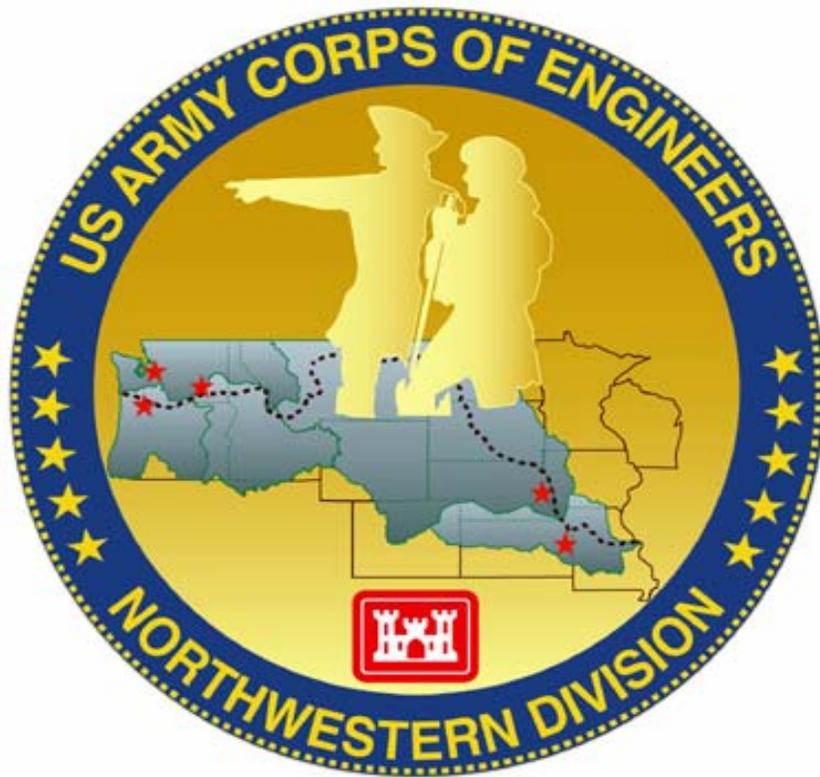


Appendix B

Corps of Engineers Plan of Action for Dissolved Gas Monitoring in 2006

CORPS OF ENGINEERS PLAN OF ACTION FOR DISSOLVED GAS MONITORING IN 2006



January 2006

Corps of Engineers Plan of Action for Dissolved Gas Monitoring in 2006

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION	1
2.0 GENERAL APPROACH.....	1
3.0 DISTRICT/DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES.....	2
3.1 Portland, Seattle, and Walla Walla Districts' Functions	2
3.2 Division's Functions.....	3
4.0 2004 ACTION PLAN.....	3
4.1 Phase 1: Program Start-Up.....	5
4.2 Phase 2: Instrument Installation.....	6
4.3 Phase 3: In-Season Monitoring and Problem Fixing.....	6
4.3.1 Data Quality Process.....	7
4.3.1.1 Data Quality Criteria	8
4.4 Phase 4: Instrument Removal and Storage.....	13
4.5 Phase 5: Fall-Winter Monitoring	13
4.6 Phase 6: Data Compilation, Analysis, and Storage.....	13
4.7 Phase 7: Program Evaluation and Summary Report.....	13
4.8 Phase 8: Special Field Studies.....	14
5.0 COOPERATION WITH PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.....	14

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1 Fixed Monitoring Station Subgroup Recommendations for 2006 Spill Season.....	4
Table 2 Primary and Secondary Standards.....	9
Table 3 List of Contact Persons in 2006	16
Table 4 2006 Dissolved Gas Monitoring Network.....	17

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1 Graphs for Data Review.....	12
Figure 2 2006 Dissolved Gas Monitoring Network.....	19

CORPS OF ENGINEERS PLAN OF ACTION FOR DISSOLVED GAS MONITORING IN 2006

1.0 INTRODUCTION

In order to improve juvenile salmon passage and survival past dams on the lower Columbia and Snake rivers, water is spilled through the spillway gates. Passage of juvenile salmon through the spill gates is thought to be a safer passage route as compared to passage through the turbines. This spilling of water, sometimes referred to as “voluntary spill,” has been provided at some projects since 1977. Currently, the Corps of Engineers (Corps) spills water at the four Lower Columbia River projects and the four Lower Snake River projects as part of its implementation of the NOAA Fisheries Federal Columbia River Power System Biological Opinion (2004) for salmonids. One aspect of this implementation is to spill water such that TDG levels do not exceed 120% in the tailwaters of a project and 115% in the forebay of the next project downstream. Therefore, in order to effectively manage spill so that these TDG levels are not exceeded, a monitoring program has been established. The purpose of this Plan of Action is to outline the details of the overall Corps TDG monitoring program and summarize the role and responsibilities of the Corps as they relate to dissolved gas monitoring. This Plan also identifies channels of communication with other cooperating agencies and interested parties. The Plan summarizes what to measure, how, where, and when to take the measurements and how to analyze and interpret the resulting data. It also provides for periodic review and alteration or redirection of efforts when monitoring results and/or new information from other sources justifies a change. Some information on the complementary activities of other participating agencies is provided at the end of this document. This plan covers the TDG monitoring activities from April 1st, 2006 through March 31st, 2007.

2.0 GENERAL APPROACH

The total dissolved gas (TDG) monitoring program consists of a range of activities designed to provide management information about dissolved gas and spill conditions. These activities include time-series measurements, data analysis, synthesis and interpretation, and calibration of numerical models. Four broad categories of objectives are involved:

- 1) Data acquisition, to provide decision-makers with synthesized and relevant information to control dissolved gas supersaturation on a real-time basis,
- 2) Real-time monitoring, to ascertain how project releases affect water quality relative to ESA Biological Opinion measures and existing state and tribal dissolved gas standards;
- 3) Trend monitoring, to identify long-term changes in basin wide dissolved gas saturation levels resulting from water management decisions; and
- 4) Model refinement, to enhance predictive capability of existing models used to evaluate management objectives.

Portland, Seattle and Walla Walla Districts have direct responsibilities for TDG monitoring at their respective projects, including data collection, transmission, and analysis and reporting. The Division's Reservoir Control Center (RCC) will coordinate this activity with the Districts and other State and Federal agencies and private parties as needed to insure the information received meet all real-time operational and regulatory requirements. Districts and Division roles and functions are described in more detail in later sections of this document.

The Corps considers TDG monitoring a high priority activity with considerable potential for adversely affecting reservoir operations and ongoing regional efforts to protect aquatic biota. It will make all reasonable efforts toward achieving at least a data quality and reliability level comparable to that provided in previous years.

Furthermore, the Corps believes it is important to maintain a two-way communication between those conducting the monitoring and the users of monitoring information. These interactions give decision-makers and managers an understanding of the limitations of monitoring and, at the same time, provide the technical staff with an understanding of what questions should be answered. Therefore, comments and recommendations received from users were and continue to be very useful in establishing monitoring program priorities and defining areas requiring special attention.

3.0 DISTRICTS/DIVISION RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 Portland, Seattle and Walla Walla Districts Functions

Portland, Seattle and Walla Walla Districts will perform all the activities required at their TDG monitoring sites. Data will be collected and transmitted from those sites systematically and without interruption to the Columbia River Operational and Hydromet Management System (CROHMS) operational database (data can be accessed from the Dataquery website at: <http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/perl/dataquery.pl>). Some of the gauges will record year round while other will be seasonal (see Table 4 at the end of this appendix). For seasonal gauges, TDG data may be collected outside of the prescribed time periods. The amount of data collected outside the time period will depend upon when the gauge is initiated (gauges are often installed several weeks prior to the initiation date to ensure for reliable data at the start of the season) and when the gauge is removed at the end of the season (some gauges are left in intentionally to monitor special operations or unusual environmental conditions and some are left in well past the end of the season simply due to unavailability of technicians to remove the gauge). However, data acquired outside of the specified season may not be reliable because maintenance of these gauges outside of the season is often limited.

District responsibilities include but are not limited the following tasks:

- Assist the Division office in the preparation of the annual Plan of Action For Dissolved Gas Monitoring and schedule for gauge installation
- procuring data collection/transmission instruments
- preparing and awarding equipment and service contracts
- performing initial instrument installation and testing
- setting up and removal of permanent monitoring installations, if requested
- evaluate existing stations to ensure that measured TDG levels are representative of true river conditions
- collecting and transmitting TDG data to CROHMS
- reviewing data for early detection of instrument malfunction
- conducting periodic calibration, service and maintenance calls.
- providing emergency service calls as needed and/or when so notified
- performing special TDG measurements, if needed
- keeping records of instrument calibration and/or adjustments
- retrieving, servicing, and storing instruments at the end of the season
- providing final data corrections to the Division office
- preparing an annual activity report
- document and report QA/QC performance

All three Districts will also be responsible for (1) preparing an annual report on instrument performances, and (2) providing the necessary material including test and data analyses, charts, maps, etc. for incorporation in the Corps' Annual TDG Report, which will be finalized by the Division. Additional monitoring at selected locations may be required on an "as needed" basis and depending upon available

funding. Dissemination of data to outside users will remain a Division responsibility to avoid duplication and uncoordinated service.

3.2 Division's Functions

The Division will be responsible for overall coordination of the TDG monitoring program with the Districts, other State and Federal agencies and cooperating parties. The Leader of the Water Quality Unit, CENWD-PDW-R, is the designated TDG Division Program Coordinator reporting through the chain of command through Chief, Reservoir Control Center and Chief, Columbia Basin Water Management Division to the Directorate of Programs.

The Division TDG Program Coordinator will provide overall guidance to District counterparts to ensure that the monitoring program is carried out in accordance with the plan outlined in this document, including close adherence to a general schedule and operating QA/QC protocols. The Program Coordinator will be the main point of contact for all technical issues related to the TDG monitoring at Corps projects, will refer problems of common regional interest to relevant forums such as the Regional Forum Water Quality Team (WQT) for peer review and open discussion, and will facilitate final decision-making on technical issues based on all relevant input from interested parties.

The Division TDG Program Coordinator will meet with District counterparts in late January or early February to discuss and firm up detailed implementation plan and schedule for the current year. Discussion will cover monitoring sites, equipment, data collection and transmission procedures, service and maintenance, budget, communication needs, etc. A set of specific performance measures will be jointly prepared as a basis for reviewing and monitoring District performances. A post-season review meeting will be held annually to provide a critique of the operations and identify areas needing changes and/or improvements.

4.0 2006 ACTION PLAN

The 2006 Action Plan consists of the following eight phases observed in previous years, plus fall-winter monitoring. These phases are as follows:

- (1) Program start-up;
- (2) Instrument Installation;
- (3) In-season Monitoring and Problem Fixing;
- (4) Instrument Removal and Storage;
- (5) Fall-Winter Monitoring;
- (6) Data Compilation, Analysis and Storage;
- (7) Program Evaluation and Report; and
- (8) Special Field Studies

The Plan of Action for all three Districts during the spring and summer spill seasons is almost identical to the one in 2005. The principal difference between the 2006 TDG monitoring plan and how TDG was monitored in 2005 is the frequency of recalibration of the TDG instruments and the locations of TDG monitoring in the fall-winter season (September 1 through March 31). These changes will be enacted beginning in April 2006 and will extend through to the end of March 2007.

The frequency of recalibration of TDG gauges was originally discussed at the 2005 Total Dissolved Gas and Temperature Year-End QA/QC conference held November 8th 2005. The principle focus of the discussion was whether the criteria of 95% data completeness could be achieved if the recalibration interval was extended from the current bi-weekly schedule to once every three or four weeks. The general consensus of the discussion was that achievement of the 95% data completeness criteria with

modified calibration schedules was dependent upon the unique characteristics of each individual gauge. For example, tailwater gauges tended to be more susceptible to problems since they are located essentially at the bottom of the river channel where sedimentation and biological actions could interfere with the Hydrosonde TDG membrane. In contrast, forebay gauges were generally suspended from a cable to a depth of approximately 15 meters, well above the river bottom. These forebay gauges are significantly less prone to failure. It was suggested that, in general, gauges on the Snake River were more susceptible to failure than those on the Columbia River due to greater biological productivity and sediment movement. As a result of the discussions at the QA/QC conference and subsequent discussions with Corps District, Bureau of Reclamation, and Mid-Columbia PUD representatives, the recalibration strategy for each agency was coordinated and the final strategies are described in Table 4.

One additional modification of the monitoring strategy is the elimination of the McNary forebay TDG gauge on the Oregon side of the river. After several years of study examining alternative locations, it was concluded that the TDG gauge located at the end of the navigation lock guidewall satisfactorily characterized TDG levels in the McNary forebay.

Table 1
Fixed Monitoring Station Recommendations for the 2006 Spill Season

Fixed Monitoring Station	Recommendation/Comments
Camas/ Washougal	No change to this site.
Warrendale	This site will be installed prior to March 1 st in preparation for the Spring Creek Fish Hatchery release. Data obtained from this gauge will be utilized to help assess TDG impacts from Bonneville Dam operations in support of the hatchery release on chum redds in the Ives Island and Multnomah Falls areas. The gauge will be removed when the chum emergence has been completed, usually near the end of May.
BON Tailrace	This site will go to year-round TDG monitoring.
BON Forebay	Use of this site will be discontinued during the fall-winter.
TDA Tailrace	This station is currently inconsistent with other tailwater sites in the system due to considerable mixing of spill water with powerhouse flows. Continue to utilize this site for TDG monitoring but recommend additional investigations and discussions to identify a more suitable strategy for management of spill at The Dalles dam. This site will go to year-round TDG monitoring.
TDA Forebay	No change to this site.
JDA Tailrace	This site will go to year-round TDG monitoring.
JDA Forebay	No change to this site.
MCN Tailrace	No change to this site.
MCN Forebay (Washington Side)	Use of this site will be discontinued during the fall-winter.
MCN Forebay (Oregon Side)	Permanent retirement of this site.
Pasco	No change to this site.
IHR Tailrace	No change to this site.

Table 1
Fixed Monitoring Station Recommendations for the 2006 Spill Season

IHR Forebay	Use of this site will be discontinued during the fall-winter.
LMN Tailrace	This site will go to year-round TDG monitoring..
LMN Forebay	No change to this site.
LGS Tailrace	This site will go to year-round TDG monitoring.
LGS Forebay	No change to this site.
LWG Tailrace	No change to this site.
LWG Forebay	Use of this site will be discontinued during the fall-winter.
DWR Tailrace	No change to this site.
Peck	No change to this site.
Lewiston	No change to this site.
Anatone	No change to this site.
Albeni Falls Tailrace	Due to sedimentation problems, this site was moved further upstream (closer to the spillway) during the summer of 2005. This gauge will remain at this new location during the 2006 summer monitoring season.
Albeni Falls Forebay	No change to this site.
Libby Tailwater	No change to this site.
Chief Joseph Tailwater	No change to this site.
Chief Joseph Forebay	No change to this site.

4.1 Phase 1: Program Start-Up

After the monitoring plan has been coordinated with the Regional Forum Water Quality Team, responsible parties (See Table 3 at the end of this appendix) will coordinate the details of the plan of action in late January or early February. This will ensure a good mutual understanding of the most current objectives of the dissolved gas monitoring program, including data to be collected, instrument location, procedures to be used, special requirements, etc.

All three Districts will ensure that adequate funding is available for 2006 monitoring activities. Portland District, having decided to continue to use the service of the USGS (Portland Office) in 2006, will prepare the necessary contracts to secure those services and provide for rental and associated maintenance of the USGS's Sutron data collection platforms (DCP's). Walla Walla District will again be using the services of the USGS (Pasco Office) in 2006, will also prepare the necessary contracts to secure those services. Seattle will again use the service of Columbia Basin Environmental in 2006 and will prepare the necessary contracts to secure those services. All maintenance and service contracts should be completed at least two weeks before the instruments are installed in the field. Where applicable, the Districts will ensure that real estate agreements and right of entry are finalized between the landowners

and the Corps. All paper work for outside contracting will be completed no later than 31 January (subject to funding constraints and availability).

To date, the Districts have been initiating the necessary contracts to continue operation and maintenance of the FMS's through the 2005-2006 fall-winter monitoring season and the 2006 spring/summer monitoring season. Districts and Northwestern Division have finalized the current QA/QC protocols. Temperature thermistor strings have been placed in Dworshak Reservoir, Lower Granite Reservoir, Lake Bryan (Little Goose Reservoir), Lake Herbert G. West (Lower Monumental Reservoir), and Lake Sacajawea (Ice Harbor Reservoir) hourly monitoring at several depths throughout the year. All Districts will continue GOES satellite transmission.

Discussions between Districts, division and contractors are expected to continue through February, at which time a final plan of action will be produced. It is also understood that the following entities will continue to operate their monitoring instruments in 2006:

- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, below Hungry Horse, at the International Boundary and above and below Grand Coulee Dam;
- Mid-Columbia PUDs (Douglas, Chelan and Grant Counties), above and below all five PUD dams on the Columbia River; and
- Idaho Power Company, in the Hells Canyon area (as part of its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's license renewal requirement).

4.2 Phase 2: Instrument Installation

Instruments to be installed and their assigned locations are listed in Table 4 and shown in Figure 2. Some of them are already in place for the 2005-2006 fall-winter monitoring. The Corps network will essentially remain the same as in 2005. However, monitoring sites for 2006-7 fall-winter season will change.

All instruments are scheduled to be in place and duly connected to their Sutron, Zeno, or Geomation DCP's no later than 1 April for all stations except the stations downstream of Bonneville dam (Camas-Washougal, Cascades Island, and Warrendale) which will need to be activated earlier to be consistent with the Oregon TDG rule modification issued to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in conjunction with the Spring Creek hatchery release. The Warrendale gauge will be kept active until late May to facilitate monitoring of TDG impacts on chum redds below Bonneville dam.

Corps stations that remain in service during the 2005-2006 fall-winter season will continue their operation with minimum interruption into the spring, following the necessary instrument service and maintenance check-up and site equipment (piping) upgrades. These stations include the tailwater monitor at each Lower Columbia and Lower Snake River project.

The Warrendale gauge, which previously served as the tailwater TDG monitor for Bonneville dam during the fall-winter season, will now only be used to evaluate TDG levels in support of chum operations. The Cascades Island gauge will now be used as the official Bonneville tailwater station year-round (as is recommended in the Lower Columbia River TDG TMDL). The Pasco gauge is operated for TDG and temperature seasonally (1 April through 31 August) but only operated as a QA/QC station for the remainder of the year. An assessment of monitoring site integrity will be conducted; any damages that may have occurred over the fall-winter will be fixed before proceeding on to calibration and testing. Selected project personnel may be requested to assist on this task as needed.

4.3 Phase 3: In-season Monitoring and Problem Fixing

Actual data collection and transmission will begin in early March at the monitoring stations below Bonneville dam Bonneville in conjunction with the Spring Creek Hatchery release. Otherwise, the data collection and transmission will begin no later than 1 April for the entire monitoring network.. The exact

starting date will be coordinated with the Corps' Reservoir Control Center (CENWD-PDW-R), project biologists and cooperating agencies, based on run-off, spill, and fish migration conditions.

The following data will be collected approximately every hour:

- Water Temperature (°C)
- Barometric Pressure (mm of Hg)
- Total Dissolved Gas Pressure (mm of Hg)
- Gauge depth (feet)

Data will be collected at least hourly and transmitted at least every four hours. If feasible, the previous 12 hours of data will also be sent to improve the capability of retrieving any data that may have been lost during the preceding transmission. For Portland, Seattle (see below), and Walla Walla Districts, data transmission will be done via the GOES Satellite, to the Corps' ground-receive station in Portland. After decoding, all data will be stored in the CROHMS database. Per their contract with Portland District, the USGS is planning to have the satellite data going into CROHMS and ADAPS (the USGS's internal Automated Data Processing System) simultaneously to allow for some pre-screening. Data transmission at Libby and Albeni Falls (gauges operated by the Seattle District) will be done via radio to the NWS HEC-DSS database and the data sent via file transfer protocol (ftp) to the CROHMS database.

Given their direct relevance to fish mortality, the first three parameters (Temperature, Barometric Pressure, and TDG) will be collected on a first priority basis.

Daily reports summarizing TDG and related information will be posted on the Technical Management Team's (TMT) home page. Information provided on the homepage will include some or all of the following data:

- Station Identifier
- Date and Time of the Probe Readings
- Water Temperature, °C
- Barometric Pressure, mm of Hg
- TDG Pressure, mm of Hg
- Calculated TDG Saturation Percent (%)
- Project Hourly Spill, Kcfs (QS)
- Project Total Hourly Outflow (Total River Flow), Kcfs (QR)
- Probe depth, ft
- Calculated Compensation Depth, ft

The Reservoir Control Center staff will perform reconciliation of data received to CROHMS based on input from the field before the data are permanently stored in the Corps' Water Quality Data Base. Additional data posting in the TMT home page will continue.

4.3.1 Data Quality Process

The Final UPA and the 2004 BiOp stipulate that the "Action Agencies shall monitor the effects of TDG." Additional detail provided in the Data Quality Criteria report includes a discussion of Quality Control and Quality Assurance including redundant and backup monitoring, bi-weekly calibration, and spot-checking of monitoring equipment. In an effort to address these concerns the US Army Corps of Engineers has established Data Quality Criteria for the fixed monitoring stations at its projects. These Data Quality Criteria describe the accuracy, precision and completeness of the data needed at each station. The fixed monitoring stations will be assessed at the end of the monitoring season against these

criteria and a performance report will be created. These reports will be included in the annual Total Dissolved Gas and Water Temperature Report. Adjustments will be made to the individual fixed monitoring stations that do not perform to the objectives described.

As a general overview, the Data Quality criteria for fixed monitoring stations (FMS) include having two dedicated TDG probes (hydrolab) for each site, which provides redundancy instead of redundant stations. The “extra” TDG probes (hydrolab) for each site is lab calibrated before its bi-monthly rotation into the field. Once it is deployed, it is again calibrated and/or checked. The data from the FMS operated by the Portland and Walla Walla Districts is sent to USGS and USACE-NWD. The USGS reviews this data and performs corrections. The Seattle District reviews and corrects their data. There is a goal of 95% data completeness. The Data Quality Criteria was presented to the WQT in February 2003. The WQT discussed and approved the approach at the March 2003 WQT meeting. A modification of these criteria was proposed at the December 2005 WQT meeting.

This modification consisted of lengthening the time period between field recalibrations from every two weeks to every three weeks during the summer spill season (1 April to 31 August) and monthly during the fall-winter season (1 September to 31 March) at selected gauges (see Table 4). After lengthy discussion with the District offices, it has been decided that Seattle District and Walla Walla District will continue to recalibrate their instruments on a bi-weekly basis. Walla Walla District intends to perform additional studies by deploying additional TDG gauges and recalibrating them once every three to four weeks. The data from the study will be compared to the fixed monitoring station gauges to assess the impacts of increasing the recalibration interval on the data completeness. Portland District will lengthen the recalibration interval for their gauges to once every three weeks during the spring/summer season and to once every 4 weeks for the fall-winter season. Details of the Data Quality Criteria are provided below.

4.3.1.1 Data Quality Criteria

The proposed data quality criteria for fixed monitoring station cover three main parts:

- A. **Calibration Protocols:** laboratory and field calibrations
- B. **Reviewing Data Quality:** data quality checks and dealing with suspect data
- C. **Completeness of Data**

The items are described as following:

A. Calibration Protocols

There are two general types of calibrations performed on Fixed monitoring stations (FMS): lab calibrations and field calibration.

1. Laboratory Calibration

There are four data quality criteria associated with laboratory calibration, including *i*) calibration of the secondary TDG standard, *ii*) the secondary barometric pressure standard, *iii*) the field instrument TDG sensor, and *iv*) secondary standard thermistor. Each is described as follows:

i. Calibration of Secondary TDG Standard

Calibrate the TDG sensor at two points using the primary National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standard. The TDG pressure must be +/- 2 mm Hg at both pressures; otherwise the secondary standard is recalibrated. Pressures at which the sensor is calibrated must bracket the expected range of field measurements. For an index of primary and secondary standards (see Table 2).

Table 2
Primary and Secondary Standards

PARAMETER	PRIMARY STANDARD	SECONDARY STANDARD
Temperature	NIST traceable thermometer	Lab Hydrolab
Barometer Pressure	NIST traceable barometer or digital pressure gauge.	Hand held barometer
Total Gas Pressure	Digital pressure gauge calibrated to NIST	TDG Probe

ii. Calibration of Secondary Barometric Pressure Standard

Calibrate the secondary standard barometer at ambient barometric pressure to the NIST standard. The barometer must be +/- 1 mm Hg of the primary standard (NIST certified instrument) otherwise the secondary standard is recalibrated.

iii. Calibration of Field Instrument TDG sensor

The two point TDG sensor calibration must agree within +/- 2 mmHg at both pressures, otherwise the sensor is recalibrated. Pressures at which the sensor is calibrated must bracket the expected range of field measurements.

iv. Calibration of Secondary Standard Thermistor

The instrument's thermistor must agree within +/- 0.2°C with the primary NIST standard. This variance will be monitored and if the probe performs outside this range, it will be returned to the manufacturer for maintenance. A check or verification still constitutes a calibration and should be documented in records.

2. Field Calibration

There are two data quality criteria associated with field calibration: Calibrations and Performance checks. Calibrations include two fixed points and two point TDG sensor calibration.

i. Calibrations

- Two Fixed Points: In order to reduce TDG calibration variability, two fixed points should be chosen and incorporated in the TDG calibration protocol. For example, calibrate the first point to ambient barometric pressure, and the second point to 200 mmHg over barometric pressure. The calibrated range for this example brackets 100-126 % TDG saturation. This ensures the same calibration curve is established each time for every instrument.
- Two Point TDG Sensor Calibration: Following a two-week deployment, a two point TDG sensor calibration must agree within +/- 4 mmHg at both pressures. Pressures at which the sensor is calibrated must bracket the expected range of field measurements. If the pressure is not +/- 4 mmHg of the standard, the data will be considered “suspect” and handled as described in “Reviewing Data Quality”.

ii. Performance checks

There are four data quality criteria associated with performance checks: TDG pressure compared to secondary standard; standby probes deployed; thermistor compared to secondary standard; and field barometer compared to secondary standard. Each is described as follows:

- TDG Pressure Compared to Secondary Standard: After the deployment period, prior to removal of the field instrument, the TDG pressure will be compared to the secondary standard. The

actual decision point regarding adjusting the data would be in the lab following the two point TDG sensor calibration described in field instrument post calibration. The field comparison actually involves sampling precision and should not be used as a decision point for shifting data.

- Standby Probe Deployed: During initial deployment of a new TDG probe, after sufficient time for equilibration (up to one hour), the TDG pressure must be +/- 10 mmHg of the secondary standard otherwise another (standby) probe is deployed.
- Thermistor Compared to Secondary Standard: During initial deployment of the new instrument, the thermistor will be +/- 0.4°C of the secondary standard, corrected for calibration, or the instrument will be replaced with a standby.
- Field Barometer Compared to Secondary Standard: At each visit the field barometer reading should the same as the secondary standard or the field barometer will be calibrated.

The sensor must be deployed to a depth where the compensation depth is sufficient to accommodate the change in pressure relative to the atmosphere, otherwise the TDG measurements may be underestimated. If the site does not accommodate maintaining the probe at greater than the compensation depth for more than 95% of the measuring cycle, investigations will begin to re-locate the fixed monitoring station.

The Corps, or their contractors, will have an adequate inventory of spare instruments that will be maintained to ensure that at least one backup monitor will be made available for deployment as necessary. A malfunctioning instrument will be repaired within 24 to 48 hours, depending on the remoteness of the instrument location and TDG conditions (weekends may require a longer response time). High priority will be placed on fixing a faulty instrument when TDG are or expected to be in excess of the current state standards.

Corps staff and/or contractors will maintain TDG instruments. Instruments needing repairs that are beyond the staff's capability will be shipped to the manufacturer. In-house water quality and information management will do repairs of communication network staff. USGS Stennis Center (MS) staff will handle Service and repairs of the Sutron DCPs. Service and repairs of the Zeno DCPs will be performed by a contractor.

To better understand the physical process of dissolved gas distribution across the reservoirs and its dissipation along the various pools, selected transects studies will continue to be conducted on an as-time-permits basis. An additional objective for this activity is to be able to define how representative readings from current monitoring sites really are with respect to the entire river reach.

To help reduce response time in determining whether an emergency field visit is needed, the following decision-making procedure was developed by the WQT:

- No emergency trips are made for the parameter of temperature.
- For gas and barometric pressure, if more than 25% of the hourly values are missing, then an emergency trip is needed.
- If the difference in values between two consecutive stations is larger than 20 mm Hg for gas pressure, or 14 mm Hg for barometric pressure, then an emergency trip is triggered. This criterion does not apply if:
 - a. there is a transient "spike" for a parameter.
 - b. if the higher-than-expected gas pressure value is associated with spill operations.

- If gas parameters at a station do not fall within any of the Corps Engineering Research and Development Laboratory (ERDC) generated/RCC generated gas production curves, are not caused from operational or structural changes, and these data persist for over 48 hours, then an emergency visit is triggered.
- If there is uncertainty with an abnormal reading at a fixed monitoring station that persists for more than 48 hours, the COE will notify WQT members as soon as possible via email. The WQT should develop a recommendation to TMT, and to IT if necessary. If the COE plans to change fish passage actions because of the uncertainty, it should notify both the TMT & WQT members of the proposed change. TMT members will determine whether or not a meeting or conference call is needed and advise the COE of this need. The COE will then convene a TMT meeting, if requested to do so. If an abnormal reading at the gas monitoring station persists for more than 48 hours, the Corps will adopt the 2000 Plan of Action language on the subject. According to the May 2, 2000 letter from the Corps to NMFS, "If the WQT chairs determine a water quality issue exists, the issue will be framed by the WQT and forwarded from the chairs of the WQT to the chair of TMT or IT, as appropriate. Each state's fishery and water quality agencies and tribes will work together prior to any TMT meeting on this issue to balance and assure consistency of the proposed actions with fishery management requirements and state water quality standards."

B. Reviewing Data Quality

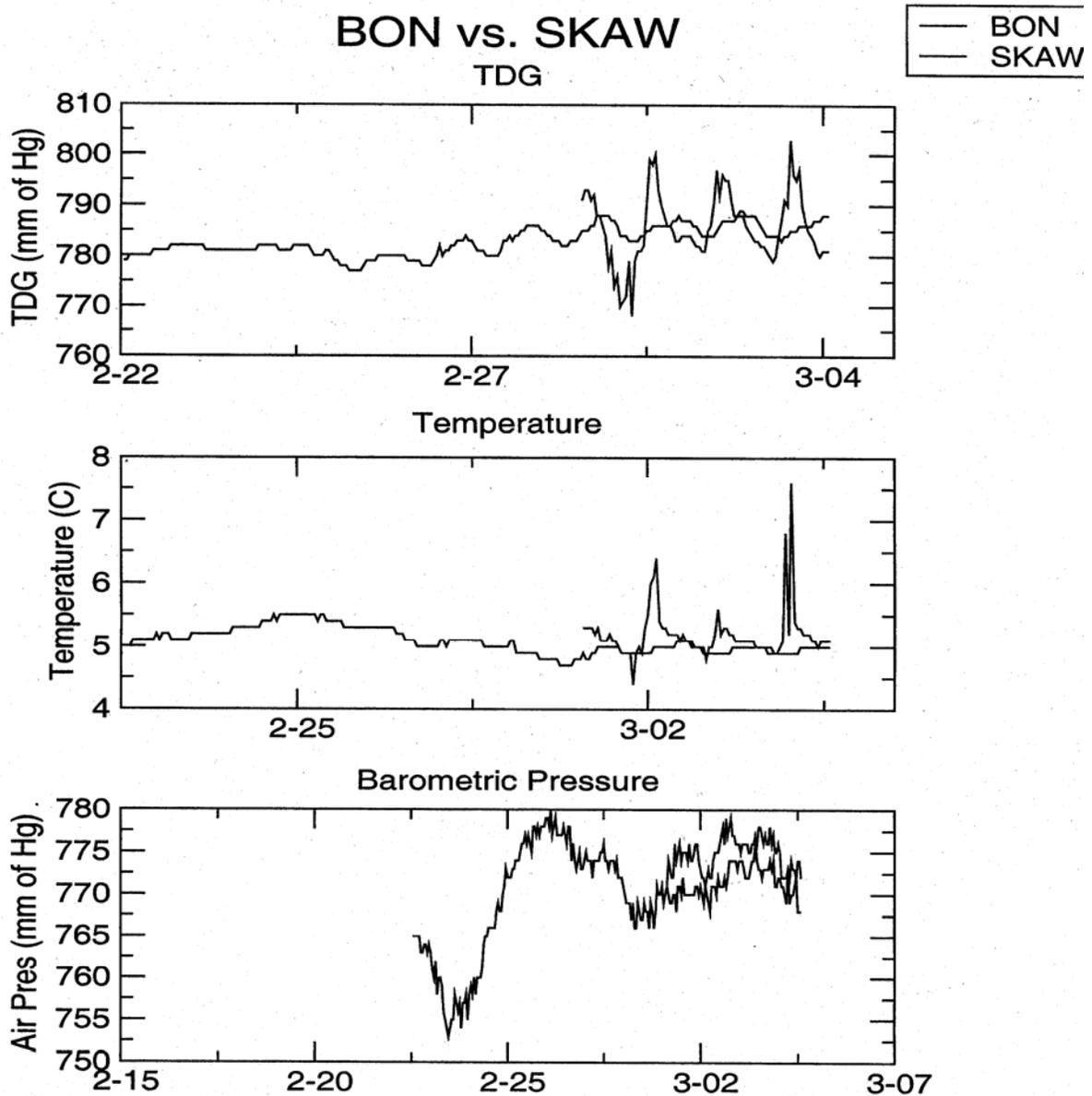
The data from the fixed monitoring stations will be sent to the USACE-NWD's CROHMS database which stores the raw data. At the same time, data from the FMS operated by the Portland and Walla Walla Districts is sent to the USGS's ADAP database. The USGS performs the review, correction and deletion process described below on ADAP's data, thus storing corrected data.

1. Reviewing Data

Once data are received, one or more of the following review processes occur:

- **Visually look at the tables of data:** There are certain signs in the data that may indicate mechanical problems. An instance, when the TDG pressure rises to 1,000 mmHg suddenly, and remains at that level, there may be a membrane tear. If there are extreme changes in any parameter, this shows that the data is erroneous.
- **A data checklist is completed.** The data quality checklist shown below provides an example of questions that can be used to assist in identifying problems with data.
- **Review graphs of the data.** Creating graphs of the data can show unusual spikes in a parameter and draw your attention to the data quickly. Spikes in graphed data can suggest further investigation may be necessary. For instance, a sudden rise of 5 °C in one hour stands out and is suspect. The graph shown below is an example of what is currently used.

Figure 1: Graphs for Data Review



2. Dealing with Suspect Data

Once suspect data are identified, one of the following actions can be taken:

- **Correct the data:** If there is a constant amount of shift or a continual drift, the data can be corrected using the USGS NWIS software. This is not usually the case. Sensor drift can be handled using a linearly prorated correction.
- **Delete the data:** If there appears to be no means of correcting the data, then it is deleted from the USGS ADAPS database and they inform the Corps of the erroneous data. The Corps can then decide what to do with the erroneous data.

If data recorded by the fixed sensors are different from those recorded during the calibration procedure, appropriate correction will be made to the current as well as past data already stored in CROHMS as soon as possible. Data corrections will be provided to the USACE-NWD on an on-going basis so that they can be incorporated into the database.

C. Completeness of Data:

Completeness of data includes how completeness is calculated and the data quality criteria goal.

1. Completeness Calculation

The calculation of data set completeness is based on temperature and %TDG, which encompasses barometric pressure and TDG pressure. Data completeness is not based on the completeness of one parameter but of an entire suite.

2. Completeness Goal

Data collected at each site will be 95% of the data that could have been collected during the defined monitoring period.

4.4 Phase 4: Instrument Removal and Storage

The seasonal water quality monitors will be removed shortly after the end of the monitoring season (31 August) by Corps staff or the USGS, except for those that are slated for continued fall-winter monitoring. Those removed will be serviced by the maintenance and service contractors and stored at a convenient location until the beginning of the next monitoring season. A selected number of monitors and spare DCPs will be available for off-season special monitoring activities upon request. Seattle District owns its Sutron and Geomation DCPs, and maintains and stores them as needed.

4.5 Phase 5: Fall-Winter Monitoring.

Fall-Winter monitoring of TDG will be consistent with what was recommended in the TDG TMDL's for the Lower Columbia and the Lower Snake rivers. A TDG monitor will be installed in the tailraces of each project with additional "boundary" gauges located at Pasco and Anatone (see "Table 4).

4.6 Phase 6: Data Compilation, Analysis and Storage

Time and resource permitting, Corps staff and contractors will fill data gaps, perform statistical analyses, and develop trends and relationships between spill and TDG saturation. Efforts will be made to use the SYSTDG model, and finding ways to facilitate and/or improve user access to the TDG and TDG-related database. The SYSTDG model (developed by ERDC) will be available for in-season gas production predictions and screening. Data collected at and transmitted from all network stations will be ultimately stored at CENWD-CM-WR-N, where they can be accessed through a data management system such as HEC-DSS or download the information from the TMT website.

4.7 Phase 7: Program Evaluation and Summary Report

An annual report will be prepared after the end of the normal (spring and summer) monitoring season to summarize the yearly highlights of the TDG monitoring program. Preparation for the annual report will begin with a post-season review, with participation by the Northwest Division Office, the three Corps Districts, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Mid-Columbia PUD's, and the Regional Forum WQT. The report will include a general program evaluation of the adequacy and timeliness of the information received from the field, and how that information is used to help control TDG supersaturation and high water temperature in the Columbia River basin. Information on the performance of the instruments (including accuracy, precision and bias associated with each parameter) and the nature and extent of

instrument failures will be documented. This summary should include statistics on data confidence limits. Division staff will prepare the Annual TDG Monitoring Report based on field input, other material provided by each District, and recommendations by the WQT. This report will also contain suggestions and recommendations to improve the quality of the data during the FY2006 monitoring program.

4.8 Phase 8: Special Field Studies

As provided for in Phase 3, additional monitoring of dissolved gas saturation will be conducted on an as-needed basis. The current plan for additional monitoring includes:

- Due to the unique environments in the Snake River, NWW will conduct a study directed towards the viability of extending the current two-week sonde maintenance to three- or four-week intervals.

5.0 COOPERATION WITH PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

The Bureau of Reclamation, Douglas County PUD, Chelan County PUD, and Grant County PUDs currently monitor for total dissolved gases at their mainstem projects and have maintained a cooperative effort with the Corps in collecting and reporting total dissolved gas and related water quality parameters. It is expected that this cooperation will extend through the 2006 spill season. Idaho Power Company is believed to have been collecting some TDG information in the Hells Canyon Complex for use in numerical modeling for FERC re-licensing efforts. However, this information has not been as widely disseminated as the data from the rest of the TDG monitoring network. The following is a summary of the action plans for the cooperating agencies.

Bureau of Reclamation. Bureau of Reclamation TDG monitoring will continue at International Boundary and the Grand Coulee forebay and tailrace, and the Hungry Horse sites in 2006. Hourly data transmission to CROHMS will continue via the GOES satellite.

Douglas County PUD. TDG monitoring will continue at the forebay and tailrace of Wells Dam in 2006. Hourly data from both of these stations will continue to be sent to the Corps.

Chelan County PUD. The physical monitoring of TDG to be conducted in 2006 will be very similar to the monitoring conducted from 2000 to 2005. Chelan will continue to monitor TDG in the forebay and tailrace of both Rocky Reach and Rock Island Dams. The PUD will continue to use Common Sensing monitors in the forebay and Hydrolab Datasonde 4s in the tailrace. Data will continue to arrive to the Corps hourly, and efforts will be made to repair malfunctioning probes within 48 hours. Monitoring instruments will be calibrated every three to four weeks or as necessary. Chelan will also continue to conduct weekly transects in the tailraces of both projects to validate the locations of the tailrace monitors and may institute some forebay transects to verify that forebay readings are representative of the conditions in the river at large.

Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County (Grant PUD). Grant PUD currently operates and maintains four fixed-site water quality monitoring stations that monitor depth (m), barometric pressure (mmHg), total dissolved gas (TDG; percent saturation), temperature (°C), dissolved oxygen (DO; mg/L), pH (units), and turbidity (NTU). Depth, barometric pressure, TDG, and temperature are monitored on an hourly basis throughout the year, while DO, pH, and turbidity are monitored on a bi-weekly basis throughout the year. Fixed site monitors are located midway across the river channel in the forebay and tailrace of each dam.

Each fixed site water quality monitoring station is equipped with a Hydrolab Corporation Model DS4A[®], DS4[®] or Minisonde[®] multi-probe enclosed in a submerged conduit. Multi-probes are connected to an automated system that allows Grand PUD to monitor depth, barometric pressure, temperature, and TDG on an hourly basis (year-round). A barometer is located at each fixed site and provides the atmospheric pressure readings necessary to correct the partial pressure readings taken by the Hydrolab multi-probes. Data is collected and recorded onto a Sutron 8210 DCP at the top of the hour. A PCBase2 operating system transmits hourly water quality data via radio/antenna links to a PC at each dam. Data is transferred from the PC to an Access database from which daily reports can be generated and distributed. Grab-sample readings of pH, turbidity, and DO are taken during each bi-weekly calibration throughout the year.

Multi-probe calibration and maintenance for fixed monitoring sites follow established guidelines by U.S. Geological Survey (personal communication with Dwight Tanner) and Hydrolab Corporation. Fixed site multi-probes are exchanged bi-weekly (year-round) with a previously calibrated (12-72 hours) probe. Calibration is conducted in a controlled laboratory environment using certified equipment and recommended standard solutions. A secondary probe (QA) is deployed at each site for quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) during maintenance and calibration. The QA probe is used to monitor probe sensor deviation and suggest future deployment or recalibration maintenance, and to collect grab sample readings of pH, turbidity, and DO.

Grant PUD currently posts total dissolved gas, temperature, discharge (kcfs), spill (kcfs) and spill percentage (%) data to its web-site: (www.gcpud.org/stewardship/waterquality.htm) on a daily basis. The data is generally posted by 12:00 pm each day for the previous day (1-day lag during weekdays and a 3-day lag over weekends). The one-day lag-time is necessary to conduct a QA/QC on all water quality data. Specific details of Grand PUD's fixed site water quality monitors, maintenance and calibration procedures, and quality assurance methods can be reviewed in Grant PUD's Final License Application, License Technical Appendix E-3.F (Duvall and Dresser 2003).

Table 3. List of Contact Persons in 2006

Project	Name	Position	Phone #	E-Mail
Internat'l Bndry., Hungry Horse, Grand Coulee	Norbert Cannon	Chemist	(208) 334-1540	ncannon@pn.usbr.gov
	Bryan Horsburgh	Water Quality Regional Coordinator	(208) 378-5035	bhorsburgh@pn.usbr.gov
	Jim Doty	Hydromet Data Transmission	(208) 378-5272	jdoty@pn.usbr.gov
Chief Joseph, Albeni Falls, Libby	Marian Valentine	Coordinator	(206) 764-3543	marian.valentine@ usace.army.mil
	Kent Easthouse	Oversight	(206) 764-6926	Kent.b.easthouse@ usace.army.mil
	Ray Strode	Trouble- shooting	(206) 764-3529	ray.strode@ usace.army.mil
Wells (Douglas)	Rick Klinge	Coordinator	(509) 884-7191	rklinge@dcpud.org
Rocky Reach and Rock Island (Chelan County PUD)	Waikele (Kelee) Hampton	Coordinator	(509) 663-8121 x 4627	waikele@chelanpud.org
	Mike Blalock	Data Manager	(509) 669-1732	
Priest Rapids and Wanapum (Grant County PUD)	Ross Hendrick	Limnologist	(509) 754-5088 Ext. 2468	rhendr1@gcpud.org
	Tom Dresser	Manager of Fish, Wildlife, and Water Quality Program	(509) 754-5088 Ext. 2312	tdresse@gcpud.org
Dworshak, Low. Granite, Little Goose, Low. Monumental, Ice Harbor, McNary, Pasco, Anatone	Steve Juul	Coordinator	(509) 527-7281	steve.t.juul@ usace.army.mil
	Russ Heaton	Oversight	(509) 527-7282	russ.d.heaton@ usace.army.mil
	Greg Ruppert	USGS/ Oversight	(509) 527-2571	gruppert@usgs.gov
John Day, The Dalles, Bonneville, Warrendale, Skamania, Camas	Jim Britton	Coordinator	(503) 808-4888	james.l.britton@ usace.army.mil
	Joe Rinella	USGS/ Contract Coordinator	(503) 251-3278	jrinnella@usgs.gov
	Dwight Tanner	USGS/Oversig ht	(503) 251-3289	dqtanner@usgs.gov
COE Northwest Division Program Coordination	Jim Adams	Coordinator	(503) 808-3938	james.r.adams@ usace.army.mil
	Laura Hamilton	Oversight	(503) 808-3939	laura.j.hamilton@ usace.army.mil
	Tina Lundell	Data Manager	(503) 808-3937	Tina.m.lundell@ usace.army.mil

TABLE 4: 2006 Dissolved Gas Monitoring Network

STATION NAME	STATION CODE	OWNER ^{d,e,f}	DATES OF OPERATION	CALIBRATION FREQUENCY	
				FALL-WINTER ^a	SPRING-SUMMER ^b
Albeni Falls Forebay	ALFI	USACE-NWS	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Albeni Falls Tailwater	ALQI	USACE-NWS	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Anatone	ANQW	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Bonneville Forebay	BON	USACE-NWP	April 1 – August 31	N/A	3 Weeks
Boundary	CIBW	USBR	Year Round	Monthly	2 Weeks
Camas-Washougal	CWMW	USACE-NWP	April 1 – August 31	N/A	3 Weeks
Cascades Island	CCIW	USACE-NWP	March 1 – August 31	N/A	3 Weeks
Chief Joseph Forebay	CHJ	USACE-NWS	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Chief Joseph Tailwater	CHQW	USACE-NWS	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Dworshak Tailwater	DWQI	USACE-NWW	Year Round	Monthly	2 Weeks
Grand Coulee Forebay	FDRW	USBR	Year Round	Monthly	2 Weeks
Grand Coulee Tailwater	GCGW	USBR	Year Round	Monthly	2 Weeks
Hungry Horse Tailwater	HGHM	USBR	April 1 – September 30	N/A	2 Weeks
Ice Harbor Forebay	IHRA	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Ice Harbor Tailwater	IDSW	USACE-NWW	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
John Day Forebay	JDY	USACE-NWP	April 1 – August 31	N/A	3 Weeks
John Day Tailwater	JHAW	USACE-NWP	Year Round	Monthly	3 Weeks
Lewiston	LEWI	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Libby Tailwater	LBQM	USACE-NWS	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Little Goose Forebay	LGSA	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Little Goose Tailwater	LGSW	USACE-NWW	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Lower Granite Forebay	LWG	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Lower Granite Tailwater	LGNW	USACE-NWW	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Lower Monumental Forebay	LMNA	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks

TABLE 4: 2006 Dissolved Gas Monitoring Network

STATION NAME	STATION CODE	OWNER ^{a,b,c}	DATES OF OPERATION	CALIBRATION FREQUENCY	
				FALL-WINTER ^d	SPRING-SUMMER ^e
Lower Monumental Tailwater	LMNW	USACE-NWW	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
McNary Forebay	MCNA	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
McNary Tailwater	MCPW	USACE-NWW	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Pasco	PAQW	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Peck	PAQW	USACE-NWW	April 1 – August 31	N/A	2 Weeks
Priest Rapids Forebay	PRD	Grant County PUD	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Priest Rapids Tailwater	PRXW	Grant County PUD	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Rock Island Forebay	RIS	Chelan County PUD	April 1 – August 31	N/A	Monthly
Rock Island Tailwater	RIGW	Chelan County PUD	April 1 – August 31	N/A	Monthly
Rocky Reach Forebay	RRH	Chelan County PUD	April 1 – August 31	N/A	Monthly
Rocky Reach Tailwater	RRDW	Chelan County PUD	April 1 – August 31	N/A	Monthly
The Dalles Forebay	TDA	USACE-NWP	April 1 – August 31	N/A	3 Weeks
The Dalles Tailwater	TDDO	USACE-NWP	Year Round	Monthly	3 Weeks
Wanapum Forebay	WAN	Grant County PUD	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Wanapum Tailwater	WANW	Grant County PUD	Year Round	2 Weeks	2 Weeks
Warrendale	WRNO	USACE-NWP	September 1 – May 31	Monthly	3 Weeks ^f
Wells Forebay	WEL	Douglas County PUD	April 1 – August 31	N/A	Monthly
Wells Tailwater	WELW	Douglas County PUD	April 1 – August 31	N/A	Monthly

a. USACE = U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (NWP = Portland District, NWS = Seattle District, NWW = Walla Walla District)

b. USBR = U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

c. Data for all TDG monitoring stations is available at; <http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/>

d. For the purposes of Corps of Engineers TDG monitoring, “Fall-Winter Season” is defined as September 1 through March 31.

For the purposes of Bureau of Reclamation TDG monitoring, “Fall-Winter Season” is defined as October 1 through March 31.

e. For the purposes of Corps of Engineers TDG monitoring, “Spring-Summer Season” is defined as April 1 through August 31.

For the purposes of Bureau of Reclamation TDG monitoring, “Spring-Summer Season” is defined as April 1 through September 30.

f. The Warrendale TDG monitor will be recalibrated every three weeks from March 1 through May 31.

