

2008 WMP Spring/Summer Update comments based on 2004 BiOp.

Section 2. Water Supply Forecasts

The table is a little confusing and inaccurate. There are more than four forecast points used for BiOp/UPA operations. Under the Libby forecast date the May final should be listed, not April, for the sturgeon volume determination. Hungry Horse forecast is not credited to the USBR. Using anything but the final forecasts in the table seems to be misleading. Table 2 in the 2008 WMP clearly displays most of the information needed. Perhaps using a modification of Table 2 (one example below) could be used in the S/S Update?

Water Supply Forecasts Used to Determine BiOp and UPA Actions .

Forecast Point	Forecast period	Forecast	MAF - Percent of Normal
Hungry Horse ¹	April – August	January Final February Final March Final	2.12 - 104
The Dalles ²	April – August	April Final July Final	94.7 - 102
Lower Granite ³	April – July	April	2.12 - 102
Lower Granite ⁴	April – July	June Final	23.3 - 108
The Dalles ⁵	April – August	July Final	
Libby ⁶	April – August	May Final	
Libby ⁷	April – August	April Final May Final June Final	6.4 - 101
Hungry Horse ⁸	April – August	April Final May Final June Final	2.16 - 104

1 Final provided by USBR – used for Columbia Falls and Hungry Horse minimum flows

2 Final Provided by NWS RFC – Used for Spring flow objective at McNary Dam and Summer draft elevation for Grand Coulee (August 31 elevation of 1280 feet or 1278 feet)

3 Final Provided by NWS RFC – Used for Spring flow objective at Lower Granite

4 Final Provided by NWS RFC – Used for Summer flow objective at Lower Granite

5 Final Provided by NWS RFC – Used for Grand Coulee summer draft limit

6 Final Provided by COE – Used for Volume to provide for sturgeon and minimum bull trout flows to begin May 15

7 Final Provided by COE – Used for VARQ Refill Flows

8 Final Provided by USBR – Used for VARQ Refill Flows

Section 12. Spill Priority List

Because of current conditions, several fish managers believe the list needs revision. We will provide a recommendation, probably next week.