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November 27, 2012

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council Members

**FROM:** Lynn Palensky

**SUBJECT:** Update on the beginning of the geographic review process

The Council and Bonneville are preparing to launch the Geographic Review process on December 6, 2012. The announcement will be emailed to project sponsors and contain an information packet very similar to the previous category review packets, complete with information on the process, schedule, instructions and guidance. The 87 projects included in this review are the habitat-based projects in the anadromous areas of the basin. Most of these projects have a FCRPS BiOp RPA association, and about half are included in a Fish Accord. This portfolio represents roughly 30% of Bonneville's annual expense budget.

An early announcement was sent to the sponsors of these projects on November 1 (attached) to get them thinking about the upcoming review. The review will formally begin on December 6, 2012 and end in the fall/winter of 2013. Included in the portfolio are nine "umbrella" projects that perform some level of project identification, review and selection under a particular set of criteria and ranking structure. The umbrella projects will have additional narrative questions to answer detailing the processes they use to identify and select projects for implementation. See the official list in [cbfish.org](http://www.cbfish.org/Portfolio.mvc/Projects/1503) at <http://www.cbfish.org/Portfolio.mvc/Projects/1503>.

Staff is preparing for workshops in December to help sponsors with the proposal forms. We are also working on logistics for project site tours and presentations in the spring. A primary focus of the review is to understand how the projects fit into the context of other work in the subbasin, i.e., how they align with subbasin plans, recovery plans, limiting factors, artificial production activities, and other work within the same subbasin or watershed. Another focus prevalent in all reviews is on results – accomplishments, findings, conclusions, and adaptive management. To the extent possible, we will encourage sponsors to plan and present their priority work and results, together, through project presentations and site visits. Council members are invited to attend any of the meetings scheduled as part of this review.