

SPILL PRIORITY LIST – SPRING 2026 (April 3 through no later than June 21)

The Spill Priority List (SPL) defines how Lack of Load spill will be distributed to projects in order to manage TDG on a system-wide basis. In the event of spill due to Lack of Load, spill will occur at projects in the following sequential priority order at the spill level defined for incrementally higher levels of TDG.

Level	Priority Order	Project	TDG (%)	Example Spill Level (kcfs)
LEVEL 1 Spill level estimated to meet but not exceed the numeric Water Quality Standard. ¹	1	TDA	125%	169 ²
	2	CHJ	110%	25
	3	GCL	110%	Outlet Tubes=0; Drum Gates=5
	4	DWR	110%	35% of project outflow
	5	LGS ³	125%	80
LEVEL 2 Spill level estimated to meet but not exceed daily TDG threshold.	6	JDA	127%	220
	7	MCN	127%	245
	8	TDA	127%	250
	9	IHR	127%	125
	10	LWG	127%	90
	11	LMN	127%	120
	12	LGS	127%	95
	13	CHJ	122%	160
LEVEL 3 Spill level estimated to meet but not exceed daily TDG threshold.	14	GCL	122%	Outlet Tubes=40; Drum Gates=50
	15	JDA	130%	250
	16	MCN	130%	290
	17	TDA	130%	280
	18	IHR	130%	145
	19	LWG	130%	100
	20	LMN	130%	180
	21	LGS	130%	145
	22	CHJ	125%	190
23	GCL	125%	Outlet Tubes=45; Drum Gates=80	
LEVELS 4 and up	Same Priority Order as Level 3			

¹ The TDG standard (also referred to as “Gas Cap”) is ≤110% in all project tailraces except during spill for fish passage at lower Columbia and lower Snake projects. The TDG water quality standards are described in the Fish Operations Plan (FOP) and include biomonitoring and Endangered Species Act conditions that are not reflected in Level 1. The FOP includes operations up to 125% TDG and includes performance standard hours at some projects. Projects spilling to 125% TDG 24 hours per day have been removed from this list for clarity. Bonneville will not spill above the FOP spring spill level (150 kcfs, 24 hours per day) for lack of market due to stilling basin erosion concerns.

² 169 kcfs is the maximum flow rate for spill entirely from Bays 1-8, i.e., inside the spillwall (Fish Passage Plan, Table TDA-7). In Level 1, spill at The Dalles Dam is limited to the lesser of 169 kcfs or 125% TDG. The position of The Dalles Dam in Levels 2 and 3 is largely influenced by structural and maintenance issues at the project, which require a non-optimum spill pattern for fish (i.e., spill at bays farthest from the spill wall).

³ Lack of load spill would not occur at Little Goose in Level 1 until after the adult criteria is met per the FOP.