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February 2, 2016

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Patty O'Toole, Program Implementation Manager

**SUBJECT:** Update on next steps for revising the Council's research plan

### BACKGROUND:

**Presenter:** Patty O'Toole, Fish and Wildlife Program Implementation Manager

**Summary:** Staff will provide a brief update on tasks associated with updating the Council's research plan.

**Relevance:** Updating the Council's Research Plan is relevant to the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program priority #2: Implement adaptive management (including prioritized research or critical uncertainties)

**Work plan:** (2015) Work plan Objective #2.B. update research plan

**Background:** In the Council's 2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife [Program](#) (Program), the Council committed to reviewing and updating its 2006 [research plan](#). The Program states that the Independent Scientific Advisory Board and the Independent Scientific Review Panel will be called upon to assist the Council with updating the program's critical uncertainties, taking into account evolving topics and reporting on the results of past research.

To begin implementing this provision, the Council requested on February 23, 2015 that the independent science panels begin a review of past research and the critical uncertainties relevant to the program. Specifically, the Council asked the ISAB for 1) a revised set of critical uncertainties; 2) a detailed list of research themes or categories that fully encompasses past, current, and possible future research; 3) scientific input on identifying priorities among the critical uncertainties; and 4) a determination of whether

ongoing research is making progress in answering critical uncertainties listed in the current research plan. The report, [\*Critical Uncertainties for the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program\*](#) is now posted on the Council's website. A 45 day public comment period is underway. Comments are due on March 11, 2016.

At the February Council meeting, staff will review with the Council, the basic steps for conducting an update to the Council's research plan.