

Overview of Francis E. Walter Reservoir Flow Management Plan for 2006

On or about 1 April 2006 storage will be initiated at F. E. Walter Dam. The exact date that storage will be initiated will be determined by the Corps of Engineers based on basin hydrologic conditions at the time. Storage could start at any time in March if precipitation raises the pool above elevation 1300. During this period outflows will be limited to 250 cfs on weekdays and during weekends the outflow will be set equal to inflow to a maximum release rate of 1000 cfs. The storage of excess inflows will continue until the pool reaches the elevation of 1365. This is the target elevation for the 2006 recreation season. The pool elevation of 1365 is expected to be reached no later than Friday 12 May 2006, in time for the first scheduled release on Saturday 13 May 2006. Weekend events are planned for every other weekend thru 1 October 2006. The scheduled releases will be made from 1AM Saturday till 1 PM on Saturday then from 1 AM Sunday till 1 PM on Sundays provided sufficient storage is available. If the two targeted weekend releases are not possible, the attached augmentation priority list (Attachment 1) will be utilized to determine the weekend releases.

Throughout the recreation season, any pool elevation above elevation 1365 is considered an undesirable encroachment into flood control storage, and will be evacuated as quickly as possible in accordance with the Corps' F.E. Walter Reservoir Water Control Manual. It must also be noted that flood control is the primary mission at F.E. Walter, and any storage above elevation 1300 could be released if deemed necessary by the Corps of Engineers for flood control purposes.

The pool elevation during May and June will be maintained between elevation 1365 and 1360. This 5 foot pool limit is intended to help conserve cold water for augmentation later in the season, and to help in-lake fish spawning. Provided the allowable fluctuation during May and June is maintained, the minimum release during weekdays will be set at 250 cfs. Weekend recreation releases during this period will be made as long as sufficient storage exists above elevation 1360, with a maximum release of 1000 cfs in May, and 750 cfs in June.

As a result of comments received after the 16 February public information workshop, an attempt will be made to help ensure that sufficient storage above elevation 1360 will be available for the 24-25 June scheduled releases. The 10-11 June releases may be reduced or possibly cancelled to store water for the next scheduled releases, however since any stored water would be available for both weekdays and weekend flow augmentation, the 24-25 June releases cannot be guaranteed.

Beginning 01 July, there will no longer be specific flow targets. Instead all water above 1300 will be used for augmentation following one of the ever decreasing rule curves depicted in Attachment II. This rule curve has been established to ensure that sufficient storage will be available to sustain a minimum augmentation release of at least 50 cfs for weekdays and non-recreational weekends (up to a maximum of 250 cfs if elevation is below 1365,) and a recreational weekend augmentation of 300 cfs for a 24 hour period over the weekend (ratio of 1:6). For the remainder of the recreation weekend the release will revert to inflow plus the augmentation of a minimum of 50 cfs. If on 01 July the pool elevation is such that a curve other

that the 50/300 curve is appropriate, or if at any time during the remainder of the recreation season, precipitation is sufficient enough to raise the elevation of the pool to the next higher curve, that curve is then followed for the remainder of the season, unless precipitation events again raise the elevation to an even higher curve.

At on 02 October, sufficient storage still remains above elevation 1300 that would allow for a release up to 12000cfs on 13-14 October. If it appears as though the Columbus Day weekend release can be accomplished by storing on the weekdays after 02 October, the minimum release will not be less than 144 cfs. After this last event, operations of the project will be strictly for flood control with the intent of maintaining the pool at elevation 1300.

In order to conserve cold water in the reservoir, the bypass system will be utilized to the maximum extent possible to make releases. Once release temperature from the bypass reaches 68 degree F, all releases will be made from the flood control gates.

Release Priority

| Total cfs available for weekend boating (including augmentation) * | Saturday Recreation Release | Sunday Recreation Release |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 700 | 600 | ** |
| 750 | 625 | ** |
| 800 | 650 | ** |
| 850 | 675 | ** |
| 900 | 700 | ** |
| 950 | 725 | ** |
| 1000 | 750 | ** |
| 1050 | 725 | 500*** |
| 1100 | 725 | 700*** |
| 1150 | 750 | 550 |
| 1200 | 750 | 650 |
| 1250 | 750 | 750 |

* Total cfs available defined as (storage = 300 cfs plus average daily inflow X2) For Example : 1000 cfs represents 600 cfs for recreation plus an average inflow over the weekend of 200cfs

** Outflow will be set at inflow plus 50 csf

*** Sunday releases for 6 hr. period only (7 A.M. thru 1P.M.), all other flows reflected in the table are for a 12 hr. period (1A.M. thru 1P.M.)

