

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD**SUBJECT: 14TDA12 MFR** – Lamprey and Salmonid Mortality in The Dalles Dam East Fishway

On December 4, 2014, the east fishway channels were dewatered below tailwater for annual fishway maintenance, proceeding the fishladder dewatering on December 2. Two personnel were lowered into each channel and the east entrance when water level was at 3'. Personnel pushed several large sturgeon in the collection channel to the west entrance for removal by crane. No salmonids were observed in this area at that time. When sturgeon removal was complete and it was thought the west entrance was clear of fish, personnel proceeded to the south entrance for removal of numerous salmonids and lamprey. When it was thought all areas were secure, crews broke for lunch ~1300hr. Upon return for the second walkthrough, 6 salmonids were found stranded on the floor of the west entrance. They were immediately brought to an adjacent pool for revival efforts. Two steelhead recovered to breathing status and released to river. The remainder did not recover. In addition, one steelhead and one lamprey were found dead in the south fishway channel.

- A. Species – Two hatchery steelhead, 1 wild steelhead, 1 hatchery Chinook, 1 hatchery coho and 1 lamprey.
- B. Origin – unknown
- C. Length –all adults, size varied
- D. Marks and tags - none.
- E. Marks and Injuries found on carcass – None
- F. Cause and Time of Death – dewatering/stranding.
- G. Future and Preventative Measures – West entrance stranding was easily preventable. The project biologist (me) should not have chose to leave the pool with 3'-4' water remaining. New language will be added to the SOP so as to have this pool attended until <1' water remains to provide adequate visibility to locate fish. Stranding in the south channel was not easily preventable. Fish have many locations to hide along channel floor and wall. Efforts may be made for an more immediate second walkthrough to capture these fish.

In total, during the 2 day dewatering effort, 130 steelhead, 20 chinook, 32 juvenile steelhead, 27 lamprey 3 small sturgeon and 3 sturgeon over 6' were removed from fish ladder and channels combined and released to river.

Sincerely,
TDA Project Fisheries