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December 2, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Lynn Palensky

SUBJECT: Discussion on the Draft Fish and Wildlife Annual Work plan

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Lynn Palensky

Summary: The 2015 Fish and Wildlife Division work plan reflects the individual tasks and processes outlined in the Council's recently adopted Fish and Wildlife Program. The work plan also reflects the Council's implementation priorities list on page 117 of the Pre-publication version of the Program (Attachment A). Central and State staff have combed through the work to identify lead staff, staffing intensity and time frame, for the work. Staff will present this to the Committee along with important work that is ongoing (see Attachments B, C, D and E).

Relevance: Reviewing the annual work plan and priorities will initiate a discussion of how to prioritize the Fish and Wildlife division work over the next five years

Work plan: This is a discussion of the work plan.

Background: At the last October Council meeting, staff presented an early draft of the work plan based on the September draft program. The purpose of that discussion was to highlight the work (coordination, products, processes, and forums) that the Council called upon itself to carry out over the next five year program.

More Info: The 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program

Attachment A

	Draft Priorities -- 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program (All are high priority -- start, intensity and duration will vary considerably)	Lead/ Key assist	Forum & timeframe
1	Infrastructure O & M long term funding strategy	Mark/ State staff	2015 and beyond w/ quarterly Rpts
2a	Implement Adaptive Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • annual program work plan • tracking implementation of measures • climate change effects and adaptation • Update research plan 	Nancy,Patty, Stacy/ ALL	Council may - TBD
2b	Identify and organize Objectives and propose amendment process; Include new HLIs and updates	Nancy/ Laura (all) and Mark (hatcheries)	
3a	Predators	Jim/ State staff	TDB
3b	Non-native and Invasive species	** new **/ Jim & state staff	Ongoing forum
4	Toxics Reporting by AA's and others (minimum) Letter to U.S. Congress supporting CRRA Science to policy conf?	Jim/ Tony, State staff	Council <i>may</i> initiate
5	Reintroduction of anadromous fish above Grand Coulee and Chief Joseph Dams	Laura/ Stacy, Tony, staff	TBD
6	Sturgeon (Staff recommends low intensity effort for Council)	Lynn	
7	Lamprey (Staff recommends low intensity effort for Council)	Mark	
8	Project Review	Lynn/ Mark	2015
9	Update subbasin plans (Staff recommends low intensity effort for Council)	Lynn/ State staff	
10	Science reviews and science reports	Erik/Jim Lynn and Mark	
11	Identify and implement floodplain habitat improvement strategies (science to policy conf)	** new **/ All staff	
12	Transboundary Workgroup (F&W presentations and possible intern from Canada)	Tony/ Patty and state staff	TBD
13	Webify the program	Laura/ Patty /ES	

High Priority

Page #	Lead staff	Process/Work Summary	Priority Ref #	Detail Process or work product	Council Role
22	NL, LR	Program goals and quantitative objectives -	2b	Working with others in the region the Council will oversee a process to survey, collect, identify, and refine a realistic set of quantitative objectives for	Work with others
31	NL, LR	Objectives for hatchery salmon and	2b	The Council will work with others to identify specific indicators for Bonneville-funded hatchery programs that could be tracked and reported to inform progress	Work with others
31	NL, LR	Objectives for other anadromous and	2b	Step 1: Council will work with others to survey, collect, and organize existing quantitative objectives for focal species including lamprey, bull trout,	Work with others
32	NL, LR	Objectives for adult salmon and steelhead	2b	The Council will work with region to collect, organize, review, and report on quantitative objectives that represent different perspectives on healthy and	Work with others
33	NL, LR	Adoption Process: for new quantitative	2b	The Council will conduct a program amendment process if it is determined that adopting the objectives should be considered. Adopting of	Council
34	NL, LR, JR	Objectives for Ecosystem function,	2b	The Council will identify measureable objectives in the region and work with others to: 1) to assess feasibility of hydrosystem survival performance	Work with others
35	Public Affairs	Objectives - Public Engagement	2b	The Council will 1) initiate an internal process to identify objectives and indicators for this topic; 2) seek public input to help identify the most useful	Council
36	JR & state staff	Non-native species	3b	The Council, should 1) coordinate with others and 100 th Meridian Initiative-Columbia Basin Team to request regional power producers to evaluate the	Council, partner with and support 100th Meridian,
48	JR & state staff	Predator Control	3a	The Council will work with others to convene a technical work group to: (a) determine the effectiveness of predator-management actions; and	Partner with and Support Action Agencies
49	NL/ LR/ KW	Biological Objectives and indicators -	2b	Work with partners in the estuary to establish biological objectives and estuary indicators for habitat restoration and ecosystem function that will	Partner support
55	NL LR	Biological Objectives - wild fish (covered	2b	Consistent with the Council's quantitative objectives for adult salmon and steelhead, the Council will collect, organize, and review biological objectives for	Work with others
58	LR, TG, Stacy	Anadromous Fish Mitigation	7	Phase 1. Council will engage in discussions with tribal, state, and federal agencies and others regarding the purpose, scope and progress of	Convene/ facilitate
69	NL/ LR	Biological Objectives and indicators -	2b	Upon completion of a recovery plan for eulachon, the Council will incorporate appropriate information regarding eulachon into the program and reflect the	Work with others
75	NL/ LR	Science Policy forum on Eulachon		The Council, in collaboration with Bonneville, the Corps, NOAA Fisheries, and agencies and tribes, will help organize and facilitate a science/policy forum in	Convene and work with others
78	PO, NL, and	Develop evaluation process for	2a	Working with the region, the Council will develop an evaluation process that considers new information to verify or adjust assumptions, hypotheses, goals,	Convene and work with others
81	LP/ MF	Project Review Process	8	The Council will then make final recommendations to Bonneville on projects to be funded. In doing so, the Council fully considers the ISRP's recommendations,	Lead/convene

85	LP	Program Coordination	2a	Annually, the Council will convene a forum of regional coordination representatives and other interested parties to discuss the upcoming years'	Convene
97	LP/MF/EM	Project Review Process	8	The Council will work with Bonneville and project sponsors to develop appropriate end dates or review schedules for currently funded projects, based on	Lead
98	MF, JR and	Maintenance of program investments	1	The Council to convene a work group comprising AA and F&W manager reps with expertise in fish screens, fishways and traps, hatcheries, lands, and	Lead
104	LP	Revise list of appropriate coordination		See Council decision on Regional Coordination Category Review (can be part of the annual forum)	Lead
	LR/PO/NL/PAD	Convert final program to web platform		Create web-accessible program on Council's website. Will require Public Affairs staff and F&W staff for format, editing and graphics.	Council
180 App L	JR TG and state	Water Quality (toxics)	4	Council may initiate and will participate in, support, and coordinate periodic science/policy workshops on characterizing the state of the science related to toxic	Partner Support
199	JR	Climate Change support	2a	The Council, in collaboration with others, shall convene one or more science/policy workshops on climate change effects in the Columbia Basin,	Convene
104	NL/SH	Update Research Plan	12	The Council will work with others to update its research plan every three years beginning in 2014. The review will include how previous research funds	Lead/convene
108	NL, SH, LR	Update High Level Indicators web-report and	2a	Work with others to update the status of these focal species and their habitats. This information is organized by subbasin, focal species and their	Work with others
109	NL/LR	Dashboard and HLI Reports (also see line 51)	2a	The Council will continue to maintain the program's dashboard and HLI web-report and produce its own reports, and expects others to provide data and	Lead
106	PO, NL, TG,	Council-topic specific tracking	2a	This tracking will include: (1) starting in 2015 annual anadromous fish forecasts and results; (2) Annual reports by Bonneville and the hatchery managers on	Support and Track
119-120	JH, SH, PO,	Cost Report - Update HLI report	2a	The Council, with the assistance from others will update the high-level indicators report to communicate accomplishments to Congress, the	Work with others
106	TG/LP/MF/ALL	Prioritize project funding recommendation		The Council will prioritize its project-funding recommendations to Bonneville as it becomes more evident that programs objectives are being met or	Council
108	PP	Wildlife Advisory Committee and HEP		The Council has directed its WAC to examine options for providing mitigation for wildlife operational losses and to provide a recommendation to the Council for	Convene
108	MF/NL/SH	Artificial Production - critical	12	The Council's research plan will identify critical uncertainties related to hatchery performance in the Northwest. This includes determining the	Work with others
109	LP & State Staff	Identify subbasin plans that need updating	9	Identify subbasin plans most in need of an update.	Lead
118	MF/LP	Lamprey Technical Workgroup	6	Track and attend work group meetings as necessary. Track BPA & COE implementation actions for lamprey	Participate, track and follow
121	LP/MF	Sturgeon Workshop and Framework	5	Track and attend meetings as necessary. Track BPA & COE implementation actions for sturgeon	Participate, track and follow

Ongoing Priorities

Page #	Lead staff	Process/Work Summary	Priority	Detail Process or work product	Council Role
	EM	ISRP work	10	Manage the ISRP through reviews of projects, program results and reimbursable [Appendix L: J]	Lead/convene
123	EM/ JR	ISAB work	10	Manage the ISAB through reviews of program, recovery plans, scientific merits of measure and plans and other science processes or documents.	Lead/convene
123	PO, NL, and All	Track program Progress	2a	To help track progress of program implementation, Bonneville, the Corps, and the Bureau, in collaboration with federal and state agencies and tribes, shall report annually to the	Track and report
53	NL/LR/S H/ES	Maintain dashboard and HLI website (also see line 41)	2a	The Council, with the assistance of agencies, tribes and others, will maintain the program's dashboard and the HLI website report, The subbasin dashboards will be kept up to date	Work with others
69	JR, Tony and State staff	Continue to coordinate with EPA, 100th Meridian Climate	2a 3b 4	The Council will continue to pursue opportunities to implement the program in coordination with other federal, state, tribal, Canadian, and volunteer fish and wildlife restoration programs:	Participate, track and follow
71	JR/EM/ MF/LP	Project Review - Reimbursable Program		In 1998, the U.S. Congress' Senate-House conference report on the Fiscal Year 1999 Energy and Water Development Appropriations bill directed the ISRP to review the fish and wildlife	Lead
99	LP	Columbia Basin Water Transaction Program		Provide policy guidance and attend meetings - annually	Participate, track and follow
106	KW/ TG/ JR	Willamette Water Team		Participate, in meetings (steering committee and habitat committee) monthly basis	Participate, track and follow
106	JR	System Configuration Team		Annual review and prioritization of CRFM funding for FCRPS fish passage projects	Participate, track and follow
120	JR/NL	RME Review-Willamette Basin Projects		COE's annual RME work plan review	Participate, track and follow
123	ALL	Attend other regional workshops, meetings, conferences		CRITFC - Future of our Salmon; Lake Roosevelt Forum, Estuary Science-Policy Workshop; AFS conferences; YKFP, etc	Participate, attend
175	KW	Willamette Wildlife Advisory Group		Project recommendations to the ODFW Director for projects implementing the Willamette Wildlife MOA	Participate, track and follow
	PP/ KW	Protected areas		The Council will monitor the FERC licensing and relicensing proceedings and comment or intervene where appropriate. This includes a Council determination whether favorable or	Lead
	NL/PO/K W/MF	Action Effectiveness Monitoring - Estuary		In March 2015 receive from Bonneville and the Corps, a summary report on the results of action-effectiveness, status, and trend monitoring and research uncertainties	Track and support

	PO/ JR	Ocean and Plume Forum support		The Council supports efforts by the Ocean and Plume Science and Management Forum and science/policy exchanges to encourage coordination and communication between	Convene
	ALL	Public Engagement		The Council will inform and involve the public through print, electronic, and social media; documents, comments, partnerships, successes.	
	SH, PO, NL, and All	Annual Reports - research and monitoring	2a	Bonneville should continue working with the Council to implement a concise, useful template for annual reports for research and monitoring projects that can replace other more	Work with others
	LP, JA	Provide annual fish forecast reports	2a	A Council report will track anadromous fish forecasts and results on an annual basis. This will provide easy access for the public and allow the Council to review the accuracy of these estimates	Track and support
	MF	Step Reviews	8	Facilitate the Step Review Process for review of major investments, including new fish hatchery programs and facilities.	Lead
113	TG	IEAB work		The Independent Economic Advisory Board advises the Council on the economics of issues within the Council's statutory responsibilities. The IEAB helps to satisfy the Council's obligation	Lead/convene
106, 108	JS and state staff	Evaluated potential petitions for exceptions to new hydro in protected		The Council will decide whether to change the designation as recommended following the procedures and standards for a program amendment process under the Northwest Power	Lead
121-122	JR	Regional PIT Tag Oversight		Outcome of the Fish Tagging Forum:	Participate, track and follow
124	TG, NL	StreamNet Exec Committee		Outcome of the PERC process: Provide regional guidance an oversight to work requested of and performed by StreamNet staff.	Participate, track and follow
	MF/ LP/ SH	Fish Screening Oversight		Track and attend meetings as necessary	Participate, track and follow
	MF/ State staff	Budget Oversight Group		Participate, track and recommend budgets on a monthly basis as needed	Participate, track and follow
	JR	AFEP Review		COE's annual work plan review	Participate, track and follow
	MF	HSRG		Participate and track work of the HSRG - review of HGMPs	Participate, track and follow
	PO/ KW	Estuary Review Technical Group		Development and assignment of survival benefit units for habitat projects implementing BiOP work in the estuary and Lower Columbia	Participate, track and follow
	JH, TG, KB	Transboundary workgroup		Transboundary Workgroup	Participate, track and follow

Low Priority

Page #	Lead staff	Process/Work Summary	Priority Ref #	Detail Process or work product	Council Role
15	JS/TG	In Lieu Provisions - application		The Council will work with Bonneville and others on an appropriate application of the in-lieu provision. Bonneville to inform the Council of pending in-lieu determinations	Work with Bonneville and others
44	LP	Strongholds		The Council will: Request states to identify stronghold areas; Consider for stronghold recognition areas areas designated by states and tribes in accordance with state	Council
62	JR	Baseline Operations and passage - Science Policy		The Council may convene a science/policy forum to investigate optimum baseline flow and passage operations in the FCRPS BiOp for non-listed fish.	Convene
63	JR	Fish Passage Center Oversight		The FPC Oversight Board will annually review the FPC's performance and help assure regional accountability, data management compatibility, and program	Convene
64	KB/ JA/ SH	Mainstem Dam - Flow measures		1. Libby and Hungry Horse: MFWP should continue working with the pertinent parties to discuss proposals for adjustments to winter and spring ops at Libby and Hungry Horse	Track and participate, and assist as needed
67	JR/ JF	Power system considerations		The Council will work with others to review, update, and implement procedures that accommodate power system and dam ops emergencies with the least impact on listed	Partner support
78	MF/NL /SH	Hatchery effectiveness review process		The Council requests from NOAA: status of ESA reviews for state and tribal HGMPs advise on the utility of updating the list of reference streams first identified by the Ad	Track
88	PP/ NL	Resident Fish Loss assessments - convene		The Council to convene a work group of fish and wildlife agencies and tribes, and Bonneville, to develop a standardized methodology for habitat loss assessments to	Lead convene
10 3	NL/EM	Request ISAB/RP review of data collection		Bonneville should identify preferred methods of data collection from monitoringresources.org to guide future data collection and report back to the Council	Support and Track
	LP	North American Stronghold Partnership		Track, participate and follow the regional group that works to establish salmon strongholds in the basin.	Participate, track and follow

Forums

Lead staff	Process/Work Summary	Priority #	Detail Process or work product	Council Role	New or Cont.	Forum	Timeframe
LP	Science Policy forum on Eulachon		The Council, in collaboration with Bonneville, the Corps, NOAA Fisheries, and agencies and tribes, will help organize and facilitate a science/policy forum in 2015 to address the biological requirements of eulachon, combined with related inquiries into the relationship between flow, current dam ops, and the biological requirements of lamprey and sturgeon	Convene and work with others	New	Yes	2015
LP/ MF/ EM	Project Review Process	8	The Council will work with Bonneville and sponsors to develop review schedules for currently funded projects and end dates. Work with interested parties in the basin to assist in the development of review processes and new solicitations.	Lead	New	Maybe	2015
LP	Program Coordination	2a	Annually, the Council will convene a forum of regional coordination representatives and other interested parties to discuss the upcoming years' issues of regional significance	Convene		Yes	2015
MF State staff	Maintenance of program investments	1	The Council to convene a work group comprising AA and F&W manager reps with expertise in fish screens, fishways and traps, hatcheries, lands, and habitat actions, to define and develop a long-term maintenance plan and process.	Lead	New	Yes	2015 and beyond w/ quarterly reports
PP	Wildlife Advisory Committee and HEP subcommittee		The Council the WAC to examine options for providing mitigation for wildlife operational losses and to provide a recommendation to the Council for resolving the issue by 10/1/15. Also, the committee to make recommendations on HEP needs and new methods for operational losses.	Convene	Cont	Yes	2015 with resolution by Oct 2015
JR	Fish Passage Center Oversight		The FPC Oversight Board will annually review the FPC's performance and help assure regional accountability, data management compatibility, and program consistency	Convene	Cont	Yes	annually
JR & state staff	Predator Control	3a	The Council will work with others to convene a technical work group to: (a) determine the effectiveness of predator-management actions; and (b) develop a common metric to measure the effects of predation on salmonids, such as salmon adult equivalents, to facilitate comparison and evaluation against other limiting factors.	Partner with and Support Action Agencies	Cont	Maybe	TBD

Attachment E

JR TG and state staff	Water Quality (toxics)	4	Council may initiate and will participate in, support, and coordinate periodic science/policy workshops on characterizing the state of the science related to toxic contaminant issues. The Council will also assist regional parties in advancing public education and information on toxics issues.	Partner Support	Cont	Maybe	TBD
PO, NL, and All	Develop evaluation process for adaptive management	2a	Working with the region, the Council will develop an evaluation process that considers new information to verify or adjust assumptions, hypotheses, goals, biological objectives, strategies, measures, and indicators.	Convene and work with others	New	Maybe	TBD
JR	Climate Change support	2a	The Council, in collaboration with others, shall convene one or more science/policy workshops on climate change effects in the Columbia Basin, including panels of climate change scientists, to inform an overarching climate change strategy for the Columbia Basin.	convene	New	Yes	TBD
JR	Baseline Operations and passage - Science Policy forum		The Council may convene a science/policy forum to investigate optimum baseline flow and passage operations in the FCRPS BiOp for non-listed fish.	Convene	New	Maybe	TBD
LR, TG, Stacy	Anadromous Fish Mitigation	7	Council will engage in discussions with others regarding purpose, scope and progress of reintroduction efforts above Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams. Phases 1-3	Lead/facilitate	New	Maybe	TBD
JH, TG	Transboundary workgroup		Transboundary Workgroup	Participate, track and follow	New/ cont.	Maybe	TBD
PP/ NL	Resident Fish Loss assessments - convene workgroup		The Council to convene a work group with others to develop a standardized methodology for habitat loss assessments to assist areas that currently do not have the capacity to complete this assessment and do not have a mitigation settlement agreement	Lead convene	New	Yes	TBD but quarterly reports
JR & state staff	Non-native species	3b	The Council, should 1) coordinate with others and 100 th Meridian Initiative-Columbia Basin Team	Council, partner w/ 100th Meridian	Cont	Maybe	ongoing
PO/ JR	Ocean and Plume Forum support		The Council supports efforts by the Ocean and Plume Science and Management Forum and science/policy exchanges to encourage coordination and communication between researchers, agencies and tribes.	Convene	Cont	Yes	ongoing
ALL	regional wkspcs, meetings, conferences		CRITFC - Future of our Salmon; Lake Roosevelt Forum, Estuary Science-Policy Workshop; AFS conferences; YKFP...	Participate, attend	Cont	Yes	ongoing