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July 1, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council
FROM: Terry Morlan

SUBJECT: IEAB Presentation on the Economic Contribution of Columbia River Salmonid Fisheries- Agenda Item 4

The Council's Independent Economic Analysis Board (IEAB) completed an analysis of the economic contribution of fisheries a few months ago. Hans Radtke was the primary author of the report and will present a summary of the findings as part of the Harvest Panel Workshop on Tuesday, July 12.

The analysis is a detailed accounting of the income and employment related to salmon fishing in coastal communities of the western U.S. and Canada and along the Columbia River. The report assesses the contribution of both hatchery and wild salmonids whether caught in commercial or recreational fisheries. It also attributes value to surplus fish returning to hatcheries. The analysis includes tribal commercial fisheries, but does not address the values of ceremonial or subsistence fishing by tribes.

The report estimates that fishing on Columbia River produced salmonids contributes \$142 million dollars a year of income to local economies in the West. Nearly one fourth of this value is generated for communities in Canada and Alaska leaving \$109 million for Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The number of jobs associated with these fisheries in Washington, Oregon and Idaho is estimated at 3,633. These economic contribution estimates include income and employment in the fishing industries as well as the indirect effects on other sectors of the economy.

The analysis is done in great detail regarding types and origins of salmonids, kinds of fisheries and geographic locations of harvest. This detail provides rich texture to the report. A couple of key findings include, for example, that 36 percent of the economic contribution comes from recreational fisheries and that fall Chinook and Spring/Summer Chinook each account for between 35 and 40 percent of the economic contribution. The report details how different salmonids are caught and in what geographic areas.

Because of the detail provided, the report contains many pages of tables. A six page executive summary is attached to this memorandum and the detailed report is available on the Council's web site at the following link; <http://www.nwcouncil.org/library/ieab/ieab2005-1.htm>