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May 6, 2026

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

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

**SUBJECT:** Fish and Wildlife Program amendment May Council meeting

## BACKGROUND:

**Presenter:** Council staff

**Summary:** At the May Council meeting (agenda item 3), the staff will continue to discuss with the members the comments received on the draft 2026 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program and proposed revisions.

**Relevance:** The Council is currently in a Program amendment process as directed by the Northwest Power Act

**Workplan:** This work addresses a primary responsibility under the Northwest Power Act and tasks A. 5,6,7,8 of the 2026 Fish and Wildlife Division Work Plan under the Program Policy and Planning function.

**Background:** The Council released the draft 2026 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (Program) on December 17, 2025. The Council received over 1300 written comments in addition to those comments collected at public hearings and one-on-one consultations with individual entities. The written comments received are available on the [amendment webpage](#).

At the May meeting, staff and members will continue to review the comments and discuss revisions for consideration to the draft Program. Materials will be emailed to Council members and paper copies provided ahead of the meeting. Please keep these materials internal to the Council. We have time reserved on Tuesday May 12, Wednesday May 13, and Thursday May 14 for discussion. A possible decision to adopt the amended 2026 Fish and Wildlife Program is on the agenda for May 14.