, COP=Copepods, B.C.=Branchial Cavity

#### **Non-Target Species**

A total of 2 non-target species fish were captured during the reporting period; the data is summarized below in Table 6.

Species	RO Capture	RO Mortality	PWR Capture	PWR Mortality	Season Total Live	Season Total Mortality
Bluegill	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brook Lamprey	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bullhead	0	0	0	0	0	0
Crappie	0	0	0	0	0	0
Longnose Dace	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kokanee	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-Sided Shiner	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sculpin	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spotted Bass	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sucker	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whitefish	1	0	0	0	1	0
O. mykiss	1	0	0	0	3	0
Totals	2	0	0	0	4	0

### Table 10. Summary of Non-target Species (Cougar Dam).

## **Stream Statistics**

Basic stream statistics at the Cougar Dam site were calculated from data downloaded from the U.S. Geological Survey stream gage number 14159410. Gage height (feet) is the only metric provided at this gage. During the reporting period, daily maximum values for instantaneous gage height ranged from 1,251.24 feet to 1,253.54 feet (mean: 1,252.5 feet). Figure 12 shows instantaneous gage height.

Stream temperatures were recorded every 2 hours for the length of the report period for the RO and beginning December 26 for the PWR RST (Figure 13). Temperature probes for the RO and PWR RST operated normally throughout this reporting period.

Flows through the Powerhouse and RO during the reporting period averaged 133.9 and 615.6 cubic feet per second (cfs) respectively (Figure 14). Catch per unit of effort (CPUE) data are summarized in Table 11. Discharge and capture data for the duration of monitoring efforts at this location are provided in Appendix B.

	Chi	nook
Description	RO (5ft)	PWR(8ft)
Catch	6	0
Effort (hrs)	333.93	337.4
CPUE (fish/hr)	0.018	0

Table 11. Summary of salmonid CPUE, Cougar Dam.

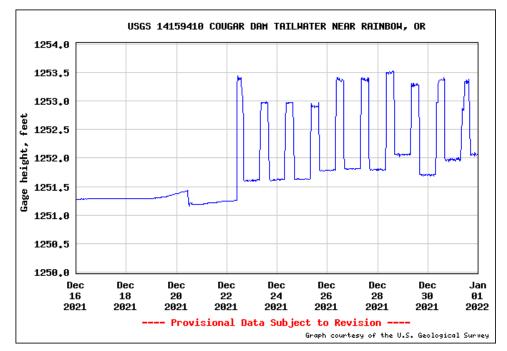


Figure 12. Gage Height (feet); below Cougar Dam, South Fork McKenzie River

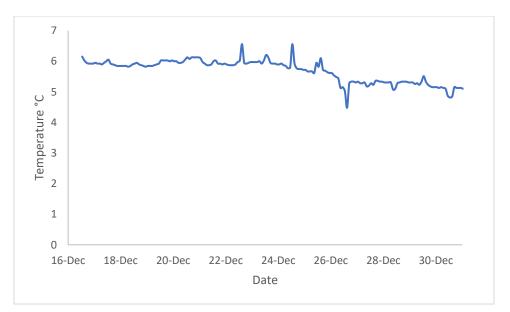


Figure 13. Temperature at RO RST (Cougar Dam)

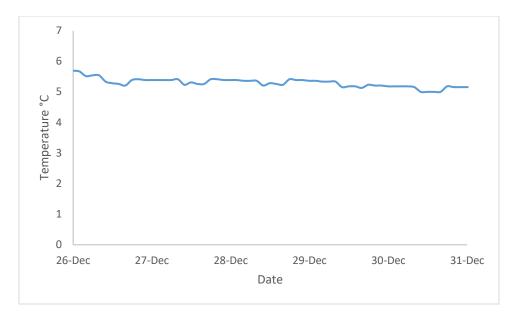


Figure 14. Temperature at PWR RST (Cougar Dam)

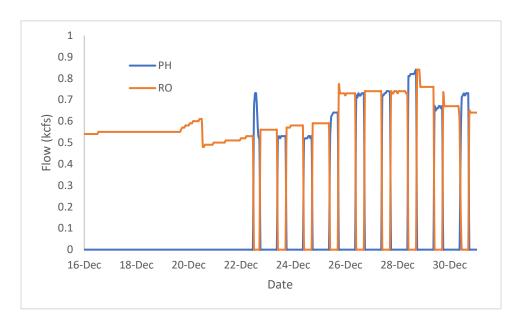


Figure 15. Hourly Flows PWR vs. RO (Cougar Dam)

## North Santiam – Big Cliff Dam

#### **Target Species**

The reporting period began on December 15 and ended on December 31. 46 Chinook salmon (CHS) were collected during the 15-day sampling period (Figure 16). The sampling duration was 87% for the trap, the cone was raised and not sampling for 2 days due to inclement weather. Table 12 provides life stage, length, and weight data for all Chinook salmon that have been caught at the Big Cliff site to-date and Figure 17 shows length frequency data to-date.

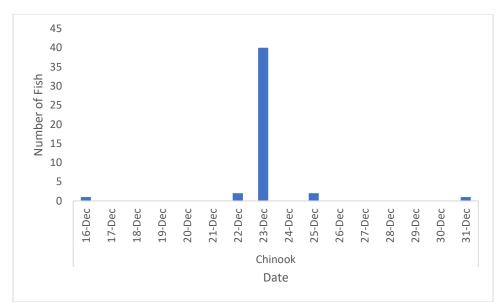
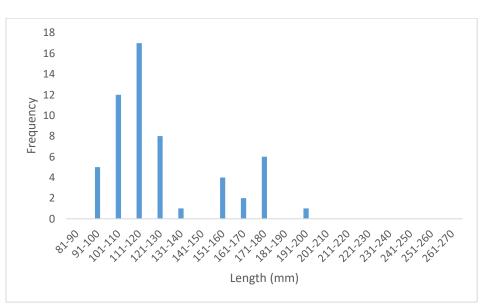




 
 Table 12. Descriptive Statistics of Target Species Captured at Big Cliff Dam Season To-Date

					Le	ngth (m	ım)*	Weight (g) <sup>*</sup>					
Site	Route	Species	Life stage	Collected	Min	Max	Mean	Min	Max	Mean			
Big Cliff	PWR	CHS	Smolt	14	137	195	166.5	27.9	90.8	47.2			
Dam	PVK	CHS	Parr	42	95	127	111.6	9.2	21.3	14.4			

<sup>\*</sup>Fish that were missing heads are not included in length and weight calculations.



\*Figure does not include fish without heads

Figure 17. Length Frequency of Juvenile Chinook Sampled Season To-Date (Big Cliff)

## **Trapping Efficiency**

A total of 996 juvenile Chinook (parr) were dyed and released on 12/22/21 below Big Cliff Dam to evaluate the efficiency of the screw trap at that location. The average fork length of fish released was 109mm. A total of 39 fish were recaptured on 12/29/21. Capture efficiency for this test was 3.92%.

# **Injuries and Copepod Infection**

Partial descaling <20% was observed on 3 of 46 target Chinook collected (6.5%), and descaling >20% was observed on 1 of 46 Chinook collected (2.1%). 9 of 46 Chinook collected during this reporting period had copepods present (19.5%). Of the 46 Chinook captured, 0 displayed body injuries and 0 had eye injuries present. There were 0 Chinook mortalities (Table 5). A summary of injuries observed during the reporting period, and for the duration of the season are provided in Appendix A.

#### Table 13. Number of Descaled and Partially Descaled Chinook Salmon.

Site	# CHS Collected	# DSC* <20%	# DSC* >20%	# with Body Injuries	# with Eye Injuries	# with COP* In B.C.	# with COP* on Fins	Mortalities
Big Cliff	46	3	1	0	0	6	3	0

\*DSC=Descaled, COP=Copepods, B.C.=Branchial Cavity

## **Non-Target Species**

A total of 12 non-target fish were captured at Big Cliff during the reporting period; the data is summarized below in Table 14.

Species	PWR Capture	PWR Mortality	Season Total	Season Total Mortality
Bluegill	1	0	4	2
Brook Lamprey	0	0	0	0
Bullhead	0	0	0	0
Crappie	0	0	0	0
Longnose Dace	0	0	0	0
Kokanee	11	7	26	14
Red-Sided Shiner	0	0	0	0
Sculpin	0	0	0	0
Spotted Bass	0	0	0	0
Sucker	0	0	0	0
Whitefish	0	0	0	0
O. mykiss	0	0	0	0
Totals	12	7	30	16

#### Table 14. Summary of Non-target Species (Big Cliff Dam).

## **Stream Statistics**

Basic stream statistics at the Big Cliff site were calculated from data downloaded from the U.S. Geological Survey stream gage number 14181410. Gage height (feet) is the only metric provided at this gage.

During the reporting period, daily maximum values for instantaneous gage height ranged from 1,110.15 feet to 1,113.88 feet (mean: 1,112.47 feet). Figure 18 shows instantaneous gage height.

Stream temperatures were recorded every 2 hours for the Big Cliff RST (Figure 18). Temperature probes for the Big Cliff RST operated normally throughout this reporting period.

Flows through the Powerhouse and spill during the reporting period averaged 2,916.4 and 695.6 cubic feet per second (cfs) respectively (Figure 20). Catch per unit of effort (CPUE) data are summarized in Table 15. Discharge and capture data for the duration of monitoring efforts at this location are provided in Appendix B.

	Chinook
Description	PWR(8ft)
Catch	39
Effort (hrs)	266.85
CPUE (fish/hr)	0.1461

Table 15. Summary of salmonid CPUE, Big Cliff Dam.

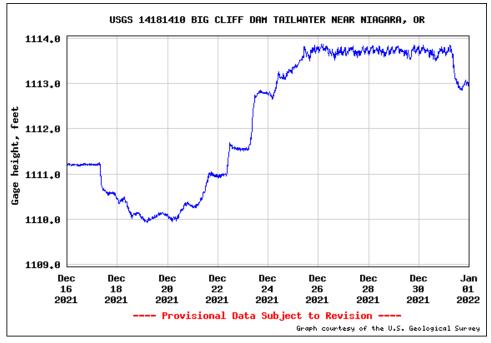


Figure 18. Gage Height (feet); below Big Cliff Dam, North Santiam River

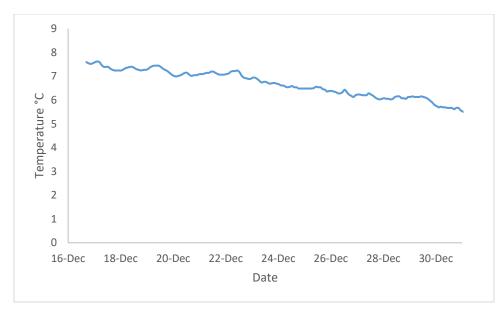


Figure 19. Temperature at RST (Big Cliff)



Figure 20. Hourly Flows PWR vs. Spill (Big Cliff)

## **Issues Encountered**

None during this reporting period.

# **Upcoming USACE Support Services**

None.

Appendix A

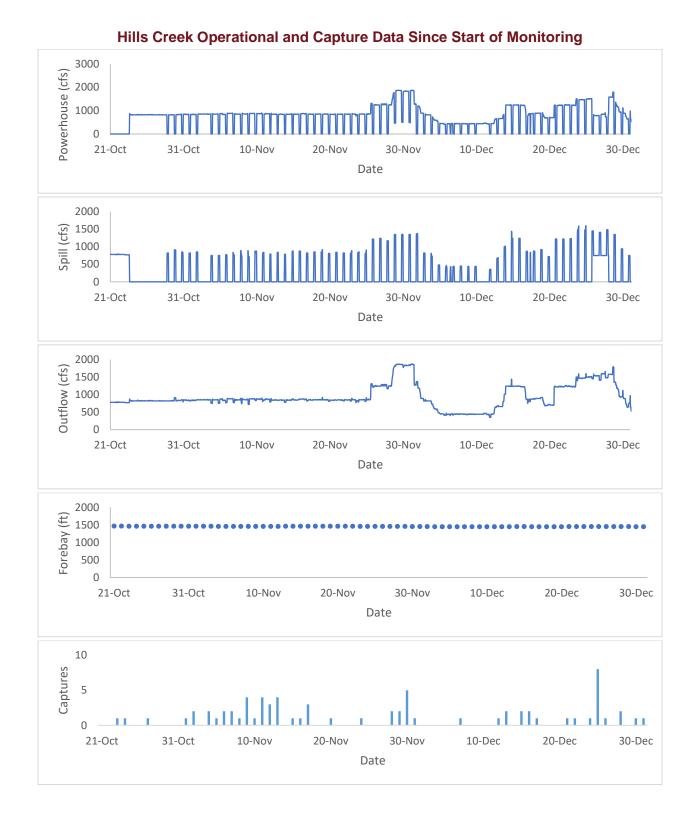
				Ir	njurie	s Dur	ing R	eport	ing P	eriod	(12-:	16-21	to 12	2-31-2	21)								
Site/Trap/Life Stage	Total Fish	MUNK	DS<2	BLO	ЕУВ	FUN	BKD	СОР	DS>2	PRD	FID	HBO	BO	ОН	BVT	НВР	BRU	TEA	OPD	HIN	FVB	POP	GBD
Big Cliff	46							6															
8 ft (PH)	46		3			1		6	1		2							1					
Parr	42		1			1		2			1												
Smolt	4		2					4	1		1							1					
Cougar	6																						
5 ft (RO)	6		4					3	1											2			
Parr	5		3					2	1											1			
Smolt	1		1					1												1			
Hills Creek	19		9						6		6				6								
5 ft (RO)	7		2					4	2		1		1		1								
Parr	3							1															
Smolt	4		2					3	2		1		1		1								
8 ft (PH)	12		7		2			11	4		5		1	1	5		1						
Unknown	1													1									
Smolt	11		7		2			11	4		5		1		5		1						

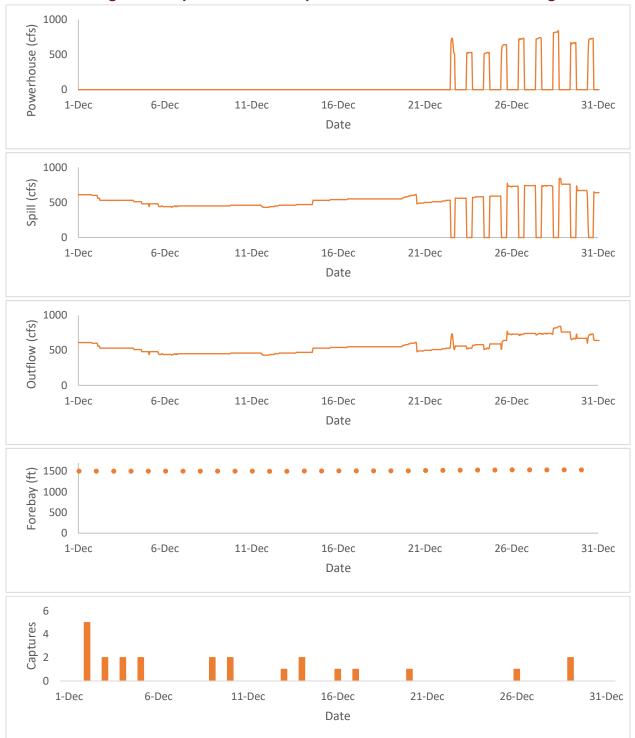
				l	Injuri	es Sir	nce Pr	oject	Initia	ation	(10-2	1-21	to 12	-15-2	1)								
Site/Trap/Life Stage	Total Fish	MUNK	DS<2	BLO	ЕҮВ	FUN	BKD	СОР	DS>2	PRD	FID	НВО	BO	ОН	BVT	HBP	BRU	ТЕА	OPD	HIN	FVB	POP	GBD
Big Cliff	56		8					16															
8 ft (PH)	56		8		2	1		16	2		3	1			1			2	3				
Parr	42		1			1		2			1												
Smolt	14		7		2			14	2		2	1			1			2	3				
Cougar																							
5 ft (RO)	9		4					5	1											2			
Parr	8		3					4	1											1			
Smolt	1		1					1												1			

8 ft (PH)	15	7		1	12		4						1	3			
Parr	14	6		1	11		4						1	3			
Smolt	1	1			1												
Hills Creek			6		59						6						
5 ft (RO)	56	31	4		44	19	10	6		17	6	1	2	4	1	1	
Parr	4				1												
Smolt	52	31	4		43	19	10	6		17	6	1	2	4	1	1	
8 ft (PH)	16	10	2		15	5	4	1	1	6		1			1	1	
Unknown	1								1								
Smolt	15	10	2		15	5	4	1		6		1			1	1	

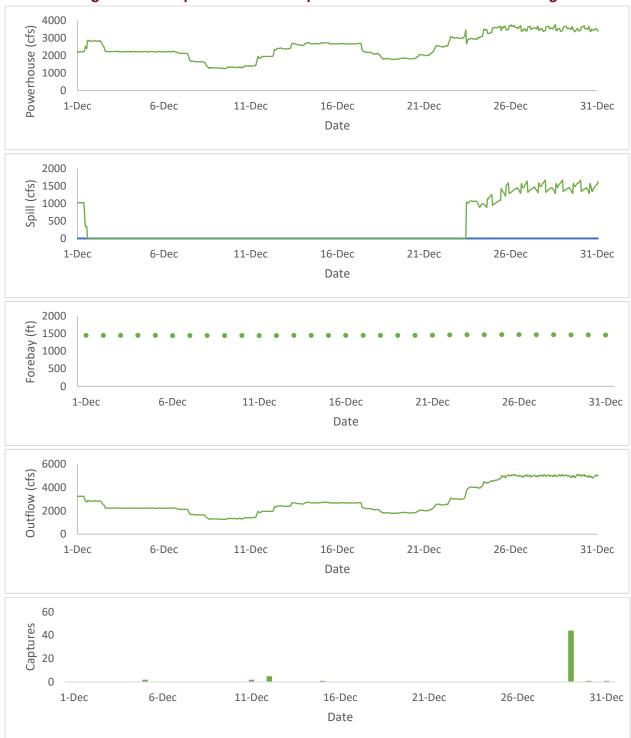
Injury Code	Description of Injury/Condition
NXI	Live fish with no external injuries
MUNK	Mortality with no external injuries
DS<2	Descaling <20%
BLO	Bloated
EYB	Bloody Eye (hemorrhage)
BVT	Bleeding from Vent
FVB	Fin Blood Vessels Broken
GBD	Gas Bubble Disease (fin ray/eye inclusions)
РОР	Pop Eye (eye popping out of head)
HIN	Head Injury
OPD	Opercle Damage
TEA	Body Injury (tears, scrapes, mechanical damage)
BRU	Bruising (any part of the body)
НВР	Hole Behind Pectoral Fin
DS>2	Descaling > 20%
НО	Head Only
во	Body Only
НВО	Head Barely Connected
FID	Fin Damage
PRD	Predation Marks (vert. claw or teeth marks)
СОР	Copepods (on gills or fins)
BKD	BKD (distended abdomen)
FUN	Fungus

Appendix B





Cougar Dam Operational and Capture Data Since Start of Monitoring



Big Cliff Dam Operational and Capture Data Since Start of Monitoring