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February 7, 2017

MEMORANDUM

- TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee members
- FROM: Staff
- SUBJECT: Update on implementation of Fish and Wildlife Program priorities

BACKGROUND:

- Presenters: Fish Division staff
- **Summary:** Staff will update the Committee on the recent activity to implement measures associated with the Fish and Wildlife Program's emerging priorities.
- **Relevance:** Addresses implementation of the Council's 2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program

The Council identified seven emerging priority areas in its 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program. These are:

- 1. Provide for funding long-term maintenance of the assets that have been created by prior program investments
- 2. Implement adaptive management (including prioritized research on critical uncertainties) throughout the program by assessing the effectiveness of ongoing projects, developing program objectives when appropriate and taking into account the effects of climate change

- Preserve program effectiveness by supporting: (1) expanded management of predators; (2) mapping and determining hotspots for toxic contaminants; and (3) aggressively addressing non-native and invasive species
- 4. Investigate blocked area mitigation options through reintroduction, passage and habitat improvement, and implement if warranted
- 5. Implement additional sturgeon and lamprey measures (passage and research)
- 6. Update the subbasin plans most in need of updates
- 7. Continue efforts to improve floodplain habitats

Staff will update the Fish and Wildlife Committee on the recent activity to implement measures associated with these priorities and provide an opportunity to hear from the Committee members if they have any concerns or questions.

- EP-1: *long term maintenance*. See presentation earlier on this agenda. M Fritsch
- EP-2: *prioritized research on critical uncertainties.* Draft Research Plan is out for public comment. P O'Toole
- EP-2: developing program objectives when appropriate. Mapping Tool: NOS Objectives for salmon & steelhead: see presentation earlier on this agenda. N Leonard
- EP-5: *Implement additional sturgeon measures.* See sturgeon <u>RFI</u>. Responses are due February 28. L. Palensky
- EP-5: *Implement additional lamprey measures.* See full Council agenda item on lamprey scheduled for February 15th. M. Fritsch