



Grant County  
**PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT**

*Innovation & Excellence...Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*

**MEMORANDUM**

April 30, 2007

**TO:** Grant Dispatch  
Wanapum Dam Control Room  
Priest Rapids Dam Control Room

**VIA:** Stephen Brown, Natural Resources Director  
Tom Dresser, Fish, Wildlife, and Water Quality Manager

**FROM:** Curt Dotson, Sr. Biologist

**Purpose:** 2007 Spring Fish Spill – Revision # 1

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**Discussion:** Recent total dissolved gas (TDG) readings in the Priest Rapids Dam (PRD) forebay have been above the Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) criteria of 115.0%.

In an effort to remain within TDG criteria at Priest Rapids Dam forebay, the Wanapum Dam Top-Spill Bulkhead will be closed and then re-opened with a 12 hour open / 12 hour closed cycle. This change (TG-12 closure) will go into affect at 1730 hr. on April 30, 2007. The 12 hr. open / 12 hr. closed cycle for the Wanapum Top-Spill Bulkhead will begin with the re-opening of the gate at 1900 hr. on May 1, 2007 and then closed at 0700 hr the following day – this will be the 12 hr. open / 12 hr. close cycle.

The Wanapum Dam Inadvertent Spill Pattern will continue to be used at this time. There is no change in the present spill program for Priest Rapids Dam at this time.

These changes are being made in an effort to pass downstream migrating smolts via the safest passage route and still bring TDG levels in the Priest Rapids forebay back into WDOE criteria. The Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, NOAA Fisheries, and Washington Department of Ecology Fish Spill Representatives gave concurrence with this decision.

Stephen Brown, Natural Resource Director and Tom Dresser, Fish, Wildlife, and Water Quality Manager gave concurrence.

The following fish spill rates shall continue until further notice:

**Fish Spill at Wanapum and Priest Rapids Dams**

<b><u>Hydro Project</u></b>	<b><u>Start Date</u></b>	<b><u>Start Time</u></b>	<b><u>Spill Rate</u></b>	<b><u>Duration</u></b>
Wanapum Dam	April 30, 2007	1730 hr.	Topspill Gate Closed & Sluice remains open	Sluice – open 24 hours/day.
Wanapum Dam	May 1, 2007	1900 hr.	TG-12 open for 12 hours and then closed for 12 hours  Sluice open 24/7.	<u>TG-12</u> Closed: 0700 – 1900 hrs, Open: 1900 – 0700 hrs.
Priest Rapids Dam	N/A	N/A	PR Top-Spill Bulkhead	24 hours/day

The Fish Spill Representatives will continue to monitor TDG levels and make appropriate spill changes to be within the Washington Department of Ecology's water standards.

Please give Curt Dotson a call if you have any questions (509-750-1999).

Cc:

Scott Carlon (NOAA Fisheries)  
 Carmen Andonaegui (WDFW )  
 Chris Maynard (DOE)  
 Bob Rose (Yakama Nation)  
 Tim Culbertson  
 Joe Lukas  
 Bryan Nordlund (NOAA Fisheries)  
 Brian Cates (USFWS)  
 Jerry Marco (Colville Conf. Tribes)  
 Carl Merkle (Umatilla Conf. Tribes)  
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