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November 6, 2019

### Category Review of Resident Fish and Sturgeon Projects

#### Dear Project Sponsors:

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) and Bonneville Power Administration (Bonneville) announce the start of the review process for *Resident Fish and Sturgeon* projects funded under the Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (Program). The 47 projects in this review include all resident fish projects located within the non-anadromous areas of the basin and all sturgeon projects currently funded in the program (list attached).

This packet contains the information your team will need to complete the project proposal form for submission to the Council by January 30, 2020. Staff contact information is provided should you have questions after reading through this packet, or as you complete your proposal. All information contained in this packet can also be found on the Council's website [here](#). The Council appreciates your participation in this review, and we look forward to working with you during this process.

#### Project Review Set

This review is limited to projects that are currently being funded under the Program. This is not a solicitation for *new* project proposals. However, sponsors of ongoing projects may describe new work elements, phases, or new objectives for their projects based on adaptive management or new priorities. Sponsors will have the opportunity to indicate if the proposal includes new objectives, deliverables or geographic scope.

#### Review Objectives and Outcomes

Most of these projects have been the subject of numerous reviews in the past. For that reason, important functions of this review will be to evaluate:

- project results and how each project has adapted proposed future work based on those results;
- how well the project sponsors have responded to the scientific and management issues identified in previous Council reviews and recommendations; and
- the collective progress of particular groups of projects that have a similar focus.

In addition to these review objectives, the Council is interested in understanding how the results and data generated from these projects could contribute to a broader evaluation of “program performance,” that is, assessing the overall effectiveness of the program’s strategies in achieving the program’s goals and objectives. As a part of this review, staff will assess how project information and results can contribute to:

- a preliminary report on program performance by the Council;
- reporting on certain objectives and indicators for Resident Fish and Sturgeon contained in the 2014 Program;
- understanding the need and feasibility of using common metrics for reporting on sturgeon;
- understanding and tracking the program’s [research](#) components; and
- understanding how resident fish habitat monitoring can further shape the draft Habitat Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E) [Strategy](#).

### **Independent Scientific Review Panel**

The Northwest Power Act directs the Council to review projects proposed for funding by Bonneville to implement the Council’s Fish and Wildlife Program. The Council engages in this review with the assistance of the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP). The ISRP reviews proposals for consistency with the Program and makes recommendations to the Council as to whether these proposals:

- are based on sound science principles;
- benefit fish and wildlife;
- have clearly defined objectives and outcomes; and
- have provisions for monitoring and evaluation of results.

For individual projects, the ISRP review will focus primarily on project performance by assessing the following project components:

- the degree to which project objectives are being achieved;
- accomplishments and results;
- the degree to which project objectives, actions, and methods reflect new information gained from those results; and
- clear delineation of progress towards completion.

### **Proposal Form Template and Instructions**

This review will use a WORD template that project sponsors will complete and submit by email to the Council, rather than an online proposal form in [cbfish.org](http://cbfish.org). Project sponsors can access the project proposal template [here](#), or by opening the template file attached to the November 6<sup>th</sup> email to sponsors. Once you access the template, follow the instructions to begin the proposal.

## **Schedule**

| <b>Review Process Step</b>               | <b>Date</b>                  |
|--|------------------------------|
| Review Start Date                        | November 6, 2019             |
| <b>Proposal Form Webinar (at PSMFC)</b>  | <b>November 14, 2019</b>     |
| <b>Proposal Form Webinar (at CRITFC)</b> | <b>December 5, 2019</b>      |
| <b>Review Materials Due</b>              | <b>January 30, 2020</b>      |
| ISRP begins reviewing proposals          | January 31, 2020             |
| <b>Presentations</b>                     | <b>March 3-5,10-12, 2020</b> |
| ISRP Preliminary Report                  | April 2, 2020                |
| Public Comment on ISRP Report Begins     | April 3, 2020                |
| <b>Responses Due</b>                     | <b>April 30, 2020</b>        |
| Final Report                             | June 4, 2020                 |
| ISRP Presentation to Council             | June 16, 2020                |
| Public Comment ends                      | July 1, 2020                 |
| Committee Recommendations                | July 14, 2020                |
| Council Recommendations                  | August 11, 2020              |

*\* Dates for Committee and Council recommendations may change, but sponsors will be notified if that happens.*

### **Proposal Form Workshops**

The Council will host two webinars on November 14<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> to walk through the proposal form template, instructions and submission process. The webinars will also include guidance from the Council and the ISRP on how to develop quantitative biological objectives and sharpen your project evaluation and adjustment plan. Similar information will be presented at both webinars, so people can attend either one or both by phone or in person. The November 14<sup>th</sup> webinar will be held at Pacific State Marine Fisheries Commission in Portland from 9:00 A.M until 12:00 PM (latest); and the December 5<sup>th</sup> webinar will be held at the Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM (latest).

### **Project Presentations**

During the preliminary review period, project presentations will be organized to share information about projects, add context to the proposals, and provide an opportunity for dialogue between the ISRP and project sponsors. Presentations should focus on results, accomplishments, adaptive management implications, and proposed work. Sponsors are encouraged to participate in project presentations as part of this review process. We have scheduled time for presentations for March 3-5. Make up presentations may be done by webinar during the second week of March (March 10-12). Contact [Lynn Palensky](#) with any questions.

## ISRP Reports

The ISRP's Preliminary Review Report of proposals will be complete on **April 2, 2020**. It will provide written recommendations and comments on each proposal. For projects that meet the ISRP's scientific review criteria, those comments will be final and carryover to the ISRP's final report. If the proposal does not contain enough information or if issues need to be clarified, the ISRP may request a response from the project sponsor that will be due **April 30, 2020**.

The ISRP will review these responses and complete a Final Report by **June 4, 2020**. This report will include final comments on all proposals and on cross-cutting programmatic issues.

## Public Comment

The Council will accept public comments on the ISRP's Preliminary Review Report and the Final Report. The public comment period will open in April and close in July.

## Council Recommendations

To develop its recommendations, the Council will consider the recommendations from the ISRP's Final Report and any public comments received. In making its recommendations, the Council will explain its reasons for not accepting the ISRP's recommendations, if that is the case, and how it considered "the impact of ocean conditions on fish and wildlife populations" and determined whether the projects "employ cost-effective measures to achieve program objectives." The Council will also explain any other administrative or policy considerations that informed its recommendations.

Recommendations will come in the form of specific project implementation recommendations and programmatic recommendations. In most cases, project implementation recommendations will span from FY 2021 to FY 2025 unless otherwise noted. Programmatic recommendations are issues that may apply to all projects or a subset of projects, depending on the nature of the issue (science, administrative, or policy). Council recommendations are anticipated in August 2020.

## Contacts

If you have questions on the process or proposal form, please contact us. Also, please reach out to your Bonneville project manager.

| Name/email link               | Org/Role               | Phone        | Questions related to       |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| <a href="#">Lynn Palensky</a> | Council staff          | 503-222-5161 | Process/proposal form      |
| <a href="#">Mark Fritsch</a>  | Council staff          | 503-222-5161 | Projects/process           |
| <a href="#">Erik Merrill</a>  | ISRP Coordinator       | 503-222-5161 | ISRP process/proposal form |
| <a href="#">Eric Schrepel</a> | Council Web Specialist | 503-222-5161 | Template (technical)       |
| <a href="#">Scott Donahue</a> | Bonneville staff       | 503-230-3594 | BPA Coordination           |

## Useful links

### FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAM REFERENCES

- Council's [website](#) for general information
- Council's 2014 Fish and Wildlife [Program](#)
- Council's draft 2020 [Addendum](#) to the Fish and Wildlife Program:
  - Sturgeon: page 16-17
  - Resident Salmonids: page 19-20
  - Native Aquatic Focal Species: page 21
  - Ecological, Communication, Assessment and Coordination Objectives and Strategy Performance Indicators for Fish and Aquatic Species: page 22-27
- [Subbasin Plans](#)
- Council's Project Reviews and Recommendations:
  - [General](#) page
  - Council [decision](#) on RME/Artificial Production Review (2011)
  - Council [decisions](#) on 2013 Resident Fish / Data Mgmt / Regional Coordination
- Council's 2017 [Research Plan](#) (critical uncertainties)
- Resource [Tools and Maps](#): (Fish Objectives Maps, Fish Info Site, Subbasin Species & Dashboards, High Level Indicators)

### INDEPENDENT SCIENCE

- Independent Scientific Review Panel ([ISRP](#))
- Independent Scientific Advisory Board ([ISAB](#))

### STURGEON

- Columbia Basin White Sturgeon Planning [Framework](#) (2013)
- Columbia River Inter-tribal Fish Commission – White Sturgeon [Master Plan](#) (2015)
- Upper Columbia White Sturgeon [Recovery Plan](#) – 2012 Revision
- Lower Columbia River and Oregon Coast White Sturgeon [Conservation Plan](#)
- Columbia Basin White Sturgeon [Workshop 2017](#) - Report

### BIOLOGICAL OPINIONS

|                                     |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <a href="#">Salmon Recovery.gov</a> | <a href="#">Kootenai River</a>           | <a href="#">Libby Sturgeon BiOp</a>          |
| <a href="#">FCRPS</a>               | <a href="#">Bull Trout Recovery Plan</a> | <a href="#">Kootenai Draft Recovery Plan</a> |
| <a href="#">Upper Snake Biop</a>    | <a href="#">Willamette</a>               |  |

### MONITORING RESOURCES METHODS AND PROTOCOLS REFERENCES

- Main [website](#)
- List of [Protocols](#)
- List of [Methods](#)
- Glossary of [terms](#) including definition of measurement, metrics, and indicators

## Resident Fish and Sturgeon Projects (included in this review)

|    | <b>Project #</b> | <b>Project Title</b>   | <b>Sponsor</b>                              |
|----|------------------|--|---|
| 1  | 2019-005-00      | Lake Pend Oreille/Dworshak   | IDFG  |
| 2  | 2019-001-00      | Sekokini Springs Hatchery  | MFWP  |
| 3  | 2017-004-00      | Northern Pike Suppression and Monitoring   | Colville Confederated Tribes<br>WDFW STOI   |
| 4  | 2011-018-00      | Pend Oreille River Basin Initiative: Land Acquisitions, Watershed Restoration, Conservation Hatchery                       | Kalispel Tribe                              |
| 5  | 2008-455-00      | Sturgeon Management  | Yakama Confederated Tribes                  |
| 6  | 2008-116-00      | White Sturgeon Enhancement   | Colville Confederated Tribes                |
| 7  | 2008-115-00      | Lake Roosevelt Burbot Population Assessment  | Colville Confederated Tribes                |
| 8  | 2008-109-00      | Resident Fish Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E)   | Colville Confederated Tribes                |
| 9  | 2007-405-00      | Rufus Woods Habitat/Passage Improvement, Creel and Triploid Supplementation  | Colville Confederated Tribes                |
| 10 | 2007-372-00      | Lake Roosevelt Sturgeon Hatchery   | Spokane Tribe                               |
| 11 | 2007-246-00      | Restoration of Bull Trout Passage at Albeni Falls Dam  | Kalispel Tribe                              |
| 12 | 2007-170-00      | South Fork Snake River Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Recruitment and Survival Improvement                                    | Idaho Department of Fish and Game           |
| 13 | 2007-157-00      | Bull Trout Status and Abundance on Warm Springs Reservation  | Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs         |
| 14 | 2007-155-00      | Develop a Master Plan for a Rearing Facility to Enhance Selected Populations of White Sturgeon in the Columbia River Basin | Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission |
| 15 | 2007-149-00      | Non-Native fish Suppression  | Kalispel Tribe                              |
| 16 | 2007-024-00      | Coeur D'Alene Trout Ponds  | Coeur D'Alene Tribe                         |
| 17 | 2002-003-00      | Secure and Restore Fish and Wildlife Habitat in Montana  | Salish and Kootenai Confederated Tribes     |
| 18 | 2002-002-00      | Restore Natural Recruitment of Kootenai River White Sturgeon   | Kootenai Tribe                              |
| 19 | 2001-033-00      | Hangman Creek Fish & Wildlife Restoration  | Coeur D'Alene Tribe                         |
| 20 | 2001-032-00      | Coeur D'Alene Fisheries Enhancement-Hangman Creek  | Coeur D'Alene Tribe                         |
| 21 | 2001-031-00      | Resident Fish Symposium  | Lake Roosevelt Forum                        |
| 22 | 2001-029-00      | Ford Hatchery Operations and Maintenance (O&M)   | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  |
| 23 | 2001-028-00      | Banks Lake Fishery Evaluation  | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  |
| 24 | 1997-019-00      | Evaluate Life History of Native Salmonids in Malheur River Subbasin  | Burns-Paiute Tribe                          |
| 25 | 1997-011-00      | Duck Valley Reservation Habitat Enhancement  | Shoshone-Paiute Tribes                      |

|    |             |  |  |
|----|-------------|--|--|
| 26 | 1997-004-00 | Resident Fish above Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee Dams   | Kalispel Tribe                             |
| 27 | 1995-027-00 | Lake Roosevelt Sturgeon Recovery   | Spokane Tribe                              |
| 28 | 1995-015-00 | Duck Valley Reservation Reservoir Fish Stocking Operations and Maintenance (O&M)                 | Shoshone-Paiute Tribes                     |
| 29 | 1995-013-00 | Nez Perce Trout Ponds  | Nez Perce Tribe                            |
| 30 | 1995-011-00 | Chief Joseph Kokanee Enhancement   | Colville Confederated Tribes               |
| 31 | 1995-009-00 | Lake Roosevelt Rainbow Trout Net Pens  | Lake Roosevelt Development Association     |
| 32 | 1995-004-00 | Libby Reservoir Mitigation Restoration and Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E)            | Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks           |
| 33 | 1995-001-00 | Kalispel Tribe Resident Fish Program   | Kalispel Tribe                             |
| 34 | 1994-049-00 | Kootenai River Ecosystem Restoration   | Kootenai Tribe                             |
| 35 | 1994-043-00 | Lake Roosevelt Data Collection   | Spokane Tribe                              |
| 36 | 1992-010-00 | Fort Hall Habitat Restoration  | Shoshone-Bannock Tribes                    |
| 37 | 1991-047-00 | Sherman Creek Hatchery Operations and Maintenance (O&M)  | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife |
| 38 | 1991-046-00 | Spokane Tribal Hatchery Operations and Maintenance (O&M)   | Spokane Tribe                              |
| 39 | 1991-019-04 | Hungry Horse Mitigation-Creston Hatchery   | US Fish and Wildlife Service               |
| 40 | 1991-019-03 | Hungry Horse Mitigation Habitat Restoration and Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E)       | Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks           |
| 41 | 1991-019-01 | Hungry Horse Mitigation/Flathead Lake Restoration and Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (RM&E) | Salish and Kootenai Confederated Tribes    |
| 42 | 1990-044-00 | Coeur D'Alene Reservation Fisheries Habitat  | Coeur D'Alene Tribe                        |
| 43 | 1990-018-00 | Lake Roosevelt Rainbow Trout Habitat and Passage Improvement                                     | Colville Confederated Tribes               |
| 44 | 1988-065-00 | Kootenai River Fishery Investigations  | Idaho Department of Fish and Game          |
| 45 | 1988-064-00 | Kootenai River White Sturgeon Aquaculture Conservation Facility                                  | Kootenai Tribe                             |
| 46 | 1986-050-00 | Evaluate Sturgeon Populations in the Lower Columbia River  | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife     |
| 47 | 1985-038-00 | Colville Hatchery Operation and Maintenance (O&M)  | Colville Confederated Tribes               |