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December 2, 2003

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee  
  
**FROM:** John Ogan  
  
**SUBJECT:** A report on the implementation of the water marketing program

This is an informational item and no Committee action is sought.

The Council's 2000 Fish and Wildlife Program called for the establishment of a program designed to expedite the review, approval, and funding of projects designed to increase tributary water flows for the benefit of fish and wildlife. Similarly, the Hydro BiOp included RPA 151 calling upon Bonneville to fund an experiment to test the innovative approaches to water marketing with an aim towards improving tributary flows for biological benefit. The Council, Bonneville, and NOAA, with input from the states, tribes, agreed upon the design of a water marketing that could serve both the program and the BiOp.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) administers the water transaction program in coordination with Bonneville and the Council. The program is in its second year of implementation, and Andrew Purkey of NFWF and Chris Furey of Bonneville will review the program to date in terms of its activities, provide an early assessment of program successes and challenges, and be available to discuss issues and answer questions of interest to the members.

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