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February 28, 2008

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Peter Paquet, Manager Wildlife & Resident Fish

SUBJECT: Council decision on adoption of macroinvertebrate protocols

PROPOSED ACTION:

Recommend that Bonneville incorporate the macroinvertebrate protocols in future Fish and Wildlife Program implementation contracts as appropriate.

BACKGROUND

The Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP) Steering Committee has requested that the new protocol: *Methods for the collection and analysis of benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages in wadeable streams of the Pacific Northwest* (Attachment 2) be adopted and implemented by PNAMP partners.

The sampling protocols described in this document are designed to generate data sufficient to characterize the benthic macroinvertebrate assemblage and evaluate impacts from human caused disturbances. The purpose of this protocol is to characterize the macroinvertebrate assemblage for a stream reach as an indicator of biological integrity and stream health. It is not intended to characterize the condition of individual stream habitats or to provide data to analyze the macroinvertebrates as a food source for fish.

At the January meeting the Council approved the circulation of the aforementioned document for public comment. No comments were received. Therefore staff recommends that the Council transmit the macroinvertebrate protocols to Bonneville with a recommendation that the macroinvertebrate protocols be incorporated in future Fish and Wildlife Program implementation contracts as appropriate.

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