

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

January 29th, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lynn Palensky

SUBJECT: Update on Categorical Reviews

Staff will provide an update on the status of the wildlife and the RM&E categorical reviews.

Wildlife Review

Updated wildlife project proposals were due to the Council on January 23rd. The ISRP began its review of the 38 projects during the week of January 26. Sponsors will present their projects to the ISRP on March 3-4 at the Council office in Portland. Staff anticipates using the review to develop work and funding recommendations for the Council in May.

RM&E Review

Council and Bonneville staffs are in the planning phase of the categorical review. In this process, Bonneville is working with its various RM&E workgroups to determine what is required from them in the BiOp and Accords; then Bonneville will compare those requirements to what already is being funded through the Fish and Wildlife Program. Council staff is working with the RM&E workgroup leads to develop the list of existing projects to review in this category, according to subcategories. In addition, staff will develop a schedule for review and begin identifying some of the cross-cutting issues and questions that this review should attempt to answer. At our last planning meeting we discussed timeframes for this work. We anticipate completing the RM&E category review before the end of 2009.

On Deck

The next scheduled categorical review is artificial production. Staff is considering the possibility of conducting this review concurrently with the RM&E categorical review.