Northwest Power and Conservation Council

November 27, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee members

FROM: Mark Fritsch, Project Implementation Manager
Stacy Horton, Washington Fish and Wildlife Policy Analyst

SUBJECT: Review Process to follow up on Council recommendations associated with Fiscal Year 2007 - 2009 and Category Reviews (Wildlife; Research, Monitoring, Evaluation and Artificial Production; Resident Fish, Data Management, and Program Coordination).

PROPOSED ACTION: At the December Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting the Council staff will present a proposal to track programmatic and project-specific actions associated with Fiscal Year 2007 - 2009 review and Category Reviews (Wildlife; Research, Monitoring, Evaluation and Artificial Production; Resident Fish, Data Management, and Program Coordination). The intent of this presentation is to provide a status update of project specific conditions and a schedule to evaluate programmatic issues placed on particular projects as part of these reviews.

BACKGROUND

The Council placed conditions on recommendations for 2007 - 2009 and Category Reviews that included project specific recommendations and programmatic provisions which required specific submittals, reviews, and progress check-ins.

This update is provided in three sections:

Section 1: Provides a brief overview of each review, including a list of the programmatic issues that were identified;

Section 2: Provides a list of Projects which have a date-specific requirement (See Attachment 1 and 2);

Section 3: Provides a schedule for Council review of programmatic issues (See Attachment 3).

851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348
www.nwcouncil.org

Steve Crow
Executive Director

503-222-5161
800-452-5161
Fax: 503-820-2370

Section 1 - Overview

Fiscal Year 2007 - 2009

The Council decided on its final project funding recommendations to Bonneville for Fiscal Year 2007 - 2009 at the Council's October 2006 meeting. As part of these recommendations, the Council provided comments that were project specific as a condition to funding. These comments generally addressed concerns raised by the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) for the particular projects. Other project-specific comments addressed other needs of the Council and the program (i.e., step review), giving direction to Bonneville and the project sponsors. In addition, comprehensive and workshop approaches were defined for the projects in the Yakima Subbasin, Umatilla Subbasin, and in Lake Roosevelt. Since the Council decision regarding FY 2007 - 2009 recommendations all the conditions have been addressed (e.g., step reviews) in subsequent category type reviews.

<u>Programmatic issues</u>

1. Integration of projects implementing the FCRPS Biological Opinions
2. Monitoring and evaluation
    a. Regional monitoring plan/interim funding recommendations for regional and hatchery and supplementation monitoring and evaluation projects
    b. Habitat improvement projects and monitoring and evaluation
    c. Project reporting
    d. Fish tagging programs
    e. Wildlife program monitoring and evaluation and HEP
3. Data management
4. Coordination funding
5. In lieu provision
6. Use of Bonneville's capital borrowing authority
7. Step review
8. Water conservation projects
9. Funding for operation and maintenance
    a. Operation and maintenance costs for wildlife acquisitions -- interim funding recommendations
    b. Funding the operation and maintenance costs of a maturing program
10. Within-year program budget tracking and adjustment process during FY 2007-09
11. Future project selection
12. ISRP: Innovative projects placeholder
13. ISRP: Artificial production
14. ISRP: Habitat projects

Wildlife Category

At its July 2009 meeting in Portland, the Council approved funding for 34 projects in the Wildlife Category Review for Fiscal Years 2010-2014. The Council recommended funding the work proposed in this wildlife project portfolio, with some qualifications, to maintain the habitat units previously acquired in the program, to work toward full mitigation, and to improve the coordination and efficiency of monitoring wildlife habitats. The recommended planning budget for wildlife projects did not include specific annual amounts. The Council recommended a *five-year* expense planning budget (FY2010-FY2014) for proposed work which was a *not-to-exceed*

amount. The Council also recommended a *three-year* capital *not-to-exceed* planning budget (FY2010-FY2012) for new acquisitions. The Council expected Bonneville to achieve cost savings as described in the recommendations. As part of these recommendations, the Council provided both project specific conditions and programmatic provisions as requirements for implementation (see Attachment 1).

Programmatic issues

1. New funding opportunities – expense
2. Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP)
    a. The interaction between wildlife crediting and monitoring
    b. HEP participation funding
3. Prospects for a regional RM&E approach
4. Ongoing wildlife crediting issues
5. Management Plans
    A. General
    B. Multiple uses of wildlife conservation lands (agriculture, grazing, including income-generating activities)
6. Weed control - regional plans and best management practices;
7. Equipment/facilities purchase and replacement
8. Regional Coordination funding
9. New Acquisitions – capital funding
10. Cost of living and other funding request increases

RME and AP Category

On June 11, 2011 the Council provided final recommendations for Research, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Artificial Production Projects for FY 2012 and beyond. As part of these recommendations, the Council provided comments that were project specific as a condition to implementation (see Attachment 2).

Programmatic issues

1. Reporting and use of project and program results
2. Habitat effectiveness monitoring and evaluation
3. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of habitat actions in the estuary
4. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and effects of artificial production actions
5. Research projects relating to the ocean
6. Research projects in general
7. White sturgeon
8. Lamprey
9. Coded-wire tags
10. PIT tags and related tags
11. Coordination issues

Resident Fish and Data and Coordination

On July 11, 2012 the Council provided final recommendations on Resident Fish, Data Management and Regional Coordination Category Reviews for specific projects and associated programmatic issues. To date all follow-up actions are on schedule.

Programmatic issues

Resident Fish

1. Follow-up plans and reports
2. White sturgeon
3. New work elements
4. The Council continues to evaluate the distribution of funding to provide fair and adequate treatment across the Program

Data Management

1. General Data Management and Sharing
2. Program-Specific Data Management and Sharing

Regional Coordination

1. Council priority work anticipated over the next two years
2. A list of entities with coordination proposals

Section 2

Attachment 1
Project-specific recommendations for *Wildlife Category* review

Attachment 2
Project-specific recommendations for *RME and AP Category* review

Section 3

Attachment 3
Schedule for Council Review of Programmatic Recommendations

Attachment 1. Project specific conditions placed on projects as part of the *Wildlife Category* review by the Council in July 2009.

ID	Title	Sponsor	Recommendation and Deliverable[1]	Status
1992-061-03	Albeni Falls Wildlife Mitigation - IDFG	IDFG	Programmatic issues #1 (Biological assessment of Clark Fork River Delta), #2, # 8, and Project-Specific Issue for NHI (request for IBIS coordination funding). Reduced capital request from $2.5m/yr to $1.5m/yr. Sponsor to address ISRP qualification for reed canary grass prior to treatment. See ISRP recommendations.	Follow-up Needed
1995-057-02	SIWM - Sho Bans	SBT	Accord project. Programmatic issue #5. Sponsor to complete a management plan, that addressed ISRP concerns, within one year of acquiring mitigation properties. See ISRP recommendations.	Follow-up Needed
1995-057-03	Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation - SPT	SPT	Programmatic issue #5b. Sponsor to complete a management plan within one year (that also addresses ISRP concern about potential grazing) of acquiring mitigation properties. See ISRP recommendations.	Follow-up Needed
2000-027-00	Malheur River Wildlife Mitigation	BPT	Programmatic issue #2 and # 5b. Sponsor to provide adaptive management report to ISRP by FY 2013. See ISRP recommendations.	Follow-up Needed
2002-011-00	Kootenai Floodplain Op Loss Assessment	KTOI	Staff recommended budget is a 3-year average (FY2010-2012) to cover the time anticipated to complete the operational loss assessment. Staff recommends an ISRP and Council review of the competed operational loss assessment. Out-year budgets for capital and expense to be determined based on that review. Programmatic issue #8.	In Review, submitted 10/15/12
2003-072-00	Habitat and Biodiversity Info System	NHI	Programmatic issues #2, #8, and Project-Specific Issue #2 for NHI. All or part of this project may be considered for funding in the RM&E category review. Staff recommend holding to BPA's SOY 2010 until Council and BPA address this issue.	Addressed 11/6/12
2006-003-00	Desert Wildlife Area O&M	WDFW	Sponsor to complete summary report of results to date by FY2011 for ISRP review. See ISRP recommendations.	Follow-up Needed
2006-006-00	HEP	CBFWA	Programmatic issue #2. Staff recommend holding to BPA's SOY 2010 until the Council and BPA address this programmatic issue.	To be submitted in January 2013
2008-007-00	UCUT Wildlife M&E	UCUT	Sponsor to address ISRP qualifications regarding preliminary data analysis by FY2013. See ISRP recommendations. See project-specific comments for Albeni Falls Wildlife Mitigation.	Follow-up Needed

[1] Underlined items reflect the type of follow up actions/tasks (i.e., step reviews, revised proposals, reports, additional information, plans and etc).

Attachment 2. Project specific conditions placed on projects as part of the *RME and AP Category* review include BiOp fast track requests by the Council on June 11, 2011.

ID	Title	Sponsor	Recommendation and Deliverable[2]	Status[3]
1986-050-00	White Sturgeon Mitigation and Restoration in the Lower Columbia and Snake Rivers	ODFW	Implement with conditions through FY 2012: Sponsor to assist in developing a comprehensive sturgeon management plan for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #7; and sponsor to address ISRP qualifications as part of the management plan. Implementation recommendation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of plan and proposed future work.	To be submitted in January 2013
1994-026-00	Pacific Lamprey Research and Restoration Project	NOAA and CTUIR	Implement with condition through FY 2012. Sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (ISRP 2010-44B) by assisting in the development of a synthesis report for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #8. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council reviews of this follow-up action.	Follow-up Needed
1998-014-00	Ocean Survival Of Salmonids	NOAA	Implement through FY 2012 to complete coordinated synthesis report. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of the report. **NOTE:** In resolving this programmatic issue at its June 2011 meeting, the Council deferred to its July meeting consideration of the precise level of funding and activities to recommend for the ocean projects through FY2012 for activities beyond the completion of the synthesis report.	Addressed 5/8/12, TBD
2002-016-00	Evaluate the Status of Pacific Lamprey in the Lower Deschutes River	CTWSRO	Implement with condition through FY 2012. Sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (ISRP 2010-44B) by assisting in the development of a synthesis report for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #8. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council reviews of this follow-up action.	Follow-up Needed
2003-007-00	Lower Columbia River Estuary Ecosystem Monitoring	LCREP	Implement current activities through FY 2012 with conditions: Sponsor to develop a comprehensive report on the monitoring that has occurred under the project itself, for review by the ISRP. In addition, the agencies involved in the estuary are to develop the synthesis report described in programmatic issue #3 also for ISRP review. Funding beyond 2012 based on the outcome of the review of both reports by the ISRP and Council. Do not implement Objective 1, Task 1 (g).	Follow-up Needed
2003-009-00	Salmon Shelf Survival Study	DOFO	Implement through FY 2012 to complete coordinated synthesis report. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of the report. **NOTE:** In resolving this programmatic issue at its June 2011 meeting, the Council deferred to its July meeting consideration of the precise level of funding and activities to recommend for the ocean projects through FY2012 for activities beyond the completion of the synthesis report.	Addressed 5/8/12, TBD

[2] Underlined items reflect the type of follow up actions/tasks (i.e., step reviews, revised proposals, reports, additional information, plans and etc).
[3] TBD - to be determined; NR - no recommendation

2003-114-00	Coastal Ocean Acoustic Salmon Tracking (COAST)	Kintama	Implement through FY 2012 to complete coordinated synthesis report. ISRP and Council review of synthesis report to determine if there is a critical need for new work beyond FY 2012. **NOTE:** In resolving this programmatic issue at its June 2011 meeting, the Council deferred to its July meeting consideration of the precise level of funding and activities to recommend for the ocean projects through FY2012 for activities beyond the completion of the synthesis report.	Addressed 5/8/12, Closed out
2007-007-00	Determine Status and Limiting Factors of Pacific Lamprey in Fifteenmile Creek and Hood River subbasins, Oregon	CTWSRO	Implement through FY 2012 per January 12, 2010 Council decision. In addition, sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (ISRP 2010-44B) by assisting in the development of a synthesis report for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #8. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council reviews of this follow-up action.	Follow-up Needed
2007-155-00	Develop a Master Plan for a Rearing Facility to Enhance Selected Populations of White Sturgeon in the Columbia River Basin	CRITFC	Implement with conditions through FY 2012: Sponsor to assist in developing a comprehensive sturgeon management plan for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #7; and sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (per Council decision April 12, 2009) as part of the manangement plan. Implementation recommendation beyond 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of plan and proposed future work.	To be submitted in January 2013
2007-233-00	Distribution and Abundance Monitoring of Oncorhynchus mykiss within the Lower Clearwater Subbasin	NPT	Implement through 2012 to close out. Implement to complete work and submit final report by June 1, 2012. Sponsor to address ISRP qualifications in final report.	Follow-up Needed
2008-308-00	Willamette Falls Lamprey Escapement Estimate	CTWSRO	Implement with conditions through FY 2012 per August 12, 2009 Council decision and addressing recent ISRP qualifcations 1&2 (ISRP 2011-6). In addition, sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (ISRP 2010-44B) by assisting in the development of a synthesis report for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #8. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council reviews of these follow-up actions.	Follow-up Needed
2008-455-00	Sturgeon Management	YN	Implement with conditions through FY 2012: Sponsor to assist in developing a comprehensive sturgeon management plan for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #7; and sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (per Council decision August 12, 2009) as part of the management plan. Implementation recommendation beyond 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of plan and proposed future work.	To be submitted in January 2013

2008-470-00	Yakama Nation Ceded Lands Lamprey Evaluation and Restoration	YN	Implement with conditions through FY 2012 per April 14, 2010 Council decision. In addition, sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (ISRP 2010-44B) by assisting in the development of a synthesis report for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #8. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council reviews of these follow-up actions.	Follow-up Needed
2008-504-00	Sturgeon Genetics	CRITFC	Implement with conditions through FY 2012: Sponsor to contribute to the development of a comprehensive sturgeon management plan as described in programmatic issue #7; and sponsor will address ISRP "in part" qualifications (see ISRP doc 2010-11) as appropriate in management plan report and in anticipated Master Plan (proj 2007-155-00). Implementation recommendation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of proposed future work.	To be submitted in January 2013
2008-524-00	Implement Tribal Pacific Lamprey Restoration Plan	CRITFC	Implement with conditions through FY 2012 per August 18, 2010 Council decision. In addition, sponsor to address ISRP qualifications (ISRP 2010-44B) by assisting in the development of a synthesis report for ISRP review as described in programmatic issue #8. Implementation beyond FY 2012 based on ISRP and Council reviews of these follow-up actions.	Follow-up Needed
2008-719-00	Research Non-Indigenous Actions	ODFW and USGS	Implement through 2012 per July 14, 2010 Council decision. Implementation beyond 2012 based on ISRP and Council review of the results report and recommendation of future work.	Follow-up Needed
2009-014-00	Biomonitoring of Fish Habitat Enhancement	CTUIR	See Programmatic issue #2. Implementation recommendation beyond FY 2012 depends on ISRP review of study design.	In Review
2010-030-00	Estimate viable salmon population (VSP) parameters for Yakima steelhead major population group (MPG)	Yakama Nation, WDFW	The Council recommends this project for implementation. This recommendation is based on the condition that the capacity issue is resolved in contracting. In addition, the linkages to other projects are to be addressed in a form of an addendum as part of the RM&E/Artificial Production Category Review.	Follow-up Needed
2010-085-00	Columbia River Hatchery Effects Evaluation Team (CRHEET)	BPA, NOAA	Council believes this is the process described in programmatic recommendation #4 for hatchery effects evaluation. Council may recommend this work once the process is fully developed and reviewed by ISRP and Council.	NR
2011-001-00	Columbia Habitat and Monitoring Program (CHaMP)	NOAA	Implement through 2014 in a phased-in or incremental approach as described in Programmatic Issue #2. This includes implementing through at least FY 2012 only in a subset of watersheds as described in the programmatic recommendation. Sponsor to further develop the habitat monitoring and evaluation elements, including the analytical methods, as described in Programmatic Issue #2 and do so in collaboration with the ISRP and the Council as well as habitat monitoring and evaluation partners.	TBD

Schedule for Council Review of Programmatic Recommendations			
Fish Committee	**Review Topic**	**Categorical Review Topic Initiated From**	**Programmatic Issue for Follow-up**
January	CHaMP	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	In July 2011, the NPCC recommended BPA and NOAA meet quarterly to review this issue: • BPA and NOAA are to report on progress with field testing monitoring protocols, techniques, and methodologies; • Within one year, NOAA and Bonneville, should further develop the analytical, evaluation and reporting elements of the habitat effectiveness monitoring and evaluation effort to accompany the CHaMP monitoring, consistent with the ISRP's review conclusions and then produce a clear statement about those elements for the ISRP and Council to review.; • Within the year, and in time for the feographic review of habitat actions, Bonneville and its partners should develop for ISRP review a proposal to transform that effort away from monitoring work elements on individual projects into a cost-effective, independent third-party, standardized, and statistically valid method for evaluating project-level effectiveness. • As the federal agencies implement the CHaMP project in an incremental fashion, Bonneville should work with the Council, NOAA and other participants on a transition plan as to how to implement and/or phase out separate projects involved in the monitoring and evaluation of habitat characteristics. • Revise the CHaMP project and implementation plan and further develop the other elements of the habitat monitoring and evaluation effort consistent with the ISRP's review conclusions and do so in collaboration with the ISRP and the Council and its staff, as well as the basin's other participants in habitat monitoring and evaluation.
	Estuary Synthesis Report Update	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of habitat actions in the estuary (Estuary Synthesis Report): A plan to develop a regional monitoring framework for the estuary is scheduled for December 2011, which will be followed by a summary of all work to date in the summer of 2012 and completion of the monitoring strategy, including updated project selection criteria ready for ISRP review in late 2012. It is important that this work be sufficiently developed for use by the Council and ISRP during the Geographic category reviews. Lead entities are the US Army Corps of Engineers and BPA, with assistance from the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Department of Wildlife, the Columbia Land Trust and the Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce.; A draft synthesis report was submitted to the ISAB and is now out for public comment (Nov. 2012). ISAB Review of the synthesis report September 11-12, 2012: http://www.nwcouncil.org/news/2012/09/f3.pdf
	Reporting and use of project and program results	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Council and ISRP Action Required: 1. Each year the ISRP and then the Council will produce a report that in some way delivers a review snapshot of the implementation and biological results from a subset of the on-the-ground projects, the program's monitoring and evaluation and research elements, or both. 2. The Council will work with Bonneville and the ISRP to identify and assemble the information needed to produce an annual summary of results for Council review, consistent with the principles above. 3. This decision document in this review is not the place to scope out this effort in detail. Those details will come in a separate proposal developed by the Council staff and ISRP together. It is likely the ISRP and staff will propose a test or pilot of this approach in 2011 focused on the results that have or will be gathered for ISRP review this year with regard to artificial production, mainstem monitoring, and the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan activities. Bonneville Action Required: 4. As part of this effort, Bonneville should require all research, monitoring and evaluation projects to report annually, providing an electronic summary of their results and interim findings as well as describing benefits to fish and wildlife. Bonneville should work with the Council to design a concise, useful template for annual reports that can replace other more cumbersome, more costly, and less useful reports for individual projects. (See also specific direction on research project reporting requirements)
	HEP	Resident Fish, Data Management and Regional Coordination Category Reviews (July 10, 2012): Follow-up Action: Council decision on Program Evaluation and Reporting Committee (PERC) Recommendations (Nov. 6, 2012)	1) Reconvene the Wildlife Crediting Forum (WCF) to address needs and future plans for HEP; specifically to make recommendations to the Council on: • As a first priority, the need to access information such as GIS maps or tools from NHI in the future. • The need, if any, for future HEP surveys o Describe the need for HEP surveys to support active management decision making o frequency and duration of that work o recommended succession plan as the current HEP team leader transitions to retirement • The need to archive the existing vegetation transect data into a central repository. 2) The WCF should convene as needed to develop recommendations and suggested outcomes for review by the Fish & Wildlife Committee by January 1st 2013, or sooner, on needs identified above.

Fish Committee	Review Topic	Categorical Review Topic Initiated From	Programmatic Issue for Follow-up
	Budget Report	Resident Fish, Data Management and Regional Coordination Category Reviews (July 10, 2012): Follow-up Action: Council decision on Program Evaluation and Reporting Committee (PERC) Recommendations (Nov. 6, 2012)	Bonneville will provide start-of-year budgets annually, for each project in this portfolio prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, which should also include: (1) trend information to show how and why the overall budget will change from the previous year, and (2) how inflation and cost-of-living adjustments are to be applied, if any; (3) any modifications to scope negotiated with the project sponsor; and (4) report back to the Council in general how the Council recommendations were dealt with in contracting, and (5) Bonneville will work with the Council to track and follow-up on items or project conditions that require the sponsor to deliver products as part of the funding recommendations. • In the event that cost savings are found in projects within this review, Bonneville will notify the Council of those savings and engage in a discussion of where the cost savings will be utilized within Bonneville's Fish and Wildlife Program implementation plan. • Bonneville should maintain the budget allocation recommended in the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program of 70% of the total budget to anadromous fish activities, 15% to resident fish, and 15% to wildlife.
	White Sturgeon	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Develop a comprehensive management plan for white sturgeon through a collaborative effort involving currently funded projects. • Complete the comprehensive management plan for review by June 2012. • The Council would recommend implementation for each sturgeon project with relevant conditions though FY 2012. Funding in FY 2013 would be dependent on outcome and review of the plan to reflect the need to implement the highest-priority actions. • ODFW, WDFW and CRITFC are working with others around the basin to develop the comprehensive plan.
February	Lamprey	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	The Council concurs with the ISRP suggestion that the inter-agency Columbia River Basin Lamprey Technical Working Group is the likely gathering of experts to produce a basinwide synthesis. The group members include USF&WS, CRITFC, ODFW, WDFW, BPA, NOAA, Chelan PUD, Grant PUD, Douglas PUD and the USACOE. • The synthesis should summarize results and develop conclusions on the data gathered so far about the status and trends of lamprey populations, limiting factors, and critical uncertainties and risks, and should also prioritize actions based on these conclusions. • Implementation of the lamprey projects beyond FY 2012 to be subject to the conclusions that arise out of a review of the synthesis report by the ISRP and the Council and any proposed reshaping of the work based on that report. • The ISRP should review the synthesis once it is complete.
	Wildlife performance check-in and schedule	Wildlife Categorical Review (NPCC. Final Recommendation to BPA. July 2009)	Wildlife Recommendations are for a 5 year timeframe: • with two exceptions: 1) the ISRP may review elements of a project or management plan in the interim period between category reviews based on staff recommendation, and 2) any new wildlife projects proposed during that five-year period will be reviewed when submitted. • Staff will develop a schedule for future reviews by July 2013. • Bonneville and Council staff will conduct performance check-ins with sponsors by July 2013, and the performance check-in process will be developed and described in the summer of 2012.
	Ocean Research	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	The Council and Bonneville will decide on additional funding for these projects in out years depending on the production and review of the synthesis report, and then on how the project sponsors propose to re-shape the research projects consistent with the recommendation here and the outcome of the synthesis report review. STATUS UPDATE: March 6-7, 2012: Panel discussion (updated 3/7) on Ocean Projects Synthesis Report http://www.nwcouncil.org/news/2012/03/f3.pdf The Council recommended that funding for the ocean research projects through FY 2012 was to include the completion of the synthesis report and to allow for subsequent ISRP review and a Council recommendation on future implementation and funding. June 12-13, 2012 Fish Cmte Presentation: • Staff expects the process described below will allow the Council to make a decision by February of 2013 to redefine the scope of the research as presented by staff and recommended by Council.
March	CHREET	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and effects of artificial production actions(CHREET). • The lack of a regionally coordinated umbrella for the ongoing collection of monitoring information and the evaluation and reporting of conclusions on hatchery effects and effectiveness thus remains a concern. • The RME/AP review does contain one newly defined Bonneville/NOAA project aimed precisely at this need, consistent with the ASMS -- the Columbia River Hatchery Effects Evaluation Team (CRHEET). Unfortunately, the CRHEET project is still under development, and not enough is known yet of the details to be able to assess whether and how it will serve the need.
April	CHaMP	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Quarterly Check-in

Fish Committee	Review Topic	Categorical Review Topic Initiated From	Programmatic Issue for Follow-up
	Research projects in general	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	The Council recommends that Bonneville, working with the Council and other program participants, identify, organize and track all research projects as part of an overall research effort. When projects include both research and monitoring and evaluation elements, the research components should be tracked as part of these coordinated research efforts. All research projects should initially report basic information, followed by an annual status report that can be used to track the accomplishments of projects. Information to be reported by research projects should include the following: Initially Report: • An accounting of past hypotheses tested, conclusions reached, and benefits for fish and wildlife; • A clearly defined hypothesis to be tested that links to a critical uncertainty; description of scientific methods and statistical analyses; a timeline for producing results including milestones and end dates. Annually Report (including final report): • Electronic progress reports including any results, conclusions, benefits for fish and wildlife, and a link to any publications resulting from the work. • The Council recommends that all research projects receive no more than three-year funding recommendations. • Out-year funding will be dependent on ISRP and Council review of the reports of research results and a proposal for further work. • in the next two years, (the Council) plans to undertake a thorough review and revision of the Research Plan, yielding a much more rigorous set of priorities for
May			
June			
July	PIT tags and related tags	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	The Council recommends implementation of the PIT and the otolith tagging projects in the review with the following conditions: There should be a presumptive path to continue funding for these projects unless substantive issues related to PIT or otolith tagging are identified for any of these projects in the 2013 NMFS Biological Opinion check-in report, in the completed Regional PIT Tag Plan, in the broader Regional Tagging and Marking Plan recommended by the ISRP/ISAB (which the Council encourages the agencies to develop), and/or the completed review of LSRCP hatcheries. If necessary, make any adjusted funding recommendations.
	Coded Wire Tags		The Council chartered the Fish Tagging Forum in July of 2011. A decision on a facilitator is scheduled for the October Council meeting. The Forum will complete its work in July of 2013, in time for a funding recommendation to BPA for the next coded wire tag project contract period. Several interim products will be discussed with the Committee and the Council as they are completed. The initial focus of the Forum will be on coded wire tag projects and thus will involve PSMFC, USF&WS, WDFW, ODFW and IDFG as well as utility and customer representatives, the Mid-C PUDs and others who have an interest.
August	CHaMP	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Quarterly Check-in
September			
October			
November			
December	CHaMP	Research, Monitoring and Evaluation and Artificial Production Project Review Final Decision document June 10, 2011 w/ July 2011 addition	Quarterly Check-in

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

November 27, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee Members

FROM: Lynn Palensky, Program Development Manager

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

In the final programmatic recommendations (Issue #7) for the sturgeon projects in the RME/AP review, the Council called for the "d*evelopment of a comprehensive management plan for white sturgeon through a collaborative effort involving currently funded projects"* and submission to the Independent Science Review Panel (ISRP) for review. The primary team working on the document consists of 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). Now referred to as the Columbia River Basin White Sturgeon Framework, the team believes the Framework will be ready for ISRP and public review after the January 2013 Council meeting and asks that the request for comments come from the Council.

At the July 2012 Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting, the sturgeon team presented an update on the Columbia River Basin White Sturgeon Framework development. At that time, the team anticipated completion of the final draft in October/November timeframe. The need to develop this with a broad array of partners required additional time for completion. By having the Council make the request for manager and public comments concurrent to the ISRP review, it should help increase attention to the document.

The plan will serve to summarize and synthesize the large volume of active sturgeon research monitoring, and management efforts on a basinwide scale; provide information specific to individual management units; and provide a regional goals for conservation, management, restoration, and mitigation activities. Information is drawn from existing sturgeon planning documents and input from several workshops. The next Pacific NW sturgeon workshop is scheduled for late March 2013. The timing of the reviews and the workshop works well with the schedule for our program amendment process. This document could lay the foundation for additional sturgeon-specific program recommendations.

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Portland, Oregon 97204-1348
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Executive Director

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Fax: 503-820-2370