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September 17, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Patty O'Toole

SUBJECT: September Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment Webinar, September 23 and 24

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Fish and Wildlife and legal division staff

Summary: Staff will begin the work session by providing an amendment process check-in, then the rest of the work session is reserved for discussing new and updated draft amendments.

Relevance: Per the Northwest Power Act, the Council must call for recommendations to amend the Fish and Wildlife Program prior to updating its Power Plan. The recommendation period closed on May 19, and the comment period on the recommendations closed on July 3.

Workplan: This work addresses a primary responsibility under the Northwest Power Act and task A. 4, 5, and 6 of the Fish and Wildlife Division Work Plan under the Program Policy and Planning function.

Since the September Council meeting, the staff have continued to review a large set of program amendment recommendations, and the comments on the recommendations, to prepare draft

amendments. Both recommendations and comments are found on the Council's [amendment webpage](#) along with other relevant materials.

For the September webinar, most of the work session will consist of detailed review and discussion of draft amendments for topics covered by the Program. These will include topics such as the program framework and organizational text, and amendments related to non-native and invasive species, ocean, program vision, science principles, wildlife mitigation, predator management, artificial production, habitat restoration and protection and protected areas.

Prior to the meeting, the staff will provide the Council members with draft amendment documents for review and discussion. These documents will be *pre-decisional* and not shared publicly. Staff recommend that the Council members and staff work through each document page by page during the work session. The staff seeks feedback from members but is not looking for any final decision at this time.