

Summer 2024 Dworshak Water Supply Outlook: **Update**

USACE NWW – Water Management
Current as of August 13, 2024

Overview

On July 24th, TMT members discussed three risk management alternative operations for Dworshak's water supply. TMT decided to support a relaxed temperature criterion of 69.5° F in the tailwater of Lower Granite from August 1st – August 9th. The alternative operation was intended to save as much water as possible in Dworshak reservoir during the specified time window that aligned with the anticipated lull in passage shifting between the Sockeye to the fall Chinook run in the Lower Snake River. The water saved from the temperature relaxation would then be used in the latter part of August when more Chinook are present and broodstock operations occur.

Estimated Water Supply *Before* Alternative Operation

Before alternative operations were implemented, there was only enough water to maintain 68° F in Lower Granite's tailwater through the end of August if average conditions occurred, with no heatwaves, including 3 days of spill that could be used to mitigate increased tailwater temperatures during Lower Granite's double testing.

Estimated Water Supply *After* Alternative Operation

Thanks to the selected adaptive operation as well as cooler ambient air temperatures at the end of July, an additional 2.5 days of spill are now available for operations outside of double testing. These extra days can be utilized in the face of another heatwave or other event.