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March 30, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee

FROM: Steve Waste, Manager Program Analysis and Evaluation

SUBJECT: Columbia River Basin Research Plan edits and publication

Action

Approve including appendices A (Context for the Research Plan), C (Developing New Institutional Arrangements), F (Integrating Research Results into Council Policy and Decision-making) and G (Critical Uncertainties) in the printed version of the Columbia River Basin Research Plan, as described below.

Discussion

The Editing Committee for the research plan met via teleconference and discussed the status of the editing. It was determined that appendices B (Implementing the Research Plan in FY2007-2009), D (Monitoring and Evaluation), and E (Data Management), should be deleted from the plan because they contain material that will become obsolete as events transpire over the course of the next year. The remaining appendices -- A, C, F, and G (see above) -- will remain in the plan as they provide context and more detailed explanation of topics and issues that are durable.

On March 9th, John Harrison provided a revised draft back to the Editing Committee for their review. That draft incorporated the specific changes requested by Council:

1. In the section on Population Structure and Diversity reinstated the critical uncertainty that previously appeared as number five, back into the plan as number four.
2. Reference to "native" fish was removed from the vision statement. The definition of native fish appearing in the footnote on page eighteen was left in for explanatory purpose. Additionally, the term "native fish" was deleted wherever a sentence could refer to all fish, not just native fish. The term "native species" was retained where it provide a point of contrast to "non-native species."

3. The vision statement has been revised to read:

The research plan will inform decision-making and management actions to conserve and recover fish and wildlife addressed in the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program by identifying and helping to resolve critical uncertainties.

Please note that the Program says, "The purpose of the research strategies under this program is to identify and resolve key uncertainties."

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