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May 3, 2007

DISCUSSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Peter Paquet

Acting Director, Fish and Wildlife Division

SUBJECT: Briefing on Fish and Wildlife Division Work Plan for 2007

PURPOSE:

This agenda item is for the Committee discussion of progress on the Fish and Wildlife Division 2007 Work Plan.

DISCUSSION

At the April Committee meeting staff presented an update the Fish and Wildlife Division workplan. As reported at that meeting, the majority of the work elements are proceeding as planned. However, because of issues related to the timing of the FY 2007 - 2009 Bonneville Fish and Wildlife Program Budget and the proposed BiOp schedule there are several work elements that will need some adjustments. In developing the workplan, staff had anticipated receiving the budget and draft BiOp in late 2006 or early 2007. It was anticipated that work on budget related elements would be completed by March 2007 and that work on incorporating BiOp and recovery planning elements would begin in early 2007. Because of the delays associated with these processes, it will be necessary to revise those related areas of the Division workplan.

Additionally, because of budget related issues, there will likely be some Fish and Wildlife Program elements that staff had anticipated starting in FY 2007, that will be delayed until FY 2008. This is likely to be the situation for most data management projects and for some elements of monitoring and evaluation.

Staff will be providing the committee with proposed adjustments to the Division workplan in light of these unanticipated changes in schedules.

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