

W. Bill Booth  
Chair  
Idaho

James A. Yost  
Idaho

Tom Karier  
Washington

Dick Wallace  
Washington



Bruce A. Measure  
Vice-Chair  
Montana

Rhonda Whiting  
Montana

Melinda S. Eden  
Oregon

Joan M. Dukes  
Oregon

January 6, 2010

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee

**SUBJECT:** Update on Idaho's efforts to acquire a new sockeye salmon production hatchery and to initiate the Council's Step Review process.

Paul Kline, Assistant Chief of Fisheries for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), will provide an update on:

1. Continuing efforts to acquire a hatchery facility in Idaho capable of rearing up to 1 million sockeye salmon smolts annually and,
2. Plans to initiate Step Review for this Idaho Accord project.

The State continues to pursue the acquisition of a hatchery facility capable of rearing up to 1 million sockeye salmon smolts annually. At the present time, the IDFG and BPA are negotiating the terms of a purchase and sale agreement for the Springfield Hatchery near American Falls, Idaho. The facility is owned by the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation (IFWF), a non-profit organization whose mission is to protect and sustain Idaho's fishing, hunting and wildlife heritage for present and future generations. While current efforts focus on the development of purchase and sale agreement, it should be noted that IDFG has a lease agreement with the IFWF to use the facility for fish production in perpetuity. The State and BPA prefer the ownership option but the facility could be developed to meet the needs of the captive broodstock program under the lease agreement.

The property is approximately 72 acres in area and includes a decreed water right of 50.7cfs. Water flows from a series of artesian wells and one primary spring and is specific pathogen (disease) free. The water temperature profile is also desirable for rearing sockeye salmon. Approximately 25cfs of the total water right runs artesian. Accessing more than 25cfs will require pumping. While the facility recently operated as commercial trout hatchery, a complete redesign and rebuild will be required to safely meet the needs of the captive broodstock program.

Considering progress made to date on the development of the purchase and sale agreement and the fact that the lease agreement is in place, the State and BPA agree that it is an appropriate time to initiate the Council's Step Review for the proposed new production facility. The IDFG will work with BPA to finalize the development of a planning budget through PISCES (existing

Accord funds identified for planning) as well as the development of a project management/technical team to assist with the Step Process. The estimated completion time for the Step 1 Master Plan is approximately 180 days. Parties hope to get the review underway by March, 2010.

No action by Council is required; this is an informational presentation only.