

Tom Karier
Chair
Washington

Frank L. Cassidy Jr.
"Larry"
Washington

Jim Kempton
Idaho

Judi Danielson
Idaho



Joan M. Dukes
Vice-Chair
Oregon

Melinda S. Eden
Oregon

Bruce A. Measure
Montana

Rhonda Whiting
Montana

March 10, 2006

To Mainstem Systemwide Review Team:

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) is scheduling meetings to provide the opportunity for your review and recommendations on proposals submitted in the Mainstem and Systemwide portion of the Fish and Wildlife Program (Program). The first meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2006 in Portland, Oregon (see Attachment A). You or a representative of your agency or tribe are invited to participate in the review of proposals submitted for Bonneville Power Administration (Bonneville) funding for Fiscal Year 2007-2009. The purpose of this first meeting will be to review and comment on the proposed schedule and process for Mainstem and Systemwide proposals.

The proposed schedule is provided as Table 1. The Mainstem and Systemwide proposals will be divided into 5 main compartments: Coordination, Data Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, Habitat, and Research. The preliminary draft priorities for each of these compartments are provided in Attachment B, and will be further discussed at the March 20, 2006 meeting.

We look forward to your participation in this process. Material for this review will be posted on the Council's website (www.nwcouncil.org/fw/budget/2007) as it is developed. If you have questions regarding the process please contact Patty O'Toole of my staff, 503-222-5161, or Tom Iverson, CBFWA staff at 503-229-0191, with questions.

Sincerely,

D.M. Signed 03/10/06

Doug Marker
Fish & Wildlife Director

Invite List:
Regional Fish and Wildlife Managers

CC:
NPCC Members and staff
BPA staff
Implementation Team members

Table 1. Proposed schedule for reviewing Mainstem and Systemwide project proposals.

Meeting Schedule

March 20 – CBFWA staff will facilitate the initial Mainstem Systemwide Review Team (MSRT) meeting. The workgroup will review the process, schedule, and review criteria, and will identify work priorities for each compartment.

March 31 – The MSRT will develop a statement of priorities for each category within the Mainstem and Systemwide.

April 13, 14, 17-19 – Five days have been scheduled to review project proposals and apply the review criteria and assign proposals to prioritization categories. The reviews will be organized by category.

April 26 – CBFWA staff will accumulate all preliminary MSRT recommendations and submit them to NPCC staff.

May 9 – The NPCC staff expect to present the preliminary MSRT recommendations to the Fish and Wildlife Committee at their meeting in Walla Walla, Washington for initial discussion.

Attachment A. DRAFT Agenda for March 20, 2006 Mainstem and Systemwide Review Team Meeting.

**Mainstem and Systemwide Review Team
March 20, 2006
10 am to 4 pm
13th Floor Conference Room
851 SW Sixth Ave
Portland, Oregon 97204**

DRAFT Agenda

- Item 1:** Introductions
- Item 2:** Background and Expectations of Work Group
- Item 3:** Discuss compartment priorities
- Final priorities will be completed by March 31
- Item 4:** Develop review criteria
- Item 5:** Develop prioritization categories
- Item 6:** Set up review schedule
- Available dates April 13, 14, 17, 18, and 19

Support material will be provided prior to the meeting.

Attachment B. Preliminary DRAFT priorities for compartments within the Mainstem and Systemwide proposals for BPA funding in FY 2007-2009.

For this review cycle, the Council's 2000 Fish and Wildlife Program, 2003 Mainstem Amendment, the 2004 NOAA FCRPS Biological Opinion (under remand), and other biological opinions will be used as the primary guidance documents. The Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC) recently approved a Research Plan and is currently developing a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan which will also guide project selection.

Coordination

- Support coordination of F&W managers for project selection, implementation, system operations
- Council support – ISRP & ISAB
- Coordination of monitoring and evaluation for habitat conditions and artificial production
- Coordination of Research
- Coordination of information dissemination

Data Management

- Support mainstem passage monitoring
- Maintain habitat data from subbasin plans
- Maintain artificial production data
- Maintain harvest data
- Quality standards from the F&W Program:
 - internet based distribution system
 - reporting consistent with the F&W Program

Monitoring and Evaluation – Status, trends and effectiveness monitoring of:

- Hydro passage effectiveness
- Tributary habitat status and trends
- Estuary habitat status, trends
- Artificial production status, trends and effectiveness
- Predations
- Fish and wildlife status and trends
- Harvest
- Project effectiveness

Habitat

- Water/land acquisition
- Predator control
- Mainstem habitat

Research

- Artificial production
- Fish passage/survival
- Habitat
- Ocean
- Harvest