

Joan M. Dukes  
Chair  
Oregon

Bruce A. Measure  
Montana

James A. Yost  
Idaho

W. Bill Booth  
Idaho



Rhonda Whiting  
Vice-Chair  
Montana

Bill Bradbury  
Oregon

Tom Karier  
Washington

Phil Rockefeller  
Washington

February 23, 2012

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Committee Members

**FROM:** Lynn Palensky, Program Development Manager

**SUBJECT:** Summary of initial ISRP reviews of Resident Fish, Data management and Coordination projects

On February 8, the Independent Scientific Review Panel's (ISRP) completed its preliminary comments and recommendations on 71 proposals submitted for the Resident Fish, Data Management, and Regional Coordination Category Review to implement the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. In this preliminary review, the ISRP finds that 10 proposals meet scientific review criteria and 14 proposals meet criteria with some qualifications. The ISRP made a specific programmatic recommendation that applies to the 17 regional coordination proposals. ISRP recommendations described above should be considered final. In addition, the ISRP requests responses on 30 proposals. Project sponsors are provided an opportunity to respond to ISRP concerns by March 7, before the ISRP submits its final report to the Council on April 3, 2012. The ISRP also considered 9 "contextual" projects that had been reviewed recently but were included in this review for reference because of their relation to the proposals under review.

The ISRP reported on preliminary cross-cutting programmatic issues that include:

1. The need for Structured Decision Management (SMD) processes
2. Resident Fish
  - a. The need for Resident Fish Master Planning Documents
  - b. Resident Fish Habitat Restoration Projects
  - c. Management of Stocked Salmonid Fisheries
  - d. Stock Recruitment mechanisms for Resident Salmonids
  - e. Coordination of Sturgeon Projects
3. Recommendations for Monitoring and Evaluation
4. Regional Coordination Projects
5. Review Process Improvement

The ISRP expects to further develop and refine these issues for the final report. For example, programmatic issues with data management and resident fish and wildlife monitoring strategies

need further examination. In the final report, the ISRP will also finalize each of the project recommendations for the 30 projects that received a response requested.

Next steps for this review

- Open public comment on this set of projects through late May
- Responses from the project sponsors due by March 7, 2012
- Final ISRP Report due on April 3, 2012
- ISRP presentation to Committee on Final Report on April 10, 2012
- Staff recommendations to Committee in May