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July 5, 2017

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee members

**FROM:** Staff

**SUBJECT:** Update on Emerging Priorities Implementation

### BACKGROUND:

**Presenters:** Fish and Wildlife 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 on Bonneville funded Program hatchery assessments and screens template from staff. M. Fritsch
- EP-2: *prioritized research on critical uncertainties*. Research Plan approved by Council at the June 2017 Council meeting.
- EP-2: *Implement adaptive management...and take into account the effects of climate change*. No update this month.
- EP-2: *Develop program objectives*. Staff continues working on initial compilation of existing fish objectives and the PNAMP Regional Habitat Indicator Project workgroup effort for indicators and objectives. N. Leonard
- EP-3: *mapping and determining hotspots for toxic contaminants*. The Toxic contaminants workgroup has gathered data around the Columbia basin for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) into a single database and will come to the committee in the near future to discuss toxic contaminant issues related to salmon and other native species, and efforts to compile and map toxics data.
- EP-5: *Implement additional sturgeon measures*. Council recommendation to Bonneville to fund additional sturgeon research as expansions of existing projects at the June 2017 Council meeting.
- EP-5: *Implement additional lamprey measures*. See the memo on the Cost Savings Workgroup which discusses the development of a lamprey project RFI for the purposes of identifying potential additional work. M. Fritsch/T. Grover
- EP-7: *Improve floodplain habitats*. See cost saving workgroup item earlier this meeting on developing an RFI for floodplain restoration with a focus on cold water habitat work. Staff.