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April 4, 2017

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee members

**FROM:** Staff

**SUBJECT:** Update on implementation of Fish and Wildlife Program priorities

### BACKGROUND:

**Presenters:** Fish Division staff

**Summary:** Staff will update the Committee on the recent activity to implement measures associated with the Fish and Wildlife Program's emerging priorities.

**Relevance:** Addresses implementation of the Council's 2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program

The Council identified seven emerging priority areas in its 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program. These are:

1. Provide for funding *long-term maintenance* of the assets that have been created by prior program investments
2. Implement *adaptive management* (including prioritized research on critical uncertainties) throughout the program by assessing the effectiveness of ongoing projects, developing program objectives when appropriate and taking into account the effects of *climate change*
3. Preserve program effectiveness by supporting: (1) expanded management of *predators*; (2) mapping and determining hotspots for *toxic contaminants*; and (3) aggressively addressing *non-native and invasive species*

4. Investigate *blocked area mitigation* options through reintroduction, passage and habitat improvement, and implement if warranted
5. Implement additional *sturgeon* and *lamprey* measures (passage and research)
6. Update the *subbasin plans* most in need of updates
7. Continue efforts to *improve floodplain habitats*

Staff will update the Fish and Wildlife Committee on the recent activity to implement measures associated with these priorities and provide an opportunity to hear from the Committee members if they have any concerns or questions.

- EP-1: *long term maintenance*. Update from staff based on the April 10 O&M Subcommittee meeting. M. Fritsch
- EP-2: *prioritized research on critical uncertainties*. See presentation earlier on this agenda. P. O'Toole
- EP-2: *Implement adaptive management...and take into account the effects of climate change*. See presentation on cold water habitat earlier on this agenda. L. Bach
- EP-2: *Develop program objectives*. A bull trout workshop will be held on April 12. N. Leonard
- EP-5: *Implement additional sturgeon measures*. See the Cost Savings Workgroup memo on this agenda for information on the sturgeon Request for Information process. L. Palensky
- EP-5: *Implement additional lamprey measures*. Update on lamprey synthesis report and a list of high-priority lamprey projects submitted by the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Team to the Cost Savings Workgroup as a resource to consider in discussion on funding additional lamprey work. M. Fritsch/T. Grover