

Performance Standards – Documenting Achievement of Performance Standards

The following steps lay out a process for reviewing Performance Standard test results (and past results that satisfy criteria in the Performance Standard document, see <http://www.salmonrecovery.gov/Files/BiologicalOpinions/2012/Performancestandardpaper.pdf>) and documenting the results of testing where the Performance Standards have been achieved. Once a draft report of Performance Standard test results is available, the Corps will initiate regional review and documentation as follows:

Regional (Studies Review Work Group [SRWG]) review of Performance Standard test (or retrospective) results

- SRWG reviews study aspects and results for consistency and adherence to:
 - Survival model assumptions,
 - Criteria specified in the Performance Standards document⁵, and
 - Accord metrics (review with Accord partners).
- The Corps documents the outcome of the review (meeting minutes).

The Corps' determination and NOAA's concurrence of meeting Performance Standards

- Following the SRWG's review of study results, the Corps, in coordination with NOAA and the other Action Agencies, will consider the information gained from the review, and then determine whether or not the standards were met and whether the associated study metrics adequately comply with the Performance Standards document.
 - After two consecutive acceptable tests have been completed at a project, the Corps will prepare a decision memo with rationale and determination that the standards have been met.
- The Corps will provide the memo to the SRWG and RIOG as notification of their determination that the Performance Standard test results should apply towards satisfying the BiOp performance standards for juvenile dam passage survival.
 - RIOG members may raise issues to RIOG for dispute resolution if there is disagreement with the Corps' conclusion.
 - RIOG may request review of the Corps' determination by the Senior Hydro Technical Team.
 - i. If requested, the Senior Hydro Technical Team would review and prepare an issue paper for RIOG's consideration.
- The Corps and NOAA, in coordination with the other Action Agencies, will consider the input from RIOG members and make a final determination whether the performance standards have been met.

An example using The Dalles Dam spring testing results to step through the process is as follows:

- Two years of spring PS testing complete – 2010, 2011
- SRWG review two years' worth of study results – spring 2013

⁵ Federal Columbia River Power System Juvenile Dam Passage Performance Standard and Metrics, August 2012.

- Corps prepares decision memo – summer/fall 2013
 - Release memo to SRWG and RIOG – winter 2013/14
 - RIOG review – early 2014
- Final determination – spring 2014 prior to the start of spring spill operations

A tentative schedule for completing Performance Standard testing and performance standard test results review and documentation of meeting performance standards at each project is included below (Table 1).

Table 1. Tentative planned testing and performance standard determination schedule, 2013-2018.

Project	Spring Test Schedule	Spring PS Results		Summer Test Schedule	Summer PS Results	
		Review	Decision		Review	Decision
Bonneville	2016 ¹ , 2017 ¹	2013, 2018 ¹	2014 or 2018	2016, 2017 ¹	2013, 2017, 2018 ¹	2018
The Dalles	Complete ²	2013	Early 2014	Complete ²	2013	Early 2014
John Day	Complete ²	2013	Late 2014	2014	2015	2016
McNary	2014	2015	2016	2014, 2015	2016	2017
Ice Harbor	2015 ²	2016	2017	2015, 2016	2017	2018
Lower Monumental	Complete ²	2013	Early 2014	2013	2014	2015
Little Goose	Complete ²	2013	Early 2014	2013	2014	2015
Lower Granite	2016, 2017	2018	2018	2016, 2017	2018	2018

¹ As needed

² Pending further regional review