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June 28, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Committee Members

FROM: Lynn Palensky, Program Development Manager

SUBJECT: Update on Sturgeon Plan as follow up to the RME/Artificial Production Category Review

At the July 2012 Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting, Tom Rien (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife), Blaine Parker (Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission) and Brad James (Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) will present an update on the Columbia River Basin White Sturgeon Framework plan being developed for submission to the Council and ISRP review.

The plan will serve to summarize and synthesize the large volume of active sturgeon research monitoring, and management efforts on a basin-wide scale; provide information specific to individual management units; and provide a regional goals for conservation, management, restoration, and mitigation activities. The current draft is drawn from existing sturgeon planning documents and input from several workshops. Early workshops focused on vision, goals, objectives, and critical uncertainties related to white sturgeon restoration. The most recent workshop focused on regional sturgeon data gaps identified by the Independent Scientific Review Panel and on sturgeon passage at Columbia River hydroelectric dams. The presentation will review progress and collaboration in plan development, findings from sturgeon workshops, strategies employed or planned to restore white sturgeon productivity in the basin, and outline steps that remain for plan development.