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March 6, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee Members
FROM: Staff
SUBJECT: Update on Emerging Priorities Implementation

BACKGROUND:

Presenters: Fish and Wildlife Division staff

Summary: Staff will update the Committee on significant developments regarding implementation of measures associated with the Fish and Wildlife Program's emerging priorities.

Relevance: This item addresses implementation of the Council's 2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program emerging priorities.

Emerging Priorities:

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*

3. *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, EP-2 and EP-3: See the memo on the Council agenda regarding the Status of the Fish and Wildlife program's Story Maps. Also see the Committee agenda item on High Priority Fish and Wildlife Goals for 2018 regarding finalizing a set of quantitative objectives for several focal species and their habitat. N. Leonard and M. Fritsch
- EP-1: *Long term maintenance*. See the memo on the Council business agenda regarding Fish and Wildlife Committee recommendations on the use of cost savings funds for FY 2019 and 2020. Also see the Committee agenda item on High Priority Fish and Wildlife Goals for 2018. M. Fritsch
- EP-2: *Implement adaptive management (including prioritized research on critical uncertainties)*. See the Committee agenda item on High Priority Fish and Wildlife Goals for 2018 regarding project reviews and progress towards developing a tributary habitat monitoring strategy. L. Palensky, L. Bach, N. Leonard and M. Fritsch
- EP-4: *Investigate blocked area mitigation options through reintroduction, passage and habitat improvement...* See the Committee agenda item on High Priority Fish and Wildlife Goals for 2018. L. Robinson
- EP-5: See the memo earlier on the Council agenda regarding the Committee recommendation to fund *Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative projects*. M. Fritsch