

Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Form

Change Form # & Title: 24JDA001 – Surface Spill
Date Submitted: 31-DEC-2023; Revised 1-FEB-2024
Project: John Day Dam
Requester Name, Agency: Lisa Wright, Corps RCC
Final Action: FINALIZED 1-FEB-2024

FPP SECTION: 2.2 Spill Management

JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE: Add new section for spring TSW spill March 21-April 9.

PROPOSED CHANGES: (EDITS TO EXISTING FPP TEXT IN “TRACK CHANGES”)

2.3.2.4. Temporary Spillway Weirs (TSWs).

- i. John Day Dam has two temporary, or top, spillway weirs (TSWs) in spillbays 18 and 19 that provide surface passage routes for fish.
- ii. When open, each TSW spills approximately 9.7 kcfs. Spill patterns with and without TSWs are in **Tables JDA-8 and JDA-9**, respectively.
- iii. During high flow, TSW removal is recommended before river flow exceeds 685 kcfs.
- iv. Opening and closing the TSWs requires a crew and gantry crane and must be done during daylight hours as weather allows.
- v. ~~Both TSWs will be installed-~~ Crews will open one TSW in spillbay 19 as early as possible on the morning of March 21 (first day of surface spill, per **Appendix E**), then open the second TSW in spillbay 18 as early as possible on the morning of April 10 (first day of spring spill, per **Appendix E**).
- vi. Both TSWs will be closed on the last normal workday of summer spill (no later than August 31), as late in the day as possible. Spill will be maintained at the FOP summer spill rate through midnight on August 31 using the “No TSWs” patterns.

COMMENTS:

1-FEB-2024 FPOM FPP Meeting:

Lotspeich clarified that the TSWs are not controlled by a tainter gate – once they are in and the bulkhead is removed, they are spilling water. The bay is bulkheaded off to install the structure, then crews pull the bulkhead as early as possible on the first day of spill.

Grosvenor added they stage everything ahead of time so it goes pretty quick in the morning to just pull the bulkhead and store it underneath the roadway. They can't have crews come in at midnight to pull the bulkhead, that's why they have that language in there. Also, he proposed changing the language to “open” instead of “install” to be clearer. Since the TSW will already be installed, that can be confusing.

Conder requested adding “in the morning” to the sentence to clarify the intent is to get them in asap. And if it doesn't get done in the morning, they would send an MFR to notify FPOM.

Van Dyke is concerned that the context of the spill operations in the MOU aren't fully captured in the FPP. [via email: *"I want to let you know that I am concerned about the progress thus far incorporating USG operations. What seems to be missing is the broader context edits throughout project chapters and appendices that adequately stream-line specified operations found in the December 2023 stay of litigation."*]

Wright replied that spill operations in the MOU will be in the FOP. The draft FOP will be sent to RIOG for review and comments within the next couple weeks.

Van Dyke added that the operation is for 24/7 spill starting March 21, so if they start spill "as early as possible" in the morning, that isn't meeting the letter of the agreed to operation. Proposed starting spill the day before to capture the 24-hr period on March 21.

Wright replied that the JDA operation in Appendix B starts March 21, not earlier, and the project doesn't have the capability to start at midnight. Is he concerned with that window of time between midnight and when they remove the bulkhead in the morning? The protocol on the first day of spring spill has been to spill at an equivalent rate with the non-TSW patterns from midnight until they open the TSWs.

Van Dyke replied yes, that he and others will have a problem with that. He is concerned with the overall approach. **TSW spill should be started the day before to comply with the 24/7 part of the agreement.**

Van Dyke will provide his comments and concerns during the FOP review.

The Corps will take this into consideration in the FOP review and change the FPP language if there is refinement needed.

RECORD OF FINAL ACTION: Finalized as revised at the FPOM FPP meeting 1-FEB-2024.