APPENDIX A: JOHN DAY

John Day Dam

1. Special Project Operations.

Low water supply in the Columbia River Basin forecast for 2001, coupled with unusual power system conditions (described in Overview section 1.2, page OV-2), may result in modifications to the special project operations and studies described below. RCC will coordinate needed changes with the projects and authorize operations in teletype regulations.

1.1. Spill. Spill will be provided from April 10 through August 31 for spring and summer migrants as required in the NMFS Biological Opinions or as modified to meet test conditions described in paragraph 2. Between May 15 and July 31, spill will occur from 1900 to 0600 hours (11 hours total). Before and after that time period, spill will be for 12 hours nightly, from 1800 to 0600 hours. At project flows up to 300,000 cfs, spill discharges will be 60% of instantaneous project flow. Above 300,000 cfs project flow, spill discharges will be 180,000 cfs (up to the hydraulic limit of the powerhouse). Spill will be provided in a manner consistent with TDG management to avoid excessive gas supersaturation conditions.

2. Studies.

At the time of FPP publication, regional coordination for spill and survival studies at John Day Dam was ongoing. Although the studies described below represent the current proposal, they may be modified upon completion of the regional coordination.

2.1. Project Survival and Fish Passage Efficiency Studies. Radio telemetry will be used to survey fish behavior. For Survival and FPE studies, two spill conditions will be compared, in response to the BiOp measure to study 24-hour spill at John Day Dam. The specific spill levels and duration for the FPE study have not yet been agreed upon in the regional forum. Also the study may be withdrawn if daytime spill is not provided in 2001. Special operations required to support the survival and FPE studies will be conducted outside of the juvenile fish migration period to the extent practicable. However, there will be some modification to standard project operation. Boat access to the tailrace BRZ will be required. Radio telemetry evaluations will occur from May 1 through July 31 with a one-week break about the first

week of June.

2.2. Adult Salmon and Steelhead Passage Evaluations. Radio telemetry techniques will be used to evaluate adult salmon and steelhead passage through the project. Adult salmon and steelhead fallback rates will be evaluated during 24-hour spill for juvenile passage studies. The specific spill levels and duration for these studies have not yet been agreed upon in the regional forum. Fallback into the juvenile bypass system and through a modified section of the south ladder will be assessed. Downstream migration of post-spawn steelhead (kelts) will be evaluated using radio telemetry at John Day Dam. As part of this evaluation, adult steelhead passing through the juvenile bypass system will be diverted to the adult holding tank, identified as pre or post-spawn, and enumerated. Steelhead that have been identified as kelts will be tagged with radio transmitters and released back to the river.

2.3. All dates shown are approximate and could be advanced or delayed by a week or so depending on various factors such as river flows, contractor schedules, equipment failures, etc. Some evaluations may not proceed. Therefore, a final description of studies and outages being conducted will be coordinated with the region through AFEP (FFDRWG and SRWG), prior to April 1. All special operation requests or schedule changes will be coordinated with the fisheries agencies and tribes through the AFEP and with RCC and BPA.