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October 28, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee

FROM: Tony Grover

SUBJECT: Overview of mission and scope of Columbia Riverkeeper

Brett VandenHeuvel, Executive Director, Columbia Riverkeeper, will discuss with the Committee the goals and mission of Columbia Riverkeeper. He will also describe what areas of the Columbia River Basin they are most active and what emerging areas of interest Columbia Riverkeeper anticipate.

Columbia Riverkeeper's mission is to restore and protect the water quality of the Columbia River and all life connected to it, from the headwaters to the Pacific Ocean. To achieve the ambitious goals for the Columbia River watershed and estuary Columbia Riverkeeper uses an integrated strategy of community-based grassroots organizing, public education, legal enforcement, and hands-on citizen involvement in tangible river protection projects. This multi-faceted model of advocacy is key to addressing the myriad of immediate threats facing the Columbia River.

Of particular interest to the Council are Columbia Riverkeeper's involvement in water quality restoration and protection of habitat. Over 150 trained Columbia Riverkeeper volunteers are working to monitor water quality in key salmon habitats on the Columbia River.