

From: Joshua Ball <jball@uppc.com>

Date: August 15, 2018 at 12:07:06 EDT

To: " [REDACTED] "

Cc: " [REDACTED] "

[REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Water level on Hoist Dam

Good Afternoon Christal,

My name is Josh Ball and I am the supervisor of the UPPCO generation facilities on the Dead River. The below email was forwarded to me through our customer service center.

I would like to start off with a few clarifications:

The "Dead River Basin" is part of a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed Hydroelectric Project. It is the FERC license which establishes the operating requirements (i.e. reservoir levels, minimum flow requirements etc.). The requirements within a FERC license are established through consultation with the agencies (MDEQ, MDNR and USFWS). It is these requirements that UPPCO is operating to, not any agreements.

With respect to the Dead River Basin, the license does not establish a required reservoir elevation, but instead provides target elevations which UPPCO must strive to meet. The license does however, establish a required minimum outflow (how much water must be released from the basin). Maintaining a minimum outflow and striving to meet a target elevation are competing requirements. If there is less water coming into the basin (inflow) than the required minimum outflow, the basin elevation will drop.

This is what is currently happening with the Dead River Basin. With the limited precipitation and extended hot weather the inflow is less than the required minimum outflow, thus resulting in a downward trend in the basin elevation. Given these conditions the best we can do is hope for a change in the weather pattern that brings more precipitation providing the much needed inflow.

Additionally, you reference flow changes following last night's storm. I can ensure you there were no operational changes (flow adjustments) made on the Dead River Basin (Hoist facility) last night or over the past few weeks. The facility has been operating very close to the license required minimum outflow for the last month. Last night's storm however, did require flow adjustments at our McClure facility, which is directly downstream from the Dead River Basin. These adjustments were required to avoid exceeding the license maximum reservoir elevation on the McClure reservoir, but the adjustments have no effect on the Dead River Basin elevation.

You also indicate seeing elevation changes from 1340.69' to 1340.71' then back down to 1340.67'. I am assuming these numbers are coming off of the UPPCO website. Please remember these numbers are averages over the last 10 minute period and the changes you reference are fluctuations of less than a ½ inch. During storms and heavy winds, wave action alone can result in reservoir elevation fluctuations between 4 to 6 inches.

UPPCO communicates often with the leadership of the DRCI in regards to headwater trends and the proactive approaches that are being taken to meet the target elevations. The DRCI board members are a good resource for you to contact to gain an understanding of living/recreating on a FERC controlled

storage basin.

If you have any further questions please give me a call at the number listed below.

Regards,

Josh Ball

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-----Original Message-----

From: Christal Peterson <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 7:24 PM

To: customerservice <customerservice@upppo.com>

Cc: Christal Peterson <[REDACTED]>

Subject: Water level on Hoist Dam

WARNING: This email was sent from an external address. Exercise caution when opening links or attachments.

Good Evening,

I am an owner of a camp on the Dead River Basin. The water level is supposed to be kept at 1341 through the boating season according to an agreement with the Dead River Corporation. I was happy to see the level go up during the heavy rain this evening, however then you promptly increased the output so it then went down. Why did you do that? Isn't the goal 1341 through September 1?? It was 1340.69 before rain, went up to 1340.71, now down to 1340.67.

I certainly don't understand why this is done. ?? Your consideration would be greatly appreciated.

Christal Peterson

Sent from my iPad

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