

BACKGROUND:

The Little Goose spillway weir (SW) provides a surface route for downstream passage. Performance tests and modeling results indicate lower juvenile survival and adverse tailrace conditions for adult passage when the SW is operating at low flows. Therefore, the 2016 Fish Passage Plan (FPP) defines criteria to close the SW in section 2.3.3.7.c, as follows:

1. Low Flow Criteria: Little Goose daily average outflow <35 kcfs AND forecasted inflow <35 kcfs for at least the following 3 days;
2. Date Criteria: on or after August 1st for the benefit of subyearling passage.
 - If “low flow” criteria are met before August 1, the SW may be closed if an adult passage delay is observed or if necessary due to turbine operational constraints at low flows. Closing the SW prior to August 1 will be coordinated with the region.

CURRENT CONDITIONS:

Latest STP and RFC forecasts indicate “low flow” criteria will be met on Sunday, 6/26.
www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/river/station/flowplot/flowplot.cgi?LGSW1

Current fish passage data are available at:

- Subyearling Chinook daily passage index: www.fpc.org/currentdaily/passindx.txt
- Adult daily passage counts: www.fpc.org/currentdaily/HistFishTwo_7day-ytd_Adults.htm

ACTION:

The Corps proposes to close the Little Goose SW on Wednesday, June 29. In accordance with the FPP, the project has three normal work days to complete the operation in the event of weather delays.