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Henry Lorenzen
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Pat Smith
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Tom Karier
Washington

Phil Rockefeller
Washington

February 5, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Patty O'Toole, Program Implementation Manager
Tony Grover, Fish and Wildlife Division Director

SUBJECT: Update on the Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment process

Under the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980, Congress charged the Council with developing and periodically amending a fish and wildlife program for the Columbia River Basin to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the development and operation of hydroelectric facilities while assuring the Pacific Northwest an adequate, efficient, economical, and reliable power supply. The Council's current Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program was last amended in 2009.

Consistent with the Northwest Power Act, the Council will need to complete an amendment of its Fish and Wildlife Program prior to the review and revision of the 7th Power Plan. Staff suggests that the Fish and Wildlife Program amendment process should be initiated during the spring of 2013 to provide adequate time for this process to run its course prior to the review of the next Power Plan. At the December Council meeting the staff reviewed the proposed schedule with the Council members. The schedule has not changed since December and staff anticipates the Council will be requesting recommendations to amend the Program in April of this year. The proposed schedule is attached.

The Council will call for recommendations to amend the Fish and Wildlife Program via a formal letter to the region. The letter will contain information about the amendment process including why the Council needs to amend the program (the Northwest Power Act) and instructions for how people should submit their recommendations to the Council. In addition the Council can choose to use the letter to highlight areas of the Program that are working well where few changes may be needed and also to highlight key regional issues that are likely to impact the next Fish and Wildlife Program and where revisions may be needed. The staff will discuss a draft of the letter with the Fish and Wildlife Committee in February. Staff intends to have the draft letter available for review by the full Council in March and the final decision to release will likely be before the Council in April.

In January the Fish and Wildlife Committee members expressed interest in meeting various agencies and tribal organizations about the upcoming amendment process. To assist with these discussions, staff prepared a one page informational document to share with interested parties. The document contains basic information about the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program and the amendment process. The one page document is attached.

Finally, the staff has prepared a draft assessment of our progress to implement the 2009 Fish and Wildlife Program. Because of its large size, the document will be sent with the electronic version of the February packet and paper copies will be available at the February Council meeting.

**Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program
Ocean Science Workshop – Management Implications
February 14, 2013 8:30am – 4pm**

**Northwest Power and Conservation Council Office
Large Conference Room
851 SW 6th Avenue, Portland 97204**

Draft Agenda *times subject to change

8:30-8:40	Welcome and Introductions	Phil Rockefeller – NPCC member, Washington State
8:40-8:55	Review of The Council’s 2009 <i>Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program</i> ’s Ocean Strategy & the Council’s Research Plan, upcoming Program Amendment process	Jim Ruff, Patty O’Toole, Council staff
8:55-9:20	ISAB’s Program Review Recommendations for Ocean strategies	Kate Myers, ISAB
9:20-9:30	Overview of Ocean Program	Kym Jacobson, NOAA-NWFSC
9:30-9:50	Managing to timing, thresholds and change -- a view from estuarine and plume physics	Antonio Baptista, OHSU
9:50-10:10	Predator-prey interactions of salmon in the plume and near-shore ocean: implications for density dependence	Richard Brodeur, NOAA-NWFSC
10:10-10:20	Manager’s perspective	
10:20-10:40	<i>Interactive Discussion</i>	All
10:40-10:55	Break	
10:55-11:10	Marine growth of hatchery Chinook salmon	Brian Beckman, NOAA-NWFSC
11:10-11:25	Examples of management applications that include ocean components	Rich Zabel, NOAA-NWFSC
11:25-11:35	Manager’s perspective	
11:35-Noon	<i>Interactive Discussion</i>	All
Noon-1:30	Lunch	
1:30-1:45	Ocean Indicators – current knowledge and future directions	Brian Burke-NOAA-NWFSC
1:45-2:00	Emerging ocean issues	Jan Newton, U of W

2:00-2:10	Manager's perspective	
2:10-2:30	<i>Discussion</i>	All
2:30-2:50	Break	
2:50-3:50	<i>Continue Interactive discussion – all topics</i>	All
3:50-4:00	Wrap up and closing	Phil Rockefeller – NPCC member, Washington State

Here is the GoToMeeting information for the workshop:

1. Please join my meeting.

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/join/512685185>

2. Join the conference call:

1-800-786-1922

Code 17928867

Meeting ID: 512-685-185

2014 Program Amendment Process

In the spring of 2013, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) will be requesting recommendations to amend the Council's [Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program](#).

Under the Pacific Northwest Electric Power Planning and Conservation Act of 1980 (Northwest Power Act), Congress charged the Council with developing, and periodically amending, a fish and wildlife program for the Columbia River Basin to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the development and operation of hydroelectric facilities, while assuring the Pacific Northwest an adequate, efficient, economical, and reliable power supply. The Council's current Fish and Wildlife Program consists of the Program framework and basinwide and mainstem provisions adopted as the [2009 Fish and Wildlife Program](#), and the [subbasin plans](#) adopted in 2004-05.

The Northwest Power Act requires the Council to call for recommendations to amend the Fish and Wildlife Program at least every five years and, following the Program amendment, revise the Council's Northwest Power Plan to include the amended Program.

According to Section 4.h of the Power Act, the Council begins the amendment process by requesting recommendations for:

- measures which can be expected to be implemented by the [Bonneville] Administrator, using authorities under [the Power] Act and other laws, and other federal agencies to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife, including related spawning grounds and habitat, affected by the development and operation of any hydroelectric project on the Columbia River;
- establishing objectives for the development and operation of such projects on the Columbia River and its tributaries in a manner designed to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife; and
- fish and wildlife management coordination and research and development (including funding) which, among other things, will assist protection, mitigation, and enhancement of anadromous fish at, and between, the region's hydroelectric dams.

The call for recommendations also will stipulate that:

- All recommendations must be accompanied by detailed information and data in support of the recommendations; and
- recommendations will be accepted for 90 days. The Council then has one year to draft and adopt the amended program, including time for public participation and comment.

Please contact [Patty O'Toole](#) or visit www.nwcouncil.org for more information.

**Proposed 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program
Amendment Timeline (1/25/13 draft)**

