

Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Request Form

Change Form # & Title: 15AppB005 – Changes in Barge Scheduling
Date Submitted: August 5, 2015
Project: Appendix B - Transport Collector Projects (LWG, LGS, LMN)
Requester Name, Agency: John Bailey, Corps Walla Walla
Final Action: **APPROVED** – [August 13, 2015](#)

FPP Section: Appendix B - section 5.2.2. Barge Scheduling.

Justification for Changes: Previously, the practice was to begin fish transport by barge every other day in mid-April, switch to daily barging operations around the end of April or first week of May depending on fish collection numbers, then return to every-other-day barge operations the last week of May or the first week of June depending on fish numbers and holding capacity. In recent years, under the FOP (**Appendix E**) guidance, barge transport has been beginning the last few days in April or the first 2 days in May. Since fish collection numbers are fairly high at that time, the fish transport season now begins with daily barge departures from Lower Granite Dam. Current Fish Passage Plan requirements are to transport collected fish by barge until August 15 each year. Because Transport Collector Projects are in every-other-day fish transport operations by June, the actual ending date each year is August 15 or 16 depending on what day every-other-day fish transport operations began in a given year. In August, fish numbers and poundage at collection facilities drop to the point where fish transport by truck is very feasible. This change will allow fish transport by truck to begin either on August 14 or August 15.

Proposed Changes:

5.2.2. Barge Scheduling: Barges with 75,000 pound capacity will operate from Lower Granite Dam. It takes approximately 79 hours to make a trip from Lower Granite Dam to the release area near the Skamania light buoy below Bonneville Dam and return. One barge will leave Lower Granite Dam every-other-day or daily, beginning on or about the second day after the initiation of collection. The FOP (**Appendix E**) specifies the date collection will start for transportation in coordination and discussion with RIOG. When fish numbers increase during the course of every-other day, barging operations, the transport program will switch to one barge leaving Lower Granite daily. When fish numbers decline in late spring, operations will change back to or return to every-other-day barging from Lower Granite Dam, with barging operations continuing through August 14 or 15. During spring operations, barges will take on additional fish at Little Goose, and Lower Monumental dams as barge capacity allows. The two medium and two small barges may also be used from Lower Granite Dam for additional barging capacity or they will be used for direct loading of fish at Little Goose Dam. When daily collection exceeds barge capacity, juvenile fish may be spilled per **section 4** above or will be bypassed to the river until collection numbers drop to where juvenile fish can be barged within barge carrying capacity criteria.

Comments:

Record of Final Action: 8/13/15 APPROVED at FPOM.