

**MEMORANDUM**

November 4, 2007

**TO:** Interested Parties  
**FROM:** Chris Carlson, Biologist III  
**SUBJECT:** Vernita Bar Redd Survey, November 4, 2007

**Discussion:** On Sunday, November 4, 2007 the forth Vernita Bar ground redd count was conducted to determine the Initiation of Spawning for the zones below and above the 50 kcfs elevation. The Monitoring Team consisted of Paul Hoffarth (WDFW) and Chris Carlson (GCPUD). Observing the redd count was Joe Taylor (Mid-Columbia Coordinator), Mark Southern (WDFW), Dave Duvall (GCPUD) and Carson Keeler (GCPUD). Flows from Priest Rapids Dam at Vernita Bar were about 39 kcfs. Results of this survey are provided in the table below.

<u>Transect</u>	----- Redd Count by Flow Level (kcfs) -----						Total Number Of Redds
	<u>(36 – 50)</u>	<u>(50 – 55)</u>	<u>(55 – 60)</u>	<u>(60 – 65)</u>	<u>(65 – 70)</u>	<u>(Above 70)</u>	
Above A	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
A – AB	8	0	0	0	0	0	8
AB – B	16	0	0	0	0	0	16
Below B	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
C	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Totals	29	0	1	0	0	0	30

Based on the above survey count and the Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Protection Program Agreement, the Initiation of Spawning for the 36 – 50 kcfs zone is established to be October 31 (the Wednesday before the weekend on which the Monitoring Team identifies five or more redds within the zone). Initiation of Spawning has not occurred for the zone above the 50 kcfs elevation.

The Initiation of Spawning in water deeper than 36 kcfs was set to be October 24 based on the Monitoring Team’s October 28 ground redd count and aerial redd count.

During last year’s November 5 redd count; 65 redd were counted in the 36-50 kcfs zone, 19 redds between 50 – 55 kcfs, 18 redds between 55 – 60 kcfs, 3 redds between 60 – 65 kcfs, 3 redds between 65 – 70 kcfs and no redds above the 70 kcfs zone.

The next redd count will occur on November 11, 2007 and will require a USGS gauging station flow of 50 kcfs.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

(VBReddCountM.doc)

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|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| c: Don Anglin | Jeff Atkinson      | Bill Berry      |
| Scott Bettin  | Shane Bickford     | Steve Brown     |
| Bob Clubb     | Dennis Dauble      | Gary Donabauer  |
| Sarah Morford | Russ George        | NR Records      |
| Kelly Harlan  | Bob Heinith        | Cathy Hlebechuk |
| Joe Taylor    | Paul Hoffarth      | Rick Klinge     |
| Joe Lukas     | Geoffrey McMichael | Robert Mueller  |
| Greg Patton   | Shane Scott        | Rudd Turner     |
| Bill Tweit    | Paul Wagner        | Dawn Woodward   |

Power Dispatch  
WAN Operators

FWWQ Team  
James Adams

PRD Operators  
Scott Boyd