Fish Passage Plan (FPP) Change Request Form

Change Form # & Title:	15AppJ002 – MCN JFF Sampling Protocol Revisions
Date Submitted:	July 9, 2014
Project:	MCN
Requester Name, Agency:	FPAC
Final Action:	DENIED - September 11, 2014

FPP Section: Appendix J. McNary Dam JFF. Section 3.4. Sampling at Water Temps >70°F

Justification for Change: To clarify language in Appendix J Section 3.4 that was confusing to COE Biologists and SMP personnel.

Proposed Change:

3.3. MCN JFF Sample Mode Operations (typically April 6 – September 30).

3.3.1. Sampling Procedures:

3.3.1.a. Personnel will normally conduct sampling in accordance with smolt monitoring program guidelines recommended by the Fish Passage Center ~~PSMFC~~. Project and SMP personnel may occasionally alter sampling guidelines if fish research activities require. Normal alterations of sampling guidelines are to adjust number of fish sampled to meet approved research needs or to minimize handling of fish during warm water temperatures.

3.3.1.b. Electronic counting tunnels count sampled fish and staff verify and adjust by hand counts. Staff will base all fish count estimates and rates on estimated collection, which is based on sample count and sample rates, and not the electronic counters. ~~size of the sample of fish collected.~~ Staff will ~~take~~ sample~~s~~ fish over ~~hourly for~~ 24-hours (0700-0700)~~s~~ every-other-day. Project biologists will coordinate with SMP personnel to set sample rates.

3.3.1.c. SMP and project personnel will take and use species composition and weight samples to determine loading densities for raceways (if fish are being collected for research needs). Project personnel will keep a running total of hourly estimates of fish numbers and raceway totals. Daily samples for monitoring descaling will include a minimum of 100 fish of the dominant group(s) for which descaling information is recorded. SMP and project personnel will monitor descaling every-other-day for facility operations. SMP and project personnel may conduct full sample descaling instead of 100 fish subsamples as long as it does not adversely affect other facility operations.

3.3.1.d. Where SMP activities are conducted at collector dams, project biologists may utilize daily total information gathered by those personnel.

3.3.1.e. Research updates and trouble reports will go through project biologists to FPOM.

3.4. MCN JFF Sampling at Water Temperatures > 70°F.

3.4.1. SMP p~~P~~ersonnel will use instantaneous temperatures from a temperature probe in the sample holding tank for implementation of reduced target sample size. ~~obtain daily average~~

~~river temperatures from the Corps website at: http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/ops/temp/string_by_project.html.~~

3.4.2. An instantaneous temperature of 70°F or greater (taken between 0630 and 0700 hours) will trigger a change in sample rate to reduce target sample size to 100 fish per sample over the span of 24-hours (0700-0700). During this time, monitoring for gas bubble trauma (GBT) symptoms will cease. ~~Staff will conduct daily 24-hour index sampling every other day, 0700 to 0700. If juvenile salmonid populations experience high mortality after personnel implement the above procedures, the project will cease fish collection for regular sampling, but SMP and project staff shall continue to collect for fish condition sampling for up to 8 hours per day.~~

3.4.3. The switchgate selects between sample and bypass mode.

3.4.4. If juvenile salmonids ~~populations~~ experience high mortality at the project, sampling will be further reduced to a maximum of 8 hours for condition monitoring. During this time, the target sample size will still be ~~staff will reduce sample sizes to "~~approximately~~"~~ 100 fish per sample~~day~~, within sampling limitations.

Comment [LSW1]: Fredricks (FPOM 6/12/14): Define "high mortality" and "sampling limitations"

~~**3.4.5.** Project or SMP personnel will use a thermometer in the sample holding tank for official reporting requirements, instantaneous temperatures or when online data are unavailable.~~

~~**3.4.6.**~~**3.4.5.** 24-hour sampling ~~will resume when high mortality rates are no longer present. An instantaneous temperature of 70°F or greater taken between 0630 and 0700 hours will trigger a change in sampling mode after a project biologist notifies SMP biologists.~~

~~**3.4.7.**~~**3.4.6.** Target sample size of 300-500 fish will ~~Normal index sampling may~~ resume when daily average temperatures in the McNary Forebay are ≤ 69.5°F. Normal GBT monitoring will also resume at this time. Daily average temperatures will be obtained from the COE website for Lower Columbia River projects (lcol): http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/documents/ops/temp/

~~**3.4.8.**~~**3.4.7.** If there is a research need to sample more than 100 fish at temperatures >70°F, the Corps District POC will initiate coordination with FPOM.

~~**3.4.9.**~~**3.4.8.** If the SMP and project fisheries biologists suspect a bypass system problem during a period of limited sampling (i.e., high mortality), ~~high temperature sampling period,~~ additional sample collection may occur. Project or District biologists will notify FPOM as soon as possible and provide updates as they attempt to resolve the problem.

Comments:

8/14/14 FPOM: Dugger had concerns about using the sample holding tank. NWW will work on language and resubmit to FPOM for review.

9/11/14 FPOM: CRITFC said no.

Record of Final Action: 9/11/14 FPOM: DENIED