# Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Form

**Change Form # & Title**: 23AppJ001 – JBS Start Date at LMN, LGS

**Date Submitted**: 2-NOV-2022

**Project**: LMN and LGS (Appendix J)

**Requester Name, Agency**: Scott St. John, Corps NWW

**Final Action: APPROVED as Revised at FPOM 12-JAN-2023**

**FPP Section**:

Appendix J - Smolt Facility Protocols, sections 5.1 (LMN Sampling) and 6.1 (LGS Sampling)

**Justification for Change**:

Aligns smolt sampling start date at Lower Monumental and Little Goose dams with changes coordinated in [23LMN001 and 23LGS001](https://pweb.crohms.org/tmt/documents/fpp/2023/changes/).

**Proposed Change**:

5.1. LMN Sampling.

* + - * 1. Condition samples will be taken if fish are being sampled for barge transport loading purposes (see **Appendix B**); the following criteria will apply when barge transport samples are not taken for any reason.
        2. Condition sampling will begin March 25 (except in 2023 when sampling will begin March 1) to monitor descaling and other fish condition parameters and to ensure sampling systems are operating correctly prior to transport. Condition sampling will occur at least twice per week through April 14, with no more than three days between samples.
        3. From April 15 through July 31, condition sampling will occur every other day.
        4. From August 1 through September 30, condition sampling will occur at least twice per week with no more than three days between samples.
        5. The sample goal should be 100 fish of the predominant salmonid species.
        6. Sampling frequency may be increased if injuries are observed or suspected (e.g., during high debris conditions).
        7. Full 24-hour samples may be taken to determine species composition to inform a decision on starting transport at this project.
        8. Fish condition reporting will follow the standardized SMP protocol and sent to FPC within 12 hours of sampling.
        9. When not condition sampling, the JFF will return to primary (full-flow) bypass and juvenile fish will be routed to the primary outfall and full-flow PIT-tag detection system.

6.1. LGS Sampling.

* + - * 1. From March 25 until the start of transport (see **Appendix B**), condition sampling will occur every other day to monitor descaling and other fish condition parameters, to ensure sampling systems are operating correctly prior to transport, and to train personnel on facility operations and sampling protocol.
        2. The sample goal should be 100 fish of the predominant salmonid species.
        3. Sampling frequency may be increased if injuries are observed or suspected (e.g., during high debris conditions).
        4. Full 24-hour samples may be taken to determine species composition to inform a decision on starting transport at this project.
        5. Fish condition reporting will follow the standardized SMP protocol and sent to FPC within 12 hours of sampling.
        6. When not sampling, the facility will return to primary (full-flow) bypass and juvenile fish will be routed to the mid-river outfall and full flow PIT-tag detection system.

**Comments**:

10-NOV-2022 FPOM Meeting:

Hesse - early starts were during cold years. The proposed date is right on the edge of when salmonids show up. Lamprey have been observed earlier. Need to collect data for successful translocation. Likes the standardization of a date but prefers mid-March and discussion about lamprey.

Peery - lamprey were not part of this decision. Can deviate for research if want to get data on lamprey.

Swank - concerned about not observing changes in timing, esp with climate change.

Bettin - screen will start going in earlier to meet the date (by March 25).

Conder - this is a good operation for fish and can still talk about earlier start and data collection.

Peery - a consistent schedule allows time for project to do winter maintenance and plan more efficiently.

Hesse - is this standardization ending the effort to look at early start on a rotating basis?

Peery - yes, that is the intent. Having it rotate to a different project/start date each year is very difficult to schedule/budget for. What are other dates folks are willing to consider?

St. John - nav maintenance is typically already scheduled and contracted. Screen install also requires the cranes so can’t do both at the same time. Also, RSW pit-detection will happen in March during overshoot spill, so there will be some data collected.

Morrill - only have one year at LGS. Thought the plan was to get two years.

Van Dyke - there was a set schedule when this first came up that has been changed every year.

Hesse - overshoot spill isn’t enough to get sufficient data to monitor early movement of juveniles.

Peery - requested folks to send in their comments and we will keep this on the agenda for more discussion.

8-DEC-2022 FPOM Meeting:

Conder - co-managers are not willing to give up the early start operations for value of data gathering. Willing to start a week earlier as proposed by the change forms but still want to rotate an earlier start as done previously.

Peery - what are you looking for? What is the value? What is the co-managers’ plan? Need to look at the data and make a decision rather than a perpetual data gathering exercise.

Conder - would like to get a range of flow years to compare. Understands it shouldn’t be done in perpetuity. No plan yet as to which projects and when.

Ebel - will draft a written response with what they want to see and why. Still haven’t had a flow year similar to what was the impetus for this operation. Also difficult to interpret when it’s rotated around. Will get the response/plan to Peery ASAP.

Peery - early start has a big impact on nav lock outage so need as much forewarning as possible.

Van Dyke - there is an FPC memo from OCT 2017 that provides justification. Other documents too with lots of information.

Morrill - there is quite a bit of information and data already out there that will be helpful for them to consider in making a recommendation.

12-JAN-2023 FPOM Meeting:

FPAC requested to start March 1 at LMN this year and will submit a recommendation for future years. After extensive coordination with project staff, LMN will target a March 1 start date in 2023 (dependent on winter maintenance, weather, and staff availability) with screens in the first 3 priority units (1-3) and implementing sampling protocols in Appendix J for April 1-15.

**Record of Final Action**: APPROVED as revised at FPOM 12-JAN-2023.