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April 29, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council members

FROM: Jim Ruff – Manager, Mainstem Passage and River Operations

SUBJECT: Update on May 15th Regional Quagga and Zebra Mussel Summit

Due to the severe threat posed by the invasive quagga and zebra mussels to the waters of the Pacific Northwest, there is a compelling need to define and implement a region-wide prevention and response strategy. Recognizing this need, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council has partnered with The Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER), Portland State University (PSU) and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) to jointly sponsor a regional workshop entitled:

Preventing an Invasion: Building a Regional Defense Against Quagga and Zebra Mussels

The purpose of the May 15, 2013, workshop in Vancouver, Washington, is to bring together private and public sector utilities, natural resource agencies, industries, tribes and environmental groups (e.g., water users and natural resource managers) all of which could be affected by these non-native freshwater mussels if they were to successfully colonize our waterways. Council staff has been working with staff at PNWER, PSU and PSMFC to develop an agenda, develop a mailing list of regional decision makers, prepare a letter of invitation, and meeting logistics.

The agenda (attached) will include speakers from water utility and power generation industries impacted by invasive mussels in the Lower Colorado River Basin and the Great Lakes, an overview of the potential ecologic and economic impacts to the Northwest, and comments from state and regional decision makers. We also plan to have four breakout sessions to provide attendees with the opportunity to learn more about the mussel threat and provide feedback on regional issues of importance such as: 1) rapid response and control options; 2) hydropower vulnerability assessments; 3) enhancing regional watercraft inspection efforts; and 4) developing a regional coordination mechanism for action and advocacy regarding funding and legislation needed to continue to protect the economic and ecological resources of the Pacific Northwest.

Preventing an Invasion:
Building a Regional Defense against Quagga and Zebra Mussels

Wednesday - May 15, 2013
Heathman Lodge - Vancouver, WA



8:00 – 8:20 am	Welcome, Purpose, Introductions	Phil Rockefeller, NWPCC-WA Matt Morrison, PNWER
8:20 – 8:45 am	Overview of Challenge and Opportunities	ID Representative Eric Anderson (PSMFC Commissioner)
8:45 – 9:30 am	The Great Lakes' Experience with Dreissenid Mussels	Dr. Ron Griffiths, Dreissenid Ecologist (OSU)
9:30 – 10:00 am	Mussel Management on the Lower Colorado River	Leonard Willett, BOR
10:00 – 10:15 am	Break	
10:15 – 10:45 am	Mussel Management in Southern California	Dr. Ric De Leon, MWDSC
10:45 - 11:30 am	1. Overview of Q/Z Mussel Threat/Impacts 2. Current Prevention Activities – including CRB Rapid Response Plan 3. Legislative/Regulatory Landscape 4. Funding	Dr. Mark Sytsma, PSU CLR Stephen Phillips, PSMFC
11:30 – 12:00 pm	IEAB Dreissenid Economic Impacts Study for CRB	Jim Ruff, NWPCC
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Luncheon Speaker	Lisa DeBruyckere, OISC
1:00 – 1:15 pm	Breakout Description and Goals -- Action Items for Regional Coordination	

1:15 – 2:15 pm	Concurrent Breakout Sessions – Facilitated	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Rapid Response and control permitting: From regional plan to local implementation 2. Hydro Vulnerability Assessments: Lessons learned and coordination opportunities 3. Prevention Strategy: Enhancing Regional Watercraft Inspection Station Coverage 4. Funding/Legislative strategy Developing a regional coordination mechanism for action and advocacy
2:15 – 2:30 pm	Break – Facilitators prepare notes	
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Reports from Breakout Sessions	
3:00 – 4:45 pm	Group Discussion: Next Steps – Priorities for Action - Seeking a Broader Coalition to Prevent an Invasion	Lisa DeBruyckere, OISC Facilitator
4:45 – 5:00	Concluding remarks	Phil Rockefeller Matt Morrison Eric Anderson

BOR	US Bureau of Reclamation
BPA	Bonneville Power Administration
MWDSC	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
NWPCC	Northwest Power & Conservation Council
NWPCC IEAB	Independent Economic Analysis Board
PNWER	Pacific Northwest Economic Region
PSMFC	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission
PSU, CLR	Portland State University, Center for Lakes & Reservoirs
OISC	Oregon Invasive Species Council
OSU	Oregon State University