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April 26, 2006

To: Council Members and Fish and Wildlife Committee

From: Doug Marker, Director
Fish and Wildlife Division

Subject: Update on the Fish and Wildlife's 2006 Work Plan

This is a report on the status of major tasks in the Fish and Wildlife Division's work plan. The work plan is attached with current status reports and includes tasks proposed by Chairman Karier in the research, monitoring and data management sections.

Project selection process for 2007-2009 is on schedule: A significant amount of the division's current work supports the project selection process that will conclude in October. Proposals are under review by local groups for recommendations to the Council in mid-June. The state staff are leading those processes. The ISRP will complete its review and recommendations by June 1. The division staff is continuing to bring a sequence of programmatic issues for discussion and resolution each month at both the Committee and Council meetings. We are also engaged in the review and prioritization of proposals in the Mainstem/Systemwide review category.

Technical work to develop conceptual provincial objectives is delayed and needs more discussion: In our initial work plan we anticipated completing data verification in the All-H Analyzer model as a basis for conceptual provincial objectives. These conceptual objectives were to be the starting point for draft objectives to be submitted to the Council as proposed amendments to the Program. We were not able to obtain contract support to facilitate completion of the data verification. We hoped that NOAA's hatchery reform project would support a similar exercise but that work appears to be on a longer timeline and focused in the lower Columbia subbasins first. We're considering alternative approaches to call for recommendations for provincial objective amendments.

Program monitoring and data management: The staff's draft guidance document and proposed section for the 2007-09 decision memo are being reviewed by the ISRP and the public. These documents propose specific monitoring tasks as priorities for the Program. These tasks would provide data on specific indicators for population status, watershed habitat conditions and performance against the Program's objectives. The draft documents, as well as the Research Plan approved in February are being used in the Mainstem/Systemwide project review. If approved, they provide a checklist of data needs for the Program.

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From: Doug Marker

Subject: Major Policy Issues for 2006

Our division work plan schedules objectives and tasks for the staff. This table summarizes the how that work is likely to appear on the committee and Council agendas through the year. These are major decisions and presume continuation of our current schedule. There will be more agenda items than these. In some cases I'm picking a month when the schedule could be a month earlier or later.

Month	Potential discussion or decisions
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee recommendation on Northeast Oregon Hatchery• Committee and Council decisions on 07-09 issues
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council decision on NEOH• Committee and Council decisions on 07-09 issues• Discussion of mainstem/Systemwide projects
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee and Council decisions on 07-09 issues• Comments on monitoring and evaluation guidance paper• Discussion of "high level indicators" for program monitoring• Discussion of function and nature of provincial objectives
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee and Council decisions on 07-09 issues• Review of ISRP recommendations and local priorities for 07-09• Discussion of provincial objectives amendments
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call for provincial objective amendment recommendations?• Project sponsor responses to ISRP review• Discussion of project-specific issues and proposed resolutions• Discussion of regional research partnership
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee recommendations for 07-09• Develop RFPs or other mechanisms for data management
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Council recommendations on 07-09
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review of proposed provincial objective amendments• Committee recommendation of guidelines for data management

December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee review of draft provincial objective amendments• Council approval for data management guidelines for BPA contracting
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council review and release of draft provincial objective amendments

Fish & Wildlife Division Workplan Tracking and Assessment - 2006 May Update

Complete recommendations for Fiscal Year 2007-2009 Project Recommendations and Funding

COUNCIL STAFF	OTHERS
Patty O'Toole; Mark Fritsch; Erik Merrill	BPA; CBFWA; ISRP; Provincial Groups

TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	1. Outline and develop recommendations for existing and new programmatic and project issues (discuss relevant issues w/ committee) 2. Draft and distribute guidance doc. 3. Sort and distribute proposals 4. Outline and schedule for mainstem/systemwide 5. Support local review processes as requested	1. Develop recommendations for existing and new programmatic and project issues (discuss relevant issues w/ committee and Council) 2. Mainstem draft priorities and recommendations to Committee 3. Support local review processes as requested 4. Support/participation in systemwide review process	1. Complete recommendations for existing and new programmatic and project issues (discuss relevant issues w/ committee) 2. Develop FY 07-09 funding decision document 3. Support local review processes as requested 4. ISRP final recommendation	Complete FY 07-09 funding decision document and submit recommendations to BPA
	1. In process 2. Complete 3. Complete 4. Complete 5. Ongoing	1. In process 2. In process 3. In process/ongoing 4. In process		
COMMENTS				

Open Program for provincial objective amendments

COUNCIL STAFF		OTHERS		
Lynn Palensky; Peter Paquet		Contractors; NOAA; BPA; F&W Managers		
TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	Begin work for AHA data management and data verification (contracts)	1. Complete Data Verification 2. Generate results and aggregate to province 3. Complete “derived objectives” 4. Coordinate with Waldo process Science Team (pp) 5. Coordinate with USFWS process	1. Finalize issue paper 2. Call for recommendations	1. Review public comments and recommendations 2. Draft Amendment Document
STATUS	(On hold)	1-3 On hold 4. Ongoing (Paquet and Shurts) 5. Ongoing (Palensky)		
COMMENTS	On hold; need to coordinate with other similar processes and regional staff availability to complete AHA work as planned. Staff discussing options to proceed.			

Data management and Integration

COUNCIL STAFF		OTHERS		
Peter Paquet				
TIMELINE	1st Quarter 2006	2nd Quarter 2006	3rd Quarter 2006	4th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	<p>1) Develop a proposal for a comprehensive data center that will resolve issues/gaps raised in ISRP report (2000).</p> <p>2) Submit proposal for ISAB review.</p>	<p>2) Issue a Statement of Work for the data center, incorporating ISAB comments. The statement of work should be in a format suitable for issuing an RFP or for Bonneville implementation.</p> <p>3) Establish review process with BPA to consider RFPs for data center.</p>	<p>4) Integrate recommendation on funding for new data center with other existing data collection functions through the FY 07-09 project review. Avoid duplication.</p>	
STATUS	Ongoing			
COMMENTS	Source: Council F&W Program (2000), p. 33 and ISRP 2000-3: Review of Databases Funded through the Columbia River Fish and Wildlife Program (May 2000).			

Develop Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

COUNCIL STAFF		OTHERS		
Steve Waste; other staff		PNAMP;		
TIMELINE	1st Quarter 2006	2nd Quarter 2006	3rd Quarter 2006	4th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	1) Identify M&E actions currently funded by the Council 2) Develop a Draft M&E Plan 3) Submit draft Plan to the ISAB for review and concurrently to the Council for comment 4) Develop guidelines appropriate for the collection and reporting of data.	1) Revise draft based on Council and ISAB input 2) Put draft out for public comment (30 days) 3) Provide finalized draft to the Council for adoption 4) Continue the development of guidelines appropriate for the collection and reporting of data.	1) Use the M&E Plan to guide ISRP recommendations for FY 07-09 funding. 2) Use the M&E Plan to inform final Council recommendations for FY 07-09 funding. 3) Submit the development of guidelines appropriate for the collection and reporting of data to the ISAB. Consider comments and revise guidelines.	1) Council considers adoption of guidelines appropriate for the collection and reporting of data. 2) Council works with BPA to ensure that project contracts require the data guidelines adopted.
STATUS	1. M&E categories and components are documented. 2. Draft M&E guidance presented to Committee 3. Guidance being reviewed by ISRP/AB 4. In progress	1. ISRP/AB comment due June 2. 2. Draft distributed for public comment 3. Pending public and ISRP review 4. In progress		
COMMENTS				

Implement research plan

COUNCIL STAFF		OTHERS		
Steve Waste		Regional research partners		
TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	Approval of Research Plan	1) Use the Research Plan to guide ISRP recommendations for FY 07-09 funding. 2) Use the Research Plan to inform final Council recommendations for FY 07-09 funding.	1) Council staff will establish a schedule for reviewing the state of the science through conferences and reports. 2) Contracts issued for state of science reports.	1) Conference for BPA funded research projects. 2) Conference proceedings assembled for publication as a Web-based Journal.
STATUS	Complete (@ February mtg)	1. ISRP review pending 2. Mainstem Systemwide review using research plan	1. Proposed assignments for the ISAB being presented at May meeting - human demographics and climate change.	
COMMENTS	Source: Council F&W Program (2000), p. 33.			

Incorporate Bi-Op requirements and ESA recovery planning through Council process

COUNCIL STAFF	OTHERS
Palensky, O'Toole	NOAA Fisheries, FWS, Bonneville; local project reviewers

TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support BiOp requirements through clear communication of schedules, process products from provincial review 2. Continue to encourage PWG to look at other programs for filling gaps 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Possibility in March for NOAA/BPA to present to Council their BiOp workplan and '07-09 schedule 2. Support BiOp requirements through clear communication of schedules, process products from provincial review 3. Coordinate with NOAA and BPA on initial list of UPA projects review. 	Identify potential gaps in implementation and BiOp requirements	Incorporate strategy to address implementation gaps in '07-09 decision document
STATUS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In process (briefing material) 2. In process (last mtg - 2/1/06) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bi-Op remand schedule has been extended. 2. Ongoing - April update on Council schedule produced for work groups 3. Work will commence last week in April 		
COMMENTS	Recovery planning will be coordinated with RM&E and AHA			

Major project reviews

COUNCIL STAFF	OTHERS
Mark Fritsch	

TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES	Klickitat master plan step decision	NEOH - Council decision on final design and construction	1. Revisions to major project review process	
STATUS	1. Deferred to 07-09 decision process	Ongoing. Council decision on May agenda.		
COMMENTS	Revisions to review process are a topic for the FY 07-09 project selection process			

Mainstem amendment implementation

COUNCIL STAFF	OTHERS
Jim Ruff	Regional Forum participants

TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES		1. Support Council priorities in the NMFS Regional Forum 2. Support 07-09 project selection coordination with AFEP program 3. Support new fish passage model development 4. Ongoing analytical support for system operation alternatives	1. Support Libby/Hungry Horse operations consistent with Mainstem Amendments 2. Initiate fall Chinook transport evaluation 3. Support FY07 AFEP project selection coord. w/ mainstem systemwide 4. Support FY07 CRFM project selection process consistent w/ mainstem amendments. 5. Support for development of 07-09 project funding recommendations	1. Complete proposal for ISAB review of future AFEP SCT work.
STATUS		1. Ongoing - Participate actively in monthly IT & SCT mtgs 2. In progress - participated in MSRT mtgs 3. In progress 4. In progress - participate in remand hydroregs and runoff forecast work groups		
COMMENTS	Need to reconcile priorities in the context of BiOp litigation -- Long term issue planning occurs in Regional Forum			

Implement recommendations of Artificial Production Review and Evaluation (APRE)

COUNCIL STAFF	OTHERS			
Palensky (for coordination)	NOAA Fisheries; Fisheries managers			
TIMELINE	1 st Quarter 2006	2 nd Quarter 2006	3 rd Quarter 2006	4 th Quarter 2006
MILESTONES		Complete AHA data verification and determine fit with congressional guidance to NOAA for hatchery integration	TBD	
STATUS				
COMMENTS	Work would follow Council recommendations to Congress. NOAA Fisheries currently outlining proposed approach			