

Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Form

Change Form # & Title: 25JDA003 – Clarification on SMF Sampling
Date Submitted: December 10, 2024
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Final Action:

FPP SECTION: Chapter 4 (JDA), section 2.3.2.3 Juvenile Facilities / Fish Passage Season / Smolt Monitoring Facility – iv, last bullet.

JUSTIFICATION FOR CHANGE: The procedure for moving out of 70-degree sampling appears to be straightforward.

“The condition sampling will be reduced to two days per week (Monday and Thursday) until water temperatures drop below 69.5°F.” However, if the water temperature drops below 69.5 on a Wednesday or Thursday, the next sample day is unclear. The 2-sample modes are as follows.....

Standard sampling mode: 3-days/week on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

High water temperature sampling mode: 2-days/week Monday and Thursday

The project waits until the daily average water temperature drops below 69.5-degrees to change sample modes. As a result, the new sample mode takes place the following day. If the average daily temperature drops below 69.5 on a Wednesday or Thursday it’s unclear what the next sample day should be.

When temperatures drop on Wednesday, and JDA is set to change back to “standard mode” on Thursday, then it’s impossible to do 3/days week. Unless JDA sampled Thursday and Friday (Monday was sampled and Wednesday was not). If Thursday is skipped in lieu of sampling on Friday(as that would be a typical standard sample day), then there are 3-days between samples.

When temperatures drop on a Thursday and JDA is set to change back to standard mode on Friday, then the only way to get 3-days would be to do a 3rd sample on Friday (Monday and Thursday were sampled under “high water temperature sampling” protocols). This leads to back-to-back sample days, and increasing smolt handling.

In order to clear up any confusion JDA proposes that if the temperature drops below 69.5-degrees on a Wednesday or Thursday then they will continue to operate in “high water temperature mode” (sample that Thursday, but not on Friday) then move back to “standard sampling mode” the following week. This would also allow a small buffer in the event that temperatures bump back over 70-degrees.

Any other day of the week is straightforward.

PROPOSED CHANGE: *Edits to existing FPP text in “track changes”.*

2.3.2.3. Smolt Monitoring Facility (SMF).

iv. On-site staff will perform a walking inspection of the entire SMF system every two hours to ensure safe fish passage conditions. The system will be fully staffed while the SMF is in operation (i.e., crest gate deployed and secondary dewatering structure receiving fish-laden flow). When the SMF is in bypass mode, Project Fisheries staff will continue to perform daily inspections of the JBS to ensure the system is operating within criteria. Staff will pay particular attention to the following to ensure proper function of sampling system:

- Dewatering facilities, including screens, free of holes or gaps, and the screen cleaner brush system.
- All valves and auxiliary water systems.
- Flushing water valves and perforated plates.
- All gates, including crest, tainter, switch, and rotating gates.
- Fish/debris separator, including perforated plates and adult passage chamber.
- PIT-tag detectors.
- All sampling building systems, including holding tanks, valves, and conduits.
- During low to normal debris loads, the Primary Dewatering Screen (PDS) sweepers will be cycled twice per shift (six times per day). If higher debris loads, the frequency of screen sweeper cycling will be increased as determined by the Project Fisheries inspection.
- The fish/debris separator will be visually inspected every 30 minutes to prevent injury and/or mortality to fish. During high debris periods (likely during spring runoff), additional personnel may be required to keep the separator free of any obstructions to fish passage. The Project Biologist will decide to assign a person to remove debris from the separator for as long as necessary to ensure the safety of passing fish.
- When water temperatures are $\geq 70^{\circ}\text{F}$, all fish handling to remove adult fish from the PDS area will be coordinated through FPOM. The condition sampling will be reduced to two days per week (Monday and Thursday) until water temperatures drop below 69.5°F . [If water temperatures drop below \$69.5^{\circ}\text{F}\$ on a Wednesday or Thursday, then condition sampling will be moved out of \$\geq 70^{\circ}\text{F}\$ sampling the following week \(assuming the water temperature is still \$< 69.5^{\circ}\text{F}\$ \).](#)

COMMENTS:

RECORD OF FINAL ACTION: