# Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Request Form

**Change Form # & Title**: 21IHR002 – Surface Spill for Adult Steelhead Overshoots

**Date Submitted**: 31 December 2020

**Project**: Ice Harbor

**Requester Name, Agency**: Lisa Wright, Corps RCC

**Final Action:** **APPROVED – 28 January 2021**

**FPP Section**:

IHR section 2.2 “Spill Management”

**Justification for Change**:

Adds off-season surface spill for adult steelhead to the FPP project-specific chapters.

**Proposed Change**:

Add new section 2.2.2.

2.2. Spill Management

**2.2.1.** Spring and summer spill operations for juvenile fish passage are defined in the *Fish Operations Plan* (FOP), included in the Fish Passage Plan as **Appendix E**. Spill at Ice Harbor will be distributed in patterns defined in **Table IHR-6 through IHR-9**.

**2.2.2.** Off-season surface spill will be implemented at McNary and the four lower Snake River dams as a means of providing downstream passage for adult Mid-Columbia River and Snake River steelhead that overshoot and then migrate back downstream through the dams when there is no spill for juvenile fish passage. This operation is pursuant to non-discretionary terms and conditions in the 2020 NOAA Fisheries Columbia River System (CRS) Biological Opinion[[1]](#footnote-1), which calls for surface spill via the spillway weir at each of the five projects from March 1 through March 30, and from October 1 through November 15, three times each week on non-consecutive days for four hours in the morning (generally between 05:00 and 11:00). This operation is also considered in the 2020 USFWS CRS Biological Opinion[[2]](#footnote-2) as a means of providing safe and effective downstream passage for adult steelhead and other fish.

**Comments**:

1/28/2021 FPOM FPP Meeting: Swank requested adding reference to the USFWS BiOp that also considers this operation. Wright will make that change.

**Record of Final Action**: Approved as revised at the FPOM FPP meeting on 1/28/21.

1. NOAA CRS BiOp, section 2.17.4.G, “*Reduce Take of Overshoot Adult Steelhead*”, available online at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/webdam/download/109136871> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. USFWS CRS BiOp, section 5.7.4, “*Off-season Surface Spill for Downstream Passage of Adult Steelhead*”, available online at: https://ecos.fws.gov/tails/pub/document/17101031 [↑](#footnote-ref-2)