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August 1, 2007

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Jim Ruff -- Manager, Mainstem Passage and River Operations

**SUBJECT:** Update on the Environmental Protection Agency's National Commitment to the Columbia River

Elin D. Miller, the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10, will make a presentation to the Council on August 14, 2007. Ms Miller's presentation will focus on an initial "meet and greet" with Council members and provide an update on EPA's national commitment to the Columbia River Basin. She will also invite the Council to partner with EPA and others in the commitment to restore the Columbia River ecosystem.

This presentation is a follow-up to the January 17, 2007, presentation of Mike Gearheard, Director, EPA-Region 10 Office of Water and Watersheds. On January 17, 2007, Mike Gearheard shared information with Council members on EPA's commitment to the Columbia River Basin through designation of the basin as a priority aquatic ecosystem. He also discussed EPA's leadership of a collaborative effort to reduce toxics in the Columbia River Basin. Elin Miller will be providing specific information on EPA's recent work efforts to better understand and reduce toxic contaminants in the basin, including the launching of the Columbia River "State of the River" report, which is scheduled to be completed by late 2008.

As the Regional Administrator for EPA-Region 10, Ms. Miller has jurisdiction in the Pacific Northwest states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska. EPA Administrator Stephen L. Johnson announced the appointment of Ms. Miller to serve as Regional Administrator, effective October 30, 2006.

With over twenty years experience in environmental and agricultural issues, Elin brings a wealth of knowledge to the EPA. Most recently, she served as President and CEO of Arysta Life Science North America & Australasia, a crop protection company based in Tokyo. From 1996-2004, she held various positions at the Dow Chemical Company including Global Vice President of Public Affairs, Vice President of Global Pest Management and Vice President of Asia Pacific.