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July 6, 2020

TO: Council Members
FROM: Erik Merrill, Independent Science Manager
SUBJECT: ISRP Appointments Decision

PROPOSED ACTION: Council staff asks that the Council appoint Dana Infante and Kenneth Rose to the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) for first terms from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2023.

SIGNIFICANCE: The eleven-member ISRP and its Peer Review Groups provide scientific review of Fish and Wildlife Program proposals and their results, improving program implementation and ensuring accountability. In developing these appointments, the experience and expertise of the scientists on the ISRP were considered with the goal to maintain a panel that fosters a multi-disciplinary approach and offers fresh perspectives, while preserving an institutional knowledge of scientific review and fish and wildlife management in the Columbia River Basin (see table of ISRP members and terms below).

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The ISRP operates on an annual budget of \$500,000, independent of the Council's budget, funded by the Bonneville Power Administration through the Fish and Wildlife Program. No additional funds are requested for this appointment decision.

BACKGROUND

ISRP members are eligible to serve two consecutive three-year terms with adjustments in term duration to ensure continuity. Infante and Rose have been evaluated and recommended by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine for their scientific credentials ([National Academies' February 1, 2019 memo](#)). They meet the required scientific qualifications for Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) and ISRP membership and do not have any conflicts of interest that would jeopardize the ISRP's independence. They have expertise needed to ensure the ISRP is an effective multi-disciplinary group that addresses the Fish and Wildlife Program's many scientific issues informing mitigation, restoration, recovery, and research. They were appointed to the ISAB in November 2019, and their joint membership would benefit both groups' review efficiency and consistency. Joint members also gain a comprehensive understanding of the Program and projects based on the range of briefings, plans, analyses, and projects each group receives and reviews.

All qualified ISRP and ISAB members are appointed without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, gender identify (including gender expression), sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, or military or veteran status.

Appointment Recommendations

[Dana Infante](#), Ph.D., is Associate Professor and Associate Chair of Research in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Michigan State University. She has expertise in river ecology and management, landscape ecology, and environmental assessment. She takes an interdisciplinary approach linking landscape ecology with traditional objectives of aquatic ecology, conservation biology, and fisheries management. She has done extensive work on developing ecological indicators for dam impacts and managing comprehensive databases for the Great Lakes region and other large systems. Her interdisciplinary experience and quantitative approach make her especially well qualified to serve on the ISRP and examine the full spectrum of Fish and Wildlife Program projects and associated performance.

[Kenneth Rose](#), Ph.D., is the France-Merrick Professor in Sustainable Ecosystem Restoration at Horn Point Laboratory of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. Prior to his position at the University of Maryland, he was a professor at Louisiana State University and a research staff member at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. His research on mathematical and computer simulation modeling of fish population and food web dynamics in estuaries, lakes, reservoirs, and oceans is directly applicable to Columbia River Basin fish and wildlife management. His expertise should be especially useful for reviewing project study designs, statistical findings, and fish passage and life cycle models.

The appointments of Infante and Rose would fill the two ISRP member positions opening when Alec Maule and Wayne Hubert complete their second terms on September 30, 2020.

Table. ISRP Members and Terms

ISRP Member	Affiliation	Expertise	Term
Alec Maule	Consultant, formerly with United States Geological Survey	Fisheries - physiological ecology of salmonids (mainstem fish passage)	2020, 2 nd
Wayne Hubert	Consultant, formerly with Wyoming Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit, University of Wyoming	Fisheries, ecology, and habitat	2020, 2 nd
Desiree Tullos	Oregon State University	Ecohydraulics, river engineering, and restoration	2021, 2 nd
Stan Gregory	Oregon State University, emeritus	Fisheries, ecology and habitat	2023, 2 nd
Kurt Fausch	Colorado State University, emeritus	Fisheries - population and stream ecology	2021, 1 st
Thomas Quinn	University of Washington	Fisheries - salmonid ecology, behavior, and artificial propagation	2022, 1 st
Richard Carmichael	Consultant, formerly with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fisheries, management, research, and recovery science	2022, 1 st
Kurt Fresh	Consultant, formerly with National Marine Fisheries Service, Washington	Fisheries, ocean and salmonid ecology	2022, 1 st
Josh Korman	Ecometric Research, Consultant, Vancouver, Canada	Biometrics and modeling	2022, 1 st
Patrick Connolly	Consultant, formerly with United States Geological Survey, Washington	Fisheries, ecology and habitat	2022, 1 st
Alisa Wade	United States Geological Survey's North Central Climate Adaptation Science Center, Montana	Conservation science, planning, and spatial modeling	2023, 1 st