

Tom Karier
Chair
Washington

Frank L. Cassidy Jr.
"Larry"
Washington

Jim Kempton
Idaho

W. Bill Booth
Idaho



Joan M. Dukes
Vice-Chair
Oregon

Melinda S. Eden
Oregon

Bruce A. Measure
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

May 31, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: John Shurts

SUBJECT: Agenda item on Fish and Wildlife Program amendment process

An agenda item at the June Council meeting continues the Council's preparation for the upcoming program amendment process. The purpose of this agenda item is to work through the various elements of the Fish and Wildlife Program as it is now, both to re-familiarize you with those different elements and to outline which parts of the program are likely to be at issue in this amendment process and which are less likely, which elements are likely to undergo substantial amendment (or at the least be the subject of recommendations calling for substantial amendment) and which at most need a tune-up. This is a conversation I have had with many of you in individual visits over the last month, and the next step is to do it in a collective fashion.

This review of the program elements will be at a fairly high level. Following this, the staff will be working on an evaluation of each element in some detail. These evaluations will focus on what's been accomplished or is underway, what things the program calls for that have not been accomplished, which provisions no longer make sense in the present context and obviously need revision, which provisions will raise key issues, and so forth.

What follows is a one-page outline of the current elements of the Fish and Wildlife Program. Most of the agenda item time will be spent working through this outline, with commentary at each element as to its likely relevance in the upcoming amendment process. Items marked with ** are likely to be particularly lively.

Fish and Wildlife Program

Basinwide/Program-wide Provisions

- Program Framework
 - Elements: Vision/Goals, Biological Objectives, Strategies (measures/actions), tied together with Scientific Foundation
 - Geographic organization: Basinwide, Provinces, Subbasins
- Vision statement
 - Specific Planning Assumptions
- Biological Objectives **
 - Objectives for biological performance (anadromous fish, resident fish, wildlife)
 - Objectives for environmental characteristics
 - add Province-level biological objectives?
- Strategies
 - the substantive strategies: Habitat, Artificial Production, Wildlife, Protected Areas (in the Hydro strategies in the 2000 Program), Harvest, Ocean Conditions
 - note concerning Hydro strategies in 2000 Program
 - Research, Monitoring and Evaluation **
- Implementation provisions
 - Data Management/Reporting/Coordination **
 - Project review, and implementation oversight **
- Other provisions -- statements of rights and roles, water rights, transition provisions

Mainstem Objectives and Strategies (from 2003 Mainstem Amendments) *

- vision and biological objectives for mainstem habitat and passage conditions
- strategies/measures: overarching strategy of BiOp+, that is:
 - incorporating BiOp operations (as built on Council program foundation)
 - but also, additional and different considerations to benefit important non-listed anadromous and resident fish and to emphasize monitoring and evaluation and power supply integration topics

Subbasin Plans -- subbasin-level objectives and strategies, including for estuary and mainstem reaches

- amend in this process? unlikely
- what will be important is establishing the process and schedule for regular updates **
- amend in new subbasin plans?

Additional elements?

- especially, how to deal with implementation action plans (probably with budgets) relatively likely to arise from combination of mainstem and off-site mitigation elements of new Proposed Action/BiOp and program amendment recommendations? **

