# Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Request Form

**Change Form # & Title**: 17LMN006 – Count Station Pickets

**Date Submitted**: 2/13/17

**Project**: LMN

**Requester Name, Agency**: Chris Peery, Ann Setter, NWW

**Final Action:** **NOT APPROVED (FPOM 5/11/17)**

**FPP Section**: Chapter 7. LMN Section 2.4.2.2 Counting Window

**Justification**: Removing picketed leads will facilitate fish passage and reduce maintenance and cleaning workload during winter when fish counts are not being made.

**Proposed Change**:

**2.4.2.2. Counting Windows.** All counting slots at Lower Monumental Dam are fixed at a width of 19”. All equipment should be maintained and in good condition. The counting window and backboard should be cleaned as needed to maintain good visibility.The picketed leads shall be removed when fish counting is not occurring.

**Comments**:

2/9/17 FPOM: Morrill will summarize the need for PIT-tag data and send to Setter.

3/9/17 FPOM: Morrill talked to Joe Baumgartner and confirmed the PIT-tag data are important. There were more than 100 detections in November. Morrill will find out if detections at one project are more important than others and what timeframe is most significant. If the count station picket leads are removed, the PIT-tag readers would miss Nov 1–Mar 31. Baumgartner will report to FPOM on why these data are important.

4/13/17 FPOM: Temporary LMN and LGS PIT Detectors – The issue is whether or not to remove picket leads in count stations that have the temporary PIT detectors after the count period is over. NWW wants to pull leads which NMFS supports and change forms have already been submitted. Funneling fish into the count slot creates delay but the magnitude is difficult to quantify. The PIT detectors were intended to be temporary and NMFS doesn’t want to change project operations for the antennas. NMFS has brought up these concerns since the start of the project. The tradeoff is the detection data vs. fish delay. Baumgartner said he didn’t realize that the arrays were temporary. The arrays have provided data on steelhead movement between dams. The data have been very useful and it would be great if they could continue to get passage data, but as an agency, delay issues are very important. Morrill talked to Wharf about moving the detectors to a permanent location and it is estimated to cost about $250K for both ladders. This year’s adult return forecast is 35% of average, so every decision this year is very significant. Wharf will write a memo about what it takes to add an array to the serpentine weir section. Even if a decision is made this year, LMN hasn’t budgeted for this and it would take several years to get funding. Baumgartner will look at the data and filter results for detections not detected elsewhere. The data will be brought to the next FPOM.

5/11/17 FPOM: FPOM did not approve of removing the picketed leads when not counting at LMN and LGS where PIT-tag detection data outweighs the unknown risk of delay.

**Record of Final Action**: **NOT APPROVED**