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March 7, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Council staff

SUBJECT: Schedule to address the Council Program's tributary habitat monitoring, including CHaMP, ISEMP and AEM.

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Leslie Bach, Senior Program manager.
Mark Fritsch, Project Implementation manager.
Nancy Leonard, Ecosystem Monitoring and Evaluation manager.

Summary: Staff will present a draft schedule as requested by Council members during the February 2017 Council meeting for working with the fish and wildlife managers, and reviewing and recommending actions for tributary habitat effectiveness monitoring. Staff will also discuss the logic-path and sideboards guiding the outlined work, and the staff products that will be produced for the Council's review to inform their recommendations.

Relevance: This agenda item focuses on implementing the Council's 2013 Conditions and recommendations ensuring a cost-effective approach to tributary habitat research, monitoring and evaluation for informing effectiveness of program measures, project action effectiveness and status of focal species. This also aligns with the 2014 Program, Part Four: Adaptive Management guidance.

Background: Council members during the [February 2017 meeting briefing](#) and discussion on ISEMP, CHaMP and Action Effectiveness Monitoring, requested that staff work with the Fish and Wildlife managers and develop a schedule for reviewing and recommending actions for Tributary habitat effectiveness monitoring. Staff will discuss with Council members this requested schedule and will describe the steps that will be used to receive information from managers, NOAA, BPA and Council staff, to inform development of staff products. These staff products will consist of a program-focused tributary habitat monitoring strategy and approach and specific recommendations about products to carry forward from ISEMP, CHaMP, and AEM projects. Staff also will describe the logic-path and sideboards guiding the development of these staff products. The proposed schedule allocates about 2-months to engage managers who implement Program tributary habitat actions, and who monitor and use synthesized data to inform their decisions.

Schedule to address the
Council Program's
tributary habitat monitoring, including
CHaMP, ISEMP and AEM

Leslie Bach, senior program manager;

Mark Fritsch, project implementation manager;

Nancy Leonard, ecosystem monitoring and evaluation manager.

February 2017 Council Request

For the Program's tributary habitat effectiveness monitoring, Council members requested staff,

- Develop a schedule for reviewing and recommending actions.
- Scheduled process should:
 - Engage fish and wildlife managers;
 - Identify products to carry-forward from ISEMP, CHaMP, and AEM projects
 - Clarify needs to inform Program tributary habitat monitoring.

Products

- **Program's Tributary Habitat Monitoring Framework**
 - Guide on-the-ground habitat actions,
 - Inventory and codify proven habitat actions,
 - Identify non-proven habitat actions requiring analysis
 - Document effects on limiting factors and fish metrics (appropriate scale and certainty).
- **Recommendations for ISEMP, CHaMP, and AEM**
 - Products to carry-forward,
 - Gaps to fill Framework.
- **Integration with Bonneville, NOAA, and managers.**

Program Logic Path

Focal fish species are impacted by habitat limiting factors

These impacts can be reduced by habitat restoration actions.

Benefits of some habitat actions are documented, others need analysis.

Addressing limiting factors will contribute to protecting and enhancing focal fish species.

Documenting habitat and fish metrics at appropriate level-of-certainty will convey the Program's contribution to mitigation.

Sideboards

- **Focus on Council's Program needs (NW Power Act).**
- **Program mitigation does not require:**
 - **Cause to effect level of proof.**
 - **Setting a specific habitat mitigation amount.**
- **Build on Program investments**
 - **Existing tools, models, plans, metrics, approaches.**
 - **Identify and codify proven habitat actions.**
- **Address gaps cost-effectively.**

Draft Schedule

	Task
Early March	Refine draft Tributary Habitat Monitoring Approach (Approach) and Schedule with all Council Staff. Receive state staff input and coordinate with Bonneville and NOAA.
March 14 th	Council update on draft Approach and Schedule.
March 15 th to April	Technical meetings (Council staff / BPA COTR) with managers and Council/BPA staff to discuss: (1) Feedback on draft Approach and Framework, (2) CHaMP/ISEMP and AEM, (3) Additional needs.
April	Discuss with NOAA and BPA

Draft Schedule

	Task
April to May	Staff develops draft Tributary Habitat Monitoring Framework (Framework). Continued input from managers.
June 13 th	Committee discussion about staff recommendation for (1) Draft Program Framework, (2) Process to integrate with ongoing BPA/NOAA efforts, (3) ISEMP, CHaMP, AEM elements to continue, and Framework gaps to fill.
July 11-12 th	Council recommendations on the Framework, process to integrate, and on CHaMP, ISEMP, and AEM projects.
2017 – early 2018	Integrate Council’s Framework with BPA and NOAA’s tributary monitoring process and products

Discussion

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Questions