

Project Name	2021-2023 Strategy for Annual Gravel Augmentation Settlement Agreement Article 10: Gravel Augmentation.
Date Proposal Submitted	9/1/2020
Date of Requested Decision	12/1/2020
Date Decision was Approved	12/8/2020
Requested By	Travis Nelson

FTC Decision and Justification

The FTC concurs that Tacoma Power will pursue and execute gravel placement up to 1,000 cubic yards annually at the location listed in this decision document between 2021-2023. The location proposed in this decision document was reviewed and supported by the FTC.

FTC members present represented WDFW, Ecology, and Tacoma Power. This Decision document will be circulated to FTC members not present and become final on 12/8 if no objections are received.

Proposed Decision or Consideration

Execute gravel placement of up to 1000 cubic yards (*1-4" washed round rock*) annually over the next three years. Gravel is proposed to be placed at the Barrier Island location below the Barrier Dam repairs on the left side of the river looking downstream. This material would be credited to the quantities required in the gravel augmentation plan as adopted into the FERC license and Settlement Agreement – Article 10.

The location of gravel placement on the Barrier Island would be sited and oriented to promote recruitment of the gravel to the river thalweg.

Background

The Tacoma Power Barrier Dam repair project scheduled for 2021-2023 will use gravel of the correct specification and quantity to be utilized in the gravel augmentation project. Once the use of these materials is no longer needed in the water diversion for the repair work associated with the Barrier Dam, it will be placed at the Barrier Island.

This decision document does not preclude placement of gravel or quantities in other locations in the lower Cowlitz River. These topics will be, addressed in a separate decision document related to a long-term gravel augmentation plan.

In 2017, as documented by Decision Document #2017-10, Tacoma Power proposed to postpone gravel augmentation through 2020. In 2019, decision document #2019-02

acknowledged the current gravel placement location on the right bank of the Cowlitz below the barrier was not an effective location and alternate locations would be pursued.

The Barrier Island concept for gravel placement was discussed with the FTC at the September, October, and November 2020 FTC meetings.

Barrier Island



Coordination Need

Tacoma will prepare a Barrier Island Gravel Augmentation work plan and provide detailed monthly updates to the FTC regarding the status of the gravel placement during 2021-2023. Based on the nature of the Barrier Dam construction, there may be a need for adaptive management and any changes to gravel placement will be discussed with the FTC as soon as possible. Quantities will be accounted for on an annual basis and a written update will be provided to FTC. Materials will be monitored for migration to adaptively manage future gravel placement.

Tacoma Power will present the longer-term gravel augmentation plan at the January 2021 FTC meeting.

Summary

Tacoma Power will pursue gravel placement of up to 1000 cubic yards annually, at Barrier Island over the next 3 years, in conjunction with the Barrier Dam construction.

