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August 31, 2004

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee

**FROM:** Bruce Suzumoto

**SUBJECT:** Discussion of symposium on mainstem evaluation issues

On July 14, 2004, the Council sent a letter to Bob Lohn, NOAA Regional Administrator, requesting implementation of operational changes at Libby and Hungry Horse dams as outlined in the mainstem amendments to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program. Mr. Lohn responded that for 2004, NOAA fisheries would not be able to support the Council's request because he could not assure that "adequate monitoring" in the lower river could be in place. He proposed to work with the Council "to identify the present bounds of science regarding flows and survival and to determine how we can help advance that science and our application of it." Mr. Lohn suggested convening a symposium jointly sponsored by the Council, NOAA and interested tribes on the relationship between river flow and juvenile survival.

Staff has had discussions with NOAA Fisheries staff and other parties on a possible symposium or workshop focusing on flow and juvenile survival issues. Staff will present ideas on the objectives, scope, timing and participation of a symposium on river flow, juvenile survival and evaluation issues.

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