

NECHAKO FISHERIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM

A Joint Program of the Government of Canada, Alcan and the Province of British Columbia

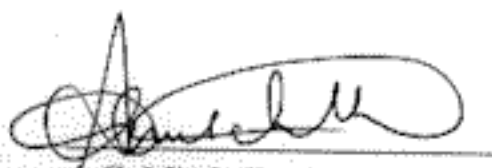
NECHAKO FISHERIES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING


DATE: April 17, 1997

Decision Record (1997/98-1)

1. The Technical Committee has received from Alcan, and reviewed, a document dated 9 April 1997 and titled "Nechako Reservoir, Proposed Management Plan for Water Year 1997". This document sets out Alcan's desired plan for the release of water from the Nechako Reservoir to the Nechako River for the period April 24, 1997 to August 30, 1997. Under Clause 2.1 A.(c) iv. of the Settlement Agreement, the Technical Committee provides the following directions to Alcan regarding the timing of the proposed releases:
 - i) The Technical Committee perceives that an immediate increase in release from the Nechako Reservoir via the Skins Lake Spillway flow from 2000 cfs (56.6 m³/s) to 3000 cfs (85 m³/s) will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goals.
 - ii) Given that the emergent chinook will reach the stage of their development where they are actively seeking increased velocities and are foraging for food within 2-3 weeks of emergence, and, given that emergence started early this year (early March), and there is no indication that it will be prolonged to later than usual (the first week in May), the Technical Committee suggests that consideration be given to an increase in the reservoir release to 5000 cfs (142 m³/s) as early as May 15.
 - iii) That consideration be given to increasing releases to as high as 9000 cfs (255 m³/s) on June 1 and to 10000 cfs (283 m³/s) on July 1 subject to input from the Water Comptroller's office.
 - iv) That the release be decreased after August 20 subject to the considerations for fall and winter releases applied to the fall 1996 releases. (that is, if releases are delayed into September to meet reservoir operation targets, then the 50% rule would apply to winter flows based on peak September flows).


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A.C. Mitchell


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NECHAKO FISHERIES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE: May 28, 1997


Decision Record (1997/98-2)

2. The Technical Committee has received from Alcan, and reviewed, a request for an intermediate increase in the Nechako Reservoir release at the Skins Lake Spillway from 5000 cfs (142 m³/s) to 7000 cfs (198 m³/s) on May 28, 1997. Under Clause 2.1 A.(c) iv. of the Settlement Agreement, the Technical Committee has reviewed this request and perceives that an immediate increase as requested will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goals.


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NECHAKO FISHERIES TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

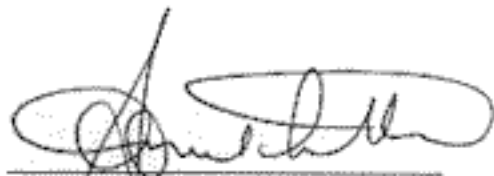
DATE: June 3, 1997

Decision Record (1997/98-3)


3. The Technical Committee has received from Alcan, and reviewed, a request for an intermediate increase in the Nechako Reservoir release at the Skins Lake Spillway from 7000 cfs (198 m³/s) to 10,000 cfs (283 m³/s) on June 10, 1997. Under Clause 2.1 A.(c) iv. of the Settlement Agreement, the Technical Committee has reviewed this request and perceives that an immediate increase as requested will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goals.



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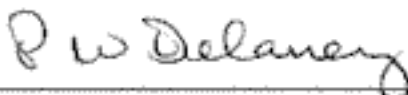
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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE DECISION RECORD

DATE: June 19, 1997


Decision Record (1997/98-4)

- 4.(a) On June 16, 1997, the Technical Committee received from Alcan a request for an increase in the Nechako Reservoir release at the Skins Lake Spillway from 283 m³/s (10,000 cfs) to 340 m³/s (12,000 cfs) effective June 20, 1997. Under Clause 2.1 A.(c) iv. of the Settlement Agreement, the Technical Committee has reviewed this request and perceives that an immediate increase as requested will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goals. Further, should Alcan need to increase this release from 340 m³/s (12,000 cfs) to 396 m³/s (14,000 cfs) between June 20 and August 20, the Technical Committee perceives that such an increase in reservoir releases will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goals.
- 4.(b) In the same request, Alcan indicated that several alternate release scenarios may be implemented to meet their reservoir operation goals. The Technical Committee has reviewed Alcan's alternate release scenarios and, based on the following criteria being met, agree that the releases will not adversely affect achievement of the Chinook Conservation Goal.
- That the flow in the Nechako River at Cheslatta Falls not exceed 125 m³/s (4400 cfs) during the spawning period;
 - The winter flow should not be less than 50 % of the maximum flow in the Nechako River below Cheslatta Falls during the chinook spawning period; and,
 - any subsequent ramp down in flows meet a down ramping guideline of 25 to 60 mm/hr.



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TECHNICAL COMMITTEE DECISION RECORD


DATE: August 20, 1997

Decision Record (1997/98-5)

5. The Technical Committee has been informed that Alcan has requested a decrease in the Nechako Reservoir release at the Skins Lake Spillway from 340 m³/s (12,000 cfs) to 42.5 m³/s (1500 cfs) effective August 20, 1997. The purpose of this change is to decrease the flow in the Nechako River below Cheslatta Falls to 85 m³/s (3000 cfs) as early in September as possible. The reservoir release would be increased to 85 m³/s (3000 cfs) on or before September 2, 1997 in order to ensure the flow at Cheslatta Falls does not drop below 85 m³/s (3000 cfs). Under Clause 2.1 A.(c) iv. of the Settlement Agreement, the Technical Committee has reviewed this request and perceives that the requested changes in release from the reservoir will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goal as the changes are within the criteria set out on Decision Record 1997/98-4.



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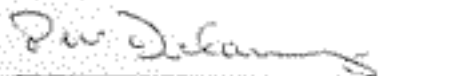
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE DECISION RECORD

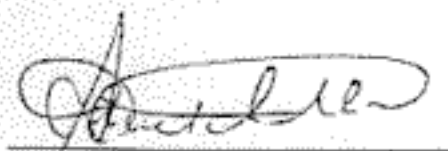
DATE: November 12, 1997

Decision Record (1997/98-6)

6. The Technical Committee has been informed that Alcan has requested a decrease in the Nechako Reservoir release at the Skins Lake Spillway from 85 m³/s (3,000 cfs) to 58.4 m³/s (2060 cfs) effective October 29, 1997. The purpose of this change is to decrease the flow in the Nechako River below Cheslatta Falls to approximately 58 m³/s (2060 cfs) in early November and maintain the gate setting (0.53 m) for the remainder of the winter. Under Clause 2.1 A.(c) iv. of the Settlement Agreement, the Technical Committee has reviewed this request and perceives that the requested changes in release from the reservoir will not adversely affect achievement of the Conservation Goal as the changes are within the criteria set out on Decision Record 1997/98-4; namely that:

- That the flow in the Nechako River at Cheslatta Falls not exceed 125 m³/s (4400 cfs) during the spawning period;
- The winter flow should not be less than 50% of the maximum flow in the Nechako River below Cheslatta Falls during the chinook spawning period; and,
- any subsequent ramp down in flows meet a down ramping guideline of 25 to 60 mm/hr.


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