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Northwest **Power** and **Conservation** Council

July 5, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: **Council members**

FROM: **Nancy Leonard**

SUBJECT: **Update on the diverse resources accessible from, and services provided by, the StreamNet Regional Library (project # 2008-505-00)**

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Lenora A Oftedahl, StreamNet Regional Librarian and David M. Liberty, Assistant StreamNet Librarian

Summary: The StreamNet Regional Library (Library) provides a vital repository of information related to the programs and projects under the Council, including the StreamNet's online data system and the Coordinated Assessments Exchange. The Library provides services beyond that of most public libraries including literature review, citation management, bibliography development, database search, inter-library loans from libraries worldwide, and by ensuring accessibility to less commonly available "grey" literature, such as agency reports and private collections including from agency retirees. The Library is located at the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, and is funded by the Columbia Basin Fish Accords (2008-2018).

Relevance: The StreamNet Library (Library) provides the Council access to

information related to its Power Plan and Fish and Wildlife Program, and serves as a document repository for the Council and its partners. We can provide answers to questions and further background information for a wide range of questions under both the Fish and Wildlife and Power divisions of the Council.

Background: The StreamNet Regional Library is an excellent example of regional coordination. Moving into the next phase of existence includes reworking the library's priorities from collecting and organizing information to providing research services that cater to the needs of fish and wildlife co-managers within the Columbia River Basin. As an example, we are trying to help locate and bridge the gaps in knowledge that create the critical uncertainties about fish and wildlife in the Columbia Basin by creating bibliographies that track the history of subjects and species.

The Library strives to improve the quality, quantity, and availability of regional data and research on fish, wildlife, aquatic and terrestrial habitats, and ecosystems in the Pacific Northwest with focus on the Columbia Basin. Additionally, we have been working on collection information about hydrolelectric power and other green energy sources as they impact the Columbia Basin ecosystems. Access to the Library's resources is available to the public, with primary users being the research and scientists involved in the Program.

During the [Council's 2013](#) Resident Fish, Data Management and Program Coordination Review process, the Council made three specific recommendations to the Library based on the review of the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP). Below are updates to the work accomplished in response to those qualifications.

> 1. **Serving as an access point for Council, ISRP, ISAB, and Bonneville documents by having these be searchable and findable through the Library's search engine, thereby improving the visibility and accessibility of Columbia River Basin related publications, including Council and Bonneville documents, by enhancing the connection to web-based search engines**

The Library staff has been downloading documents from agencies affected by the state and Federal budget cuts to preserve documentation of research conducted in and around the Columbia Basin for all fish, wildlife, and natural resource topics. Many agency retirees continue to donate their private collections to the Library, which include original copies of documents not located in other collections or libraries.

2. **Modifying the public name of the library name to more properly reflect its content and services. The name StreamNet Library does not convey the broad spectrum of in-basin and out-of-basin documents it houses.**

The Library has been called the StreamNet Library since the Coordinated Information System (CIS)/Northwest Environmental Database (NED) projects merged and were rebranded as the StreamNet Project. When the charter members defined the project, the library was identified as an important and integral part of the project. We added 'Regional' to the name as a reflection of this qualification to better describe our collections and services. A complete name change will require input from Council and co-managers.

CRITFC leadership are currently holding meetings to discuss the mission, vision and future direction of the Library, as well as gain input from our patrons. We have had a discussion session with CRITFC employees, but successful change and rebranding will require input from all our patrons and partners. We are currently trying to schedule a meeting with external patrons.

Potential efforts in the future would be to: expand the patron base and services provided through outreach, and research; support additional activities as the Library for the Council; implement persistent uniform resource locators (PURLs) and adopt digital object identifiers (DOIs) in order for users to quickly and easily find data and information related to their research; and finally refine the mission, vision, name, purpose, and branding of the facility.

3. **Exploring the possibility of collaboratively publishing (digital) synthesis, strategies, and reports for the Fish and Wildlife Program and establishing these documents as a lower-grade ongoing-publication series for the Council/Bonneville. This could be accomplished by having these documents peer-reviewed by the ISRP, ISAB, or selected reviewers.**

We have been actively publishing updates and blog posts to our website, Facebook/Twitter, and LinkedIn (social media) since 2010. As a result of our first meeting with CRITFC employees, we are exploring compiling an email newsletter to distribute to patrons. We have also been in contact with the Columbia Basin Bulletin to become regular contributors.

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The concept leading to establishing the Library originates to the mid-1980's, when a reference/archive resource was initially recommended by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council as a need was recognized for collecting and archiving regional data. With Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funding, this culminated in two information systems, the Northwest Environmental Database (NED) in 1988 and the Columbia River Coordinated Information System (CIS) in 1992. In 1995, these two data management projects were merged to create the StreamNet Project. The StreamNet Project is a cooperative information management and data dissemination project specializing in regionally standardized georeferenced fisheries and aquatic habitat from across the Columbia River Basin and the Pacific Northwest in support of fisheries management, monitoring, planning, research, and policy analysis. Originally part of the StreamNet Project, the Library aims to serve the scientific community of the Pacific Northwest and those working in cooperation with the region's fish and wildlife recovery efforts, who are not otherwise served by a specialized library. The Library was split from the StreamNet Project in 2008 under the Columbia Basin Accords.

The Library collects and organizes technical information, research, reference, and data documents generated and/or identified by the participating agencies and other experts. These materials expand knowledge, provide historical/cultural context and perspective, and the development and documentation of monitoring and evaluation efforts on the Columbia River Basin fisheries, ecosystems, and other relevant subjects that are critical for adaptive management. This information is available in multiple formats, which require maintenance and periodic upgrading as new formats for information storage are introduced.

The Library also serves as the repository for reference materials cited in StreamNet's online data system and the Coordinated Assessments Exchange. The collections are based on the StreamNet reference documents, but the subject scope has moved beyond Pacific salmon as our patrons have requested more information on the ecosystems required by and affected by these species. It houses the document collection of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, as well as provides services for literature review, citation management, bibliography development, general reference, referral, database search, inter-library loans, and document delivery.

The Library contains approximately 60,000 physical books, reports, journals, and periodicals. A specialized focus of the Library has been the collection and organization of less commonly available "grey" literature, such as reports and documents from consultants, non-profit organizations, and federal, state, and local governments. These materials are not part of the formal research program, but are important to the research process and data recording process"Because of the delay between research and publication, and because of the potential that some important research may never be published, access to innovative information is challenging. Grey literature is a tool to fill that void (Pappas & Williams, 2011)." These materials expand knowledge, provide historical and cultural context and perspective, and aid in the development and documentation of monitoring and evaluation efforts of the Columbia River Basin fisheries, ecosystems, and other relevant subjects. This information is available in multiple formats, which require maintenance and periodic upgrading as new formats for information storage are introduced.

The StreamNet Regional Library is functionally different than most public libraries, in that staff are able to go beyond the usual 'ask and point' to save time (and money) for clients and partners by undertaking literature review, citation management, and bibliography development. We continue to offer standard library services as well including answering questions, interlibrary lending, and access to journal subscriptions.

The Library uses the Koha Integrated Library System (open source software), which acts as the online catalog and library management software. The catalog is the primary access point for the collection. Using OCLC's bibliographic database, WorldCat, we record our holdings for interlibrary lending and borrowing. WorldCat then acts as a secondary access point for our collections. The subscription to OCLC WorldShare provides extended service to send and receive materials with other libraries. The Library is working on an agreement to share digital collections with the Biodiversity Heritage Library at Harvard University as part of their repository on the Internet Archive.

As collections move to digital formats, the Library's responsibilities have grown to include the storage of digital information, monitoring and maintaining digital links, assuring the formatting remains compatible with changing software, and attribution of digital data so that its provenance is known. The latter has become an issue for researchers as we transition from hard copy to digital and staff are supporting the Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP) Data Attribution Work Group, which is developing a data attribution policy for the Program.

More Information:
- Gerber, R., 2017. Definition of a Library - LibGuides at American Library Association [WWW Document]. American Library Association. URL http://libguides.ala.org/library-definition (accessed 4.20.17).

- Northwest Power and Conservation Council. FY 2013 Resident Fish, Data Management and Program Coordination Review's recommendation to the StreamNet Library project related to (1) improving accessibility and visibility of Columbia River Basin publications (2) Improving the public name of the library, and (3) exploring possibility of collaboratively publishing Program documents such as synthesis. https://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/reviews/2013/

- Pappas, C. and I. Williams. 2011. "Grey literature: its emerging importance." Journal of Hospital Librarianship http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15323269.2011.587100

- Royal Roads University. 2017. Grey literature: What is it? (LibGuides) [WWW Document]. Royal Roads University Library. URL http://libguides.royalroads.ca/greylit/value (accessed 4.20.17).

- StreamNet Regional Library.1994. "About Us" http://www.streamnetlibrary.org

StreamNet Regional Library

Lenora A. Oftedahl, StreamNet Regional Librarian
David M. Liberty, Assistant StreamNet Librarian
Tabitha Whitefoot, Library Assistant

StreamNet is funded by:	In support of:	A Fisheries Data Project of:
Bonneville Power Administration	Northwest Power and Conservation Council	The Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission

Who We Serve

- Tribal Governments

- State Agency Staff

- Federal Agency Staff

- Regional Organizations & Watershed Councils

- Consultants working with the Fish & Wildlife Program

- General public

What Can We Do For You?

- General questions about Pacific salmon and other collection topics

- Interlibrary lending and borrowing

- Digitize documents on demand (within copyright law)

- Bibliography development/Citation management

- Literature review

- Data archiving

- Metadata development

StreamNet Regional Library

Natural Resources Information for the Pacific Northwest

STREAMNET LIBRARY

LIBRARY HOME
Mission
Services
Office Location
Library Brochure (PDF)

Library Calendar

StreamNet Regional Library

Search Library Catalog

(Results open in a new tab/window)

Keyword ∨

Search

STREAMNET PARTNERS

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

OREGON Fish & Wildlife

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

IDAHO FISH & GAME

PACIFIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

OCLC

http://worldcat.org

USED FOR:
- Cataloging: 390,029,610 titles with 2,516,206,398 volumes (February 2014)
- Interlibrary borrowing & lending: over 72,000 member libraries

Moving data from old formats to servers.

Council Qualifications from the 2013 Review Process

1. Increasing visibility of technical documents from Council, ISRP, ISAB, and Bonneville.

   - Downloading documents from agencies affected by budget cuts

   - Collecting complete sets of annual reports

   - Compiling bibliographies about topics such as the Deschutes River hydroelectric projects

Council Qualifications
from the 2013 Review Process

2. Modifying the public name of the library to more properly reflect its content and services

- Added 'Regional' to name

- Revising mission and vision

Council Qualifications
from the 2013 Review Process

3. Exploring the possibility of collaboratively publishing (digital) synthesis, strategies, and reports for the Fish and Wildlife Program.

- Blog posts

- Social media newsfeeds

- Email newsletter in development

- Partnerships with other newsletters

QUESTIONS?

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