

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

TITLE - 22FAL01 MFR Fall Creek Maximum Flow Gate Work**PROJECT** - Fall Creek Dam**NOTIFICATION DATE** - 09 December 2022**RESPONSE DATE** - 23 December 2022**Description of the problem**

On September 2, 2022, flows below Fall Creek Dam were increased to about 800 cfs. The purpose was to drawdown Fall Creek Reservoir to perform work on spill gates (i.e. painting). This was above maximum flow criteria detailed in the Biological Opinion (BiOp) that states flows should not exceed 400 cfs from September 1-30 when possible. This was discussed at the Flow Management and Water Quality Team. The purpose of this memorandum is to document this action.

Type of event

Flows were increased to about 800 cfs for most of September and above maximum flow BiOp criteria (400 cfs).

Impact on facility operation

Typically when the RO is opened during the fish collection season, the tailrace temperature decreases and can slow fish collection. This year when the regulating outlet was opened on September 2nd, temperatures decreased to around 50 degrees in the tailrace and fish ladder temperatures were around 55 degrees Fahrenheit. Fish (qty 32 on 02 Sep) moved into the facility.

Dates of impacts/repairs

September 2-30, 2022

Length of time for repairs

29 days

Expected impacts on fish

The purpose of maximum BiOp flow criteria during the month of September is to prevent spawning in areas that may be subsequently dewatered when flows drop to specified incubation flows in the BiOp that commence in mid-October. Very few fish spawn below Fall Creek Dam (2019: 2 redds, 2018: 6 redds), further, environmental conditions are not conducive for successful spawning and egg incubation (e.g. elevated temperatures). See 'Impact on Facility Operation above for additional information.

Comments from agencies

No comments

Please email or call with questions or concerns.
Thank you,

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