

W. Bill Booth
Chair
Idaho

James A. Yost
Idaho

Tom Karier
Washington

Dick Wallace
Washington



Bruce A. Measure
Vice-Chair
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

Melinda S. Eden
Oregon

Joan M. Dukes
Oregon

Sept. 16, 2008

DISCUSSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: John Harrison, Information Officer

SUBJECT: Update on work with the Columbia Basin Trust

PROPOSED ACTION: None at this meeting; discussion only.

SIGNIFICANCE: These projects help fulfill a commitment the CBT and Council made in a July 2000 Memorandum of Understanding to work on bi-national projects to inform and educate citizens about Columbia River matters.

BUDGET/ECONOMIC IMPACTS: None at this time.

BACKGROUND:

At the June 2008 meeting, the Council met with directors of the Columbia Basin Trust and directed staff to begin work on five projects:

1. Identify next steps for the International Columbia River Basin Center of Information;
2. Initiate planning for an international Columbia River conference that would address water, energy, fish and wildlife, climate change impacts, in the international Columbia River Basin;
3. Initiate planning for a headwaters-to-estuary bus tour in the summer of 2009 for elected officials of Columbia River Basin communities in the United States and British Columbia;
4. Explore the possibility of the Council and CBT co-sponsoring a fish and wildlife project in the transboundary reaches of the Columbia or its tributaries;
5. Explore combining the CBT's and ISAB's reports on climate-change impacts to the Columbia River Basin and issuing the combined report as a joint publication of the two agencies.

In July, staff of the Council and the CBT provided an update on our work on these projects. At this meeting, Council staff will provide an update on additional work in August and early September.