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February 7, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Mark Fritsch, Project Implementation Manager

SUBJECT: Update on the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative and Regional Restoration Efforts

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Christina Wang and Howard Schaller, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Brian McIlraith, Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission

Summary The presentation will provide an overview of the current state of Pacific Lamprey and the progress of the Conservation Agreement efforts in Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California. This collaborative effort to restore Pacific Lamprey has identified high priority actions across the range of Pacific Lamprey. The presenters will also summarize how these ongoing efforts have complimented lamprey restoration activities in the Columbia River and will be used to support future efforts in the Fish and Wildlife Program.

Relevance The conservation agreement is a Council recognized effort and is acknowledged in the 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program. In addition, this effort addresses the Programs emerging priority #5¹.

Workplan: As described under the Council's Annual Workplan 2, B

¹ Emerging priority #5 – Implement additional sturgeon and lamprey measures (passage and research).

Background: Pacific Lamprey along the West Coast of the United States have declined in abundance and become restricted in distribution throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California. Threats to Pacific Lamprey occur in much of the range of the species and include restricted mainstem and tributary passage, reduced flows and dewatering of streams, stream and floodplain degradation, degraded water quality, and changing marine and climate conditions. The Pacific Lamprey Conservation Agreement is a regional strategy to improve the status of Pacific Lamprey throughout their range by helping implement research and conservation actions.

More Info:

- Letter to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding participation in the conservation initiative - <https://nwcouncil.box.com/s/c1915pgidywcfw5s5pu8oqcvtmq5o9pz>
- Conservation Agreement - <https://nwcouncil.box.com/s/5nn3rjb2krlum73qicdovuxjdrltu7hk>