

Saluda Hydroelectric Project

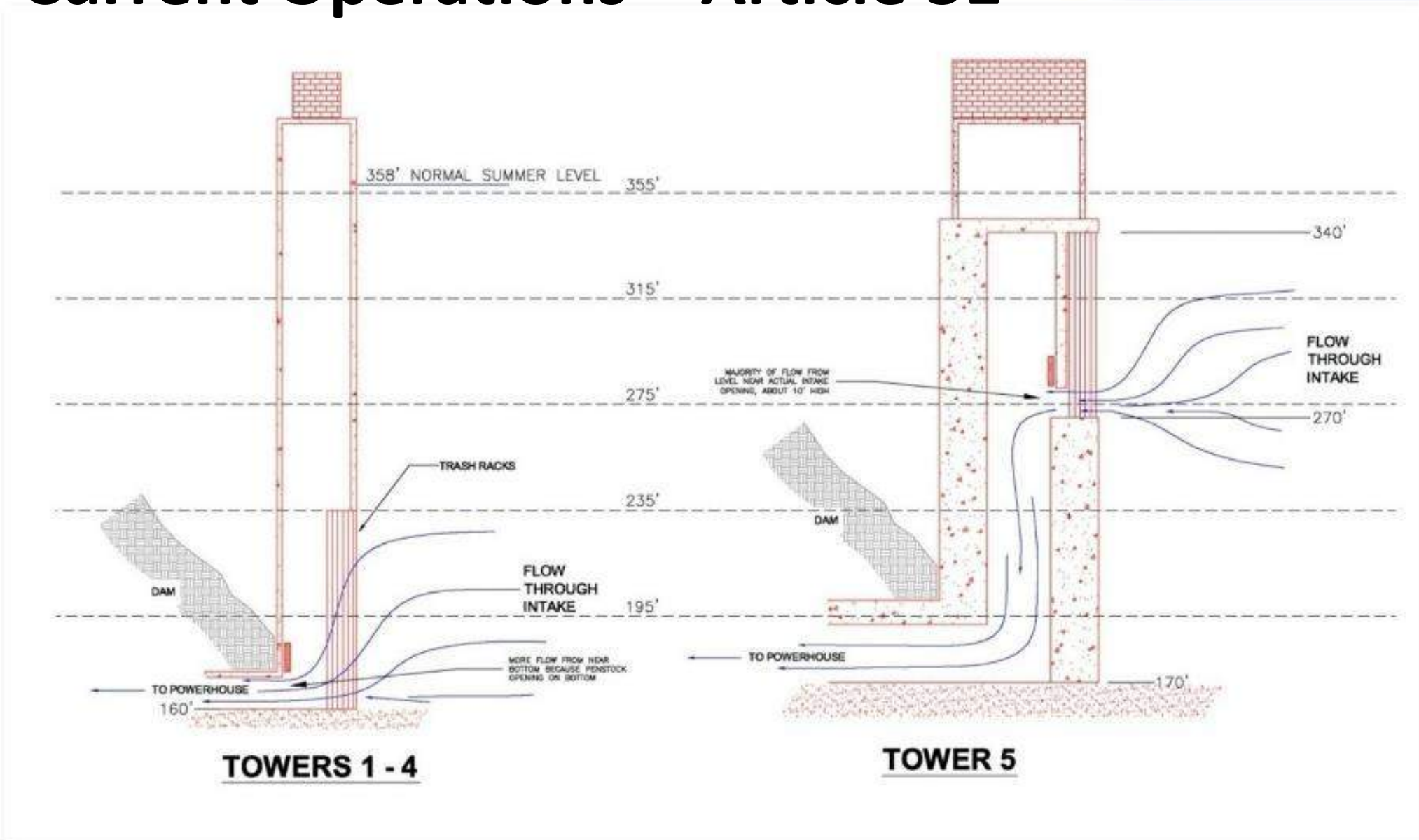
FERC Project No. 516



Current Operations

- Lake level management
- Reserve call
- Support system load
- Maintain minimum flow and DO
 - 500 - 700 cfs
 - State standards of minimum of 4 milligrams per liter (mg/l), a daily average of 5 mg/l, and a monthly average of 5.5 mg/l

Current Operations – Article 31





Intake Towers, August 1929

Saluda Hydro Relicensing Update

- Filed Application for New License on August 27, 2008.
- Filed the Comprehensive Relicensing Settlement Agreement (CRSA) and proposed draft License Articles on July 31, 2009. The CRSA provides measures to enhance, protect, and mitigate the effects of project operations.
- NMFS issued their Biological Opinion on February 28, 2023
- Allows FERC to issue a new license after completing their review of the application and the NMFS document.

Settlement Agreement Components:

General:

- Historic Properties Management Plan
- Fund Fish Passage Accord
- Freshwater Mussel Monitoring Program
- Recreation Site Improvements
- Rare Threatened & Endangered Species Program (Bald Eagle, Rocky Shoals Spider Lily, Short Nose Sturgeon, Wood Stork)

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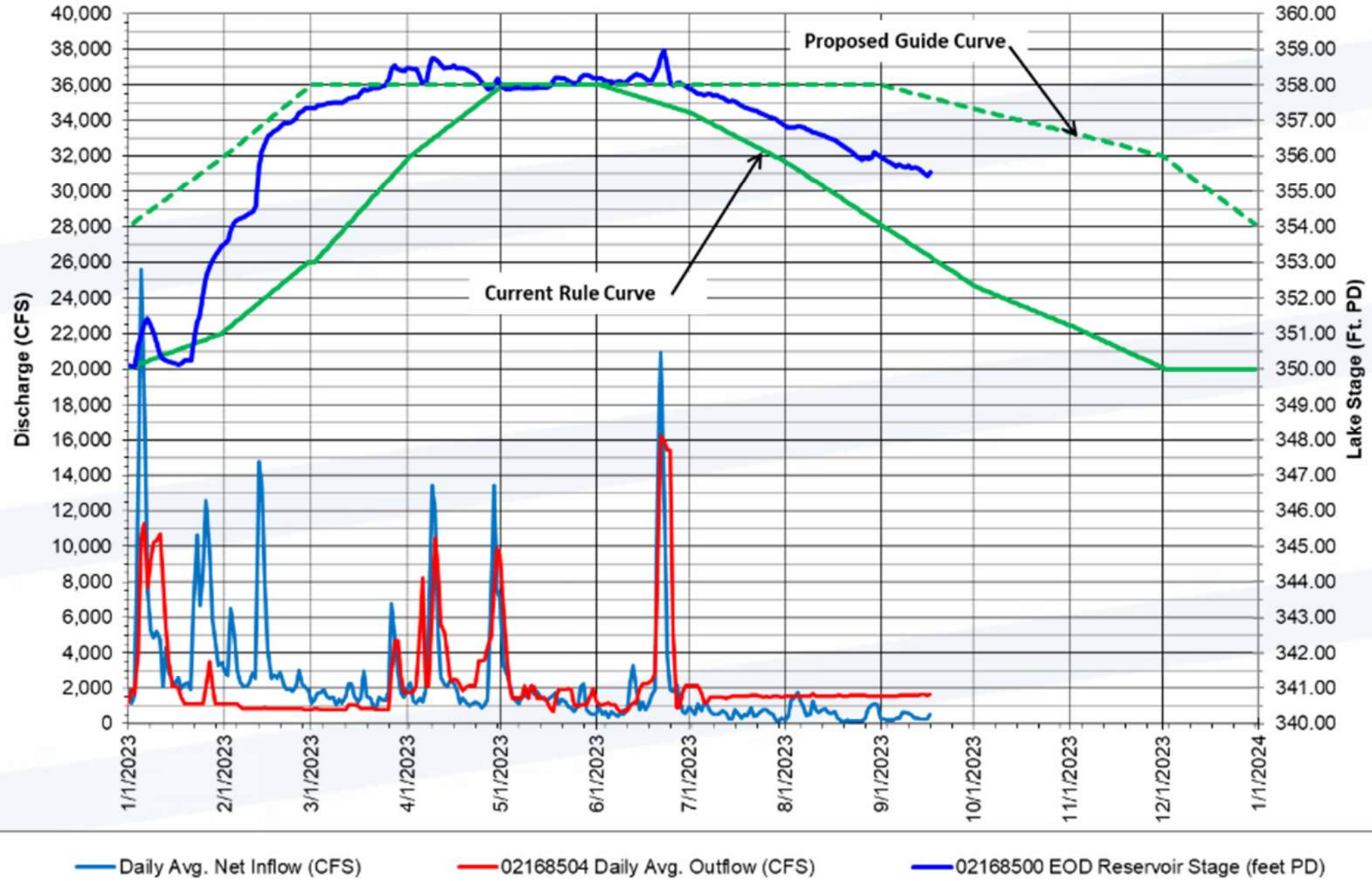
Lake Murray:

- New reservoir guide curve with higher year-round lake levels
- Periodic Drawdowns to enhance water quality
- Low Inflow Protocol (during drought conditions)
- Revised shoreline management plan

Lower Saluda River:

- Higher minimum flows, including trout & striped bass enhancement flows (spring)
- Recreation flows
- Fish and macroinvertebrate surveys
- Unit upgrades to improve dissolved oxygen and increase capacity

Lake Murray Inflow-Outflow-Stage Plot



Settlement Agreement LSR details

- Aquatic habitat Flow Releases

TIME PERIOD	FLOW (CFS)	PRIMARY BIOLOGICAL FUNCTION
Jan. 1 – Mar. 31	700	Achieves habitat goals as outlined by the Instream Flow TWC based on a target minimum of 80% of the total available WUA
April 1 – May 10	Striped Bass Enhancement Flow Regime (See below for details.)	Enhances striped bass spawning in the Congaree River and adult trout habitat in the lower Saluda River
May 11 – May 31	1,000	Enhances adult trout and striped bass habitat
June 1 – Dec. 31	700	Achieves habitat goals as outlined by the Instream Flow TWC based on a target minimum of 80% of the total available WUA

