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June 6, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee

FROM: Kris Homel

SUBJECT: Update on the Inter-Tribal Monitoring Data (ITMD) project of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Sheryn Olson, ITMD project coordinator, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Summary: The Fish and Wildlife Committee will hear a presentation on the resources available to the region through the Inter-Tribal Monitoring Data (ITMD) project of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission. The presentation will include information on how ITMD resources relate to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program and how they are accessed and shared, along with a discussion of emerging tools or innovations.

Relevance: Regional data and information-management projects are critical to supporting the Program's data management, analysis, access, and communication functions. As part of the Mainstem and Program Support Project Review in 2019, the Council formulated a programmatic issue to address the importance of these projects. The programmatic emphasized the need to identify which resources house information derived from Program funded projects and how those resources can be accessed by the public. Over the next several months, the staff will invite all of the data management projects included in the Mainstem and Program Support Review to share similar presentations. The June presentation will be from the Inter-tribal Monitoring Data (ITMD) project, which is administered by the Columbia Basin Inter-Tribal Fish Commission under Project # 2008-507-00.

Background: As part of the Mainstem and Program Support Project Review in 2019, the Council formulated a programmatic issue to address the importance of regional data and information management projects (please see [Programmatic Issue #2](#), pages 8 and 9). These projects are critical to supporting the Program's data management, analysis, access, and communication functions. In an effort to address the Council recommendation and to advance the Council's efforts in the assessment of program performance, there is a need to better understand the information and data sharing resources in the basin, which provide the Council and region with critical Program data and information.

In the last review of data management projects (see above), the ISRP highlighted, and the Council agreed with, the importance of supporting regional and sub-regional data management, storage, and dissemination of information necessary for Program implementation and assessment. In particular, intentional planning for, and dedication of funding is necessary to address 1) information sharing for informing decisions, and 2) keeping pace with new technologies and knowledge through workshops and other learning experiences. This requires balancing investments in data collection with investments for data processing (data management, analysis, data steward expertise/support) and communication of information.

In the decision document from this review, the Council recommended that a subcommittee of the Regional Coordination Forum be convened. The tasks of this subcommittee would be to (1) communicate the role of the regional and sub-regional databases/ repositories in providing public access to information derived from Program funded projects, (2) identify the primary regional databases/ repositories that house information supporting the Program, and (3) address efficient flow of information between regional and subregional databases/repositories, and projects collecting and analyzing data.

Toward this end, the Council is organizing a series of presentations on data and information management projects for this and upcoming Fish and Wildlife Committee meetings. Through these presentations, we hope to highlight the resources that are available from these projects as they relate to the Program both to better understand the accomplishments of the Program, and to inform the region.

More Info: Links to Inter-tribal Monitoring Data project:
[Five-Year Strategic Plan 2022-2026](#)
[2022 Annual Report to BPA draft](#)
Workshop Presentations <https://critfc.org/tribal-data-network-workshop-documents/>