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## Northwest Power and Conservation Council

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July 6, 2016

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee members

**FROM:** Staff

**SUBJECT:** Update for the Cost Savings Workgroup

### BACKGROUND:

**Presenters:** Committee Chair Anders, Bryan Mercier, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Kerry Berg, Lynn Palensky, Laura Robinson and Tony Grover, all Council staff.

**Summary:** The Cost Savings Workgroup (CSW) has contacted NOAA Fisheries and all the sponsors of the Relative Reproductive Success (RRS) projects with a proposal for Bonneville and the Council to convene a one day workshop in October for two purposes:

- Knowledge sharing and retention as some of these projects close out
- Cost savings that can be identified as some of these projects close out and repurposed for other emerging priorities

Responses so far from project sponsors, about half of them, have been very positive. Bonneville will develop a one page summary of each RRS project. The CSW will develop a set of questions for project sponsors after receiving the summaries and associated documents. These questions are designed to better understand the project and its value to the fish and wildlife program goals and objectives.

The CSW agreed that cost savings will be made available for emerging priorities. The workgroup further understands that the timing of

reallocation depends on the budget situation and that Bonneville will not overspend its budget.

The next meeting of the CSW will be at noon on July 12<sup>th</sup> in Olympia.

**Relevance:** The Cost Savings Workgroup implements the language on page 116 of the 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program: *'Bonneville should fund any new fish and wildlife obligations from identifying savings within the current program...'*

**Background:** Council member Anders chairs the Cost Savings Workgroup (Workgroup), which is composed of Bryan Mercier and Peter Cogswell of BPA and Kerry Berg, Lynn Palensky, Laura Robinson and Tony Grover, all Council staff. The Workgroup initially developed a cost savings methodology, which was approved by the Council at the regular July 2015 meeting in Spokane, (<http://www.nwcouncil.org/media/7149359/1.pdf>). Additional information about the Workgroup and the methodology can be found on the Council's website at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/cost-savings-group/>, including a 'frequently asked questions' document that explains what the Workgroup does and how it goes about identifying and vetting potential cost savings.

#### **Relative Reproductive Success project list:**

The following are the projects identified as all or partially focused on relative reproductive success:

Proj Num	Title
199506325	Yakima River Monitoring and Evaluation-Yakima/Klickitat Fisheries Project (YKFP)
199604300	Johnson Creek Artificial Propagation Enhancement
200900900	Basinwide Supplementation Evaluation
200303900	Monitoring the reproductive success of naturally spawning hatchery and natural spring Chinook salmon in the Wenatchee River
200305000	Evaluate the Reproductive Success of Wild and Hatchery Steelhead in Natural and Hatchery Environments
200305400	Evaluate the Relative Reproductive Success of Hatchery-Origin and Wild-Origin Steelhead Spawning Naturally in the Hood River
200306300	Natural Reproductive Success and Demographic Effects of Hatchery-Origin Steelhead in Abernathy Creek, Washington
200729900	Investigation of Relative Reproductive Success of Stray Hatchery & Wild Steelhead & Influence of Hatchery Strays on Productivity in the Deschutes
201003300	Study Reproductive Success of Hatchery and Natural Origin Steelhead in the Methow
198909600	Genetic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Program for Salmon and Steelhead