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February 9, 2006

To: Council Members

From: Doug Marker, Director

Fish and Wildlife Division

Subject: Status report on planning for a multi-year evaluation of fall Chinook survival

Last month, Paul Ocker of the Pacific Northwest Division of the Corps of Engineers gave the Council a status report on planning for studies to evaluate survival of fall Chinook using different passage strategies. The Council's Mainstem Amendments call for research on the effectiveness of flow, spill and transport for Snake River juvenile fall Chinook.

Mr. Ocker reported that the availability of fish to tag for the study was still uncertain because of questions by some fish managers about the design of the study. Council members asked to be kept informed about the results of that discussion.

Dave Johnson, Fisheries Manager for the Nez Perce Tribe will be available to discuss the Tribe's positions on the study design issues. These may be resolved before the Council meeting and if that occurs I will report that by e-mail.

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