

Spokane River Flows: Key Observation Points (KOPs)

Monroe Street Dam to 9 Mile Dam Pool

Summer, 2014

Overview

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) proposes an instream flow rule for the Spokane River. In developing the proposed flow rule, the agency should have done an assessment of the appearance of the Spokane River at different flows – but failed to do so.

The Center for Environmental Law & Policy (CELP) provides this inventory of 37 key observational points (KOPs) located on the Downriver Reach of the Spokane River, obtained at 5 different flows: 2700-2800 cfs (cubic feet per second) on July 11, 2014; 2500 cfs, July 15; 2000 cfs, July 21; 1400-1500 cfs, July 29; and 1000 cfs, August 12. CELP's study contains two documents: (1) an atlas of the 37 KOPs at 5 different flows and (2) selected KOPs providing comparison images at 2500 cfs and 1000 cfs, shown below.

The proposed rule would set the summertime low flow for the downriver reach even lower than the low-flow images shown here: Ecology's proposal is for 850 cfs.

KOP 4: River Walk Pt next to Glover Field River Access, Peaceful Valley view upstream



KOP 22: TJ Meenach Bridge (2nd post of the railing north of the 2nd bridge buttress) view upriver



KOP 31: Bowl & Pitcher Suspension Bridge (Riverside State Park) view upriver.



KOP 33: Bowl & Pitcher Suspension Bridge (Riverside State Park) view downriver



KOP 35: Devil's Toenail (Riverside State Park)

