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June 6, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Mark Fritsch

SUBJECT: Update Klickitat Hatchery master plan

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Bill Sharp, Klickitat coordinator; Joe Blodgett, project manager, Yakama Nation Fisheries, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation (YN); Mary Todd Haight, fish and wildlife administrator, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

Summary: Bill, Joe and Mary Todd will provide an overview of the near final design and agreements associated with the Klickitat Spring Chinook Master Plan (MP) prior to construction implementation as requested by the Council. No decision is needed at the meeting.

Relevance: On April 10, 2019, the Council approved the Klickitat River Spring Chinook Master Plan (*YKFP-Klickitat Design and Construction, Project #1988-115-35*) for implementation. The Klickitat Spring Chinook Master Plan (MP) has as its primary goal to increase the number and distribution of spring Chinook salmon within the Klickitat Subbasin. To achieve this goal, the YN is proposing to convert the existing segregated harvest program to an integrated broodstock program. The program is designed to increase the viability of the natural population while simultaneously producing the adult fish needed to meet the established 4,000 fish harvest objective for all fisheries combined. To achieve these objectives, it is estimated that the hatchery program should release 800,000 yearling smolts annually. The

Yakama Nation proposes to construct improvements to the existing Klickitat Hatchery near Glenwood, Washington. The hatchery improvements are associated with past Council reviews and [recommendations](#) that addressed improvements to the Lyle Falls Fishway and broodstock collection facility, and the Castile Falls Fishway and escapement monitoring facility.

Workplan: Fish and Wildlife Division work plan 2023; Program planning & coordination, Program implementation.

Background: On March 21, 2018 the YN submitted the 2018 edition of the “Klickitat River Spring Chinook Master Plan”, intended to be a response and update to the ISRP’s last review (ISRP document 2013-01) and the previous Council [recommendation](#) and [decision](#). It is important to note that the focus of the 2018 Master Plan is no longer a multispecies approach but is now solely addressing the needs of Spring Chinook in the Klickitat Subbasin¹. On May 11, 2018, the ISRP requested a response (ISRP document 2018-4), and on September 14, 2018, the YN provided additional information and clarity intended to address the request from the ISRP.

On November 2, 2018 the ISRP provided their review ([ISRP document 2018-10](#)). The ISRP found that the Klickitat River Spring Chinook Master Plan *meets scientific review criteria (qualified)*.

The ISRP found the submittals and reviews to date have answered their review criteria questions. The four qualifications raised by the ISRP are intended to provide clarity and detail as the hatchery moves forward to implementation and strengthen the project for future reviews.

On April 10, 2019, the Council [recommended](#), based on the ISRP review, past Council recommendation, and the history of this project, that the conditions placed on this project have been met and the Yakama Nation can proceed to implementation. The recommendation was conditioned on the final design and out-year costs be presented to the Council prior to construction.

Since the Council recommendation in 2019 the YN and BPA completed final designs. Out-year O&M costs have been worked out in a 3 party MOU between YN, BPA and National Marine Fisheries Service. It is anticipated that the final NEPA process will be completed in July 2023, with final decision on construction anticipated August 2023. Assuming a successful vendor solicitation process, it is anticipated at this time that construction contract award would be late summer 2023.

¹ On April 4, 2018 the Council received a [letter](#) for Bonneville supporting the transition to addressing only the spring Chinook program and provides clarity on their position regarding long-term operations and maintenance, and monitoring and evaluation associated with the Klickitat Hatchery.