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February 4, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Patty O'Toole, Fish and Wildlife Division Director

SUBJECT: Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment Work Session

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Fish and Wildlife Division and Public Affairs Division Staff

Summary: At the February Council meeting staff will cover a few topics: an amendment process check-in and overview of the amendment web page, and a briefing on Part Three of the Fish and Wildlife Program – strategies.

Relevance: The Council [called for recommendations](#) to amend its Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program in January 2025. The recommendations are due to the Council on April 17, 2025. The staff will brief the members on important process steps and details and also provide briefings over the next several months on key elements of the Fish and Wildlife Program. In February, the staff will cover Part Three of the Fish and Wildlife Program – strategies.

Workplan: Program planning and coordination, Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program amendment

Background: The first of two February briefings will be on the Fish and Wildlife Program amendment process, briefly highlighting key steps and dates. We will also review the amendment webpage and walk through the steps to submit an amendment recommendation.

The second briefing will be a staff overview of the strategies in Part Three of the Fish and Wildlife Program. Staff previously reviewed details of several key Program strategies in prior presentations through the categorical assessment staff work, but not all strategies were reviewed. The objective of this overview is to orient the members to the general structure of the 21 strategies as currently written in Part Three of the Program, including the basic elements and highlighting some current issues.

At future meetings, the staff will continue to provide overviews of sections of the Program that have not yet been covered.

More info:

The [2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program](#) and its [2020 Addendum](#)