

Change Request Number: 11TDA006

Date: 11/2/10

Proposed by: TDA Fisheries

Location of Change: 2.5.1.2.a.8

Proposed Change: 8. Count station crowders shall remain in the maximum width while visual counting and/or video-taping is being conducted. The crowder shall not be closed to less than 18" width. If passage is impaired by this condition, the count slot may be widened until proper passage conditions are achieved, even though count accuracy may be compromised to some degree. Project biologists, FFU, and fish counters shall coordinate to achieve optimum count slot passage and/or count accuracy conditions. ~~The crowder shall remain fully open during hours when no fish counting is performed.~~

Reason for Change: Primary objective at the count station is to assure no impact to fish passage; secondary objective is to count fish. If it's confirmed having the crowder space does not interfere with passage during counting, it should not interfere with passage during the non-counting hours.

Comments from others:

NOAA Fisheries- Again, the reason was unclear (as is the original FPP text). We disagree with the change, the crowders should be open as far as possible when fish are not being counted. Fredricks would prefer to not have a constricted area for fish to pass. Meyer was called in for reinforcements. Meyer stated the UI study showed the entire count station is an impact to fish passage. Meyer suggested he is agreeable to leaving the crowder in count position during evening hours.

Fredricks said the concern about the crowder's ability to operate twice a day, that needs to be concerned.

USFWS- Do not support. I disagree that we assume there is no impact to passage when the crowder is in place. There was a trade-off for accurate passage counts during the day, in exchange for some impacts to passage. If labor logistics are a problem, has the project only adjusted the crowder when convenient?

TDA Fisheries- Due to an oversight, the crowder has not been opened. Is there any evidence having the crowder not fully open impacts fish passage.

The group then started discussing ending counts at TDA. Cordie suggested leaving the crowder wide open and then adding a ? key for the fish counters. Wills said he would like TAC to chime in about the importance of the ESA listed species counts at TDA. Lorz said fish counting occurs to make sure adults find the entrances, now, do you need to have it as accurate as possible or can you just make a check that fish are passing.

Record of Final Action: denied at 21 January 2011 meeting. NWP will look at changes in the future.