MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Leslie Bach

SUBJECT: Briefing on recent structural modifications for fish passage at Corps of Engineers’ dams

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Tim Dykstra, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Gordon Axel, NOAA-Fisheries

Summary: The presenters will report on structural upgrades at Federal Columbia River Power System dams designed to benefit fish passage and survival.

Relevance: The “mainstem flow and passage operations” strategy in the 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program calls for the Corps of Engineers to implement structural improvements to benefit fish passage and survival and to report to the Council on progress.

Background: Over the last five years the Corps of Engineers, in collaboration with Bonneville Power Administration, NOAA-Fisheries, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and other state and federal agencies and tribes have completed major structural upgrades on both Columbia and Snake River dams. These upgrades are designed to improve juvenile and adult passage and survival, as well as monitoring and evaluation. Some of the specific projects they will cover include: Adjustable weir at Little Goose dam; Lower and Little Goose ladder modifications for temperature management; Lower Granite dam Juvenile Bypass System upgrades; Ice Harbor dam turbine replacement; Lower Granite juvenile bypass system upgrades and Lower Granite dam spillway PIT-tag detection.