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August 3, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: James Ruff, Manager, Mainstem Passage and River Operations

SUBJECT: SCT's Preliminary FY07 Priorities for Corps of Engineers' Columbia River Fish Mitigation Project

At the August 15, 2006, Council meeting in Spokane, Washington, John Kranda from the Corps of Engineers' (Corps) Portland District and I will provide the Council with an overview of the System Configuration Team's (SCT) preliminary FY07 priorities for the Corps' Columbia River Fish Mitigation (CRFM) Project. During this briefing, we will first briefly describe the SCT's agreed upon CRFM budget prioritization process for FY07, its current status and schedule to establish CRFM Project priorities for FY 2007 (Attachment 1). As part of CRFM project prioritization process, SCT has also developed and agreed to some criteria and guidelines to assist it in establishing project priorities (Attachment 2).

Recall from my CRFM briefing at the July Council meeting that recent expenditures of the CRFM Project have been averaging about \$80 million annually. For FY 2006, the Corps' work allowance for CRFM projects is \$84 million.

John Kranda will explain in greater detail Bonneville's repayment obligations associated with the CRFM Project. In addition, his presentation will review the major mainstem fish passage projects and research proposed for implementation in FY 2007, as well as SCT's preliminary FY07 priorities (Attachment 3). His slide presentation is also attached for your review and information (Attachment 4).

Staff prepared a table to evaluate possible duplication of Corps-funded projects with FY07-09 Bonneville-funded projects. We also set up a meeting earlier this week with Corps and Bonneville staff to resolve any potential overlap in projects, which resulted in improved coordination and allocation of funding responsibilities among the two agencies.

Staff's assessment of the proposed FY07 CRFM priorities and projects is that they are largely consistent with the Council's 2003 Mainstem Amendments. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Attachments (4)

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**NOAA'S NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
REGIONAL FORUM**

System Configuration Team

CRFM Budget Prioritization Process for FY07

As a group representing state, federal and tribal entities that have management authority of different aspects of the Columbia River, the National Marine Fisheries Service Regional Forum's System Configuration Team (SCT) is tasked with discussing and making recommendations about the Corps of Engineers' Columbia River Fish Mitigation (CRFM) program and budget. The Team, comprised of mid-level managers with technical expertise from fish and hydro divisions of the governments they represent, works in conjunction with other Corps technical teams to review and assess needed changes to the mainstem Columbia and Snake river Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) hydropower projects so that these projects can best accommodate the dam passage and survival needs of threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead, as well as unlisted species, while providing other benefits to the region. Based on information from fish passage studies (via the Corps' Study Review Work Group) and physical project assessments (via the Corps' Fish Facility Design & Review Work Groups), the SCT makes recommendations about how the Congressionally-appropriated CRFM funds should be allocated.

The recommendations of SCT are made through an annually reviewed and agreed upon prioritization process that allows each represented agency to define its own priorities and rank proposed projects based on those priorities—and then combines those rankings with others in the region. The process is best described as an iterative, goal-based ranked prioritization process with opportunity for discussion and negotiation. The process used is described below:

- The SCT begins by discussing and agreeing to a set of criteria and guidelines by which to judge any proposed projects.
- SCT then reviews each proposed project. These general SCT meetings are followed by federal, state and tribal caucus meetings where more in-depth discussion occurs and each agency is asked to rank or score each project - based on the criteria and guidelines.
- Once each agency has scored each project, the project score lists are compiled on a master score sheet, sorted by overall scores and reviewed at the next general SCT meeting, thus creating a 'draft list of regionally ranked recommendations.'
- To make certain that the numerical ranking list has merit, the SCT meets and discusses any anomalies.
- Once the anomalies are understood, agency representatives can discuss their high priority projects that may not have ranked as high on the combined list.
- Through this discussion, the combined ranking list may alter, but only if all other members agree with the proposed changes.

For the FY07 Prioritization process, the SCT has agreed to the following criteria descriptions and guidelines for its ranking and decision making purposes (see attachment 2 -- *Criteria and Guidelines for Prioritization of the FY07 CRFM Program*).

NMFS Regional Forum System Configuration Team

Criteria and Guidelines for Prioritization of the FY07 CRFM Program

Criteria

SCT has agreed that the following criteria should be used when scoring CRFM projects. The group discussed a spectrum of high, medium and low levels of priority (as listed) that can serve as a general (but not required) guide for ranking decisions. Regional partners will make their own ranking decisions based on individual sovereign's needs/priorities. The listed levels are to be used as a suggested spectrum for scoring.

Scoring

- 5 - highest priority
- 4 - medium-high priority
- 3 - medium priority
- 2 - medium-low priority
- 1 - low priority
- 0 - do not fund

Suggested Priority

(NOTE: The items under each suggested level are not necessarily in any order of priority.)

- | | |
|--------|---|
| High | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Congressionally-directed additions to the budget.
* Construction items underway from previous FY that were not fully funded.
* Completion of studies from previous FY that still require analysis and reporting
* Juvenile studies and passage improvements with highest potential survival benefits.
* System and project evaluations to answer key uncertainties for future implementation decisions.
* Significant adult passage facility issues, such as high risk reliability issues. |
| Medium | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Juvenile studies and passage improvements with moderate potential survival benefits.
* Less significant adult passage facility issues.
* Adult migration studies that focus on unaccounted loss, spawning success, etc |
| Low | <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Juvenile and adult evaluations and passage improvements with relatively lower expected survival improvements.
* Lower risk adult passage facility and/or reliability issues.
* Other measures |

Guidelines

The following guidelines should be used to refine decisions based on the above criteria. If a project meets any of the following guidelines, then the rank score should move upwards.

- * Higher priority for passage alternatives with multi-species, multi-life stage approach to increase adult returns
- * Higher priority for multiple purpose passage alternatives (e.g., for an alternative which improves both survival and water quality)
- * Higher priority for projects jointly executed by the CRFM and the NPCC program. (costs are shared between the two programs)
- * Higher priority for evaluations and passage improvements that also improve cost effectiveness
- * Generally higher priority for studies and passage improvements for listed species than for unlisted species.

Note: Approved by consensus of SCT on 6-05-06.

Columbia River Fish Mitigation Project

SCT '07 Measures Scoresheet

July 26, 2006

Line	Activity Type (current year)	Project	Project ID	One-pager ID	Measure	FY07 Estimate (000's)	FY07 Cuml. (000's)	SCT Average score 2007
1	S	Bonn	Bn01		B2 corner collector PIT tag detection	100	100	5.0
2	I	IH	8011a	SBE-W-05-1	RSW RT evaluation & safety boom install.	5,320	5,420	5.0
3	I	LGo	8021 8169	SPE-W-04-2	Removable spillway weir	4,200	9,620	5.0
4	I	LoMo	8013	SPE-W-07-new	RSW	4,380	14,000	5.0
5	I	McN	8043	SBE-W-05-2	Surface bypass	5,445	19,445	5.0
6	S	TD	TD02	SPE-P-00-8	Juvenile passage, survival & fish distrib.studies	1,500	20,945	5.0
7		tSYS			Tagging technology development @ intakes & spillways	100	21,045	5.0
8	S	tSYS			Adult fallback/ juv. collection channel	15	21,060	5.0
9		Bonn	Bn03	ADS-02-16	Sea Lion management	485	21,545	4.9
10		LGo	8024		Dewatering structure fix	810	22,355	4.9
11	I	TD	TD01		Spillway improvement studies (SIS)	1,050	23,405	4.9
12	S	TD	TD05		Forebay passage improvements-vortex	2,250	25,655	4.9
13	S	tSYS	Sys03		Survival study & tagging methodologies	4,500	30,155	4.9
14	I	LoMo	8005		PIT tag detector-main transport flume	590	30,745	4.8
15	S	McN	8143		Survival/efficiency study	50	30,795	4.8
16	S	tSYS	8147		Evaluation of juv. fish separators	200	30,995	4.8
17	S	LGo	8002		Survival/efficiency study	290	31,285	4.7
18	S	xESTU	Est01		Avian predation	5,490	36,775	4.6
19	S	LoMo	8153		Survival/efficiency study	400	37,175	4.4
20	S	tSYS			Adult passage temperature effects	55	37,230	4.4
21	S	JD	JD02		Tailrace/surface bypass alternatives study	2,175	39,405	4.3
22	S	tSYS	Sys05	ADS-00-4 ADS-00-13	Adult migration studies	915	40,320	4.3
23	S	Bonn	Bn05	SPE-P-06-1	Chum studies / juvenile passage studies	700	41,020	4.2
24	I	LGr	8128		BGS removal/demolition	1,200	42,220	4.2
25	S	tSYS	Sys01		Surface bypass compendium	150	42,370	4.2
26	S	JD	JD05		Biological studies close-out report	500	42,870	4.1
27	S	LGr		SBE-W-96-1 SBE-W-07-new	BGS biological testing	2,800	45,670	4.1
28	I	Bonn	Bn08	SPE-P-02-2	Spillway optimization	1,170	46,840	4.1
29	I	Bonn	Bn02	SPE-P-02-1	B2 corner collector (incl BGS)	1,500	48,340	4.0
30	S	Bonn	Bn06		PH 2 FGE improvments	6,330	54,670	3.9
31	I	Bonn	Bn09		B2 DSM follow-on (incl orifices)	500	55,170	3.9
32		LGo	8020		Full flow PIT	200	55,370	3.9
33	S	tSYS	8040		Stilling basin erosion study	200	55,570	3.8
34	I	JD	JD03		Full-flow PIT detection	1,900	57,470	3.7
35	S	tSYS	Sys04	ADS-P-00-8	Adult lamprey passage studies	755	58,225	3.7
36	S	tSYS	Sys07	EST-02-01	Estuary survival (post-FCRPS passage)	3,300	61,525	3.7
37	I	LGr	8125		Juvenile bypass facility	350	61,875	3.6
38	S	McN	8138		Temperature Control improvements	350	62,225	3.6
39	NEW	McN			Configuration & Operations Plan	350	62,575	3.6
40	I	TD			Sluiceway improvement	370	62,945	3.6
41	I	TD	TD06		Adult PIT detector	265	63,210	3.4
42	S	tSYS	8107	AVS-W-3	PIT tag recovery-estuary & avian isl.	1,816	65,026	3.4
43	S	JD	JD04		No. shore ladder improvments & adult PIT	350	65,376	3.3
44	I	LoMo	8129		Auxiliary water supply	95	65,471	3.3
45	S	JD	JD01		John Day mitigation evaluation (Ringold)	300	65,771	3.2
46	I	LGo	8116		Auxiliary water supply	95	65,866	3.0
47	S	tSYS	8108		Fish ladder temp.eval	250	66,116	3.0

Columbia River Fish Mitigation Project
SCT '07 Measures Scoresheet

July 26, 2006

Line	Activity Type (current year)	Project	Project ID	One-pager ID	Measure	FY07 Estimate (000's)	FY07 Cuml. (000's)	SCT Average score 2007
48	S	tSYS	8008	ADS-00-1	Fish ladder transition pool and weir mods eval	500	66,616	2.9
49	I	JD	JD06		Adult PIT detection in so. shore ladder	265	66,881	2.8
50	S	Bonn	Bn07		B1 surface bypass (incl conf & ops plan.)	1,030	67,911	2.8
51	I	TD	TD03		Adult Fishway AWS	150	68,061	2.8
52	S	TD			No. Shore AWS	50	68,111	2.4
53	S	xESTU	Est02	EST-02-02,03,04	Estuary habitat restoration & studies	2,200	70,311	2.4
54	NEW	IH	8041		Configuration & Operations Plan	100	70,411	2.3
55	S	tSYS	Sys06	TSP-05-1 TSP-06-1	Turbine passage survival program	4,940	75,351	2.3
56	NEW	LGR			Configuration & Operations Plan	100	75,451	2.2
57	S	tSYS	8104	TPE-W-04-1-New TPE-W-00-06 TPE-W- 06-02 TPE-W-04-02 TPE-W-04-03	Delayed mortality of juvenile salmonids	3,500	78,951	1.8
58	NEW	tSYS	8170		Spill Injury Mechanisms	400	79,351	1.6
59	S	IH	8011b		RSW balloon tag study		79,351	1.4
60	S	TD	TD04		Configuration and ops plan	100	79,451	1.2
61		TD			Forebay guidance structure -- boom	500	79,951	1.1
62	S	TD		SPE-P-00-8	Juvenile passage and survival studies	3,000	82,951	1.0
63	I	IH			BGS	335	83,286	0.6
64	I	Bonn	Bn04		Adult PIT detectors	100	83,386	0.0
						83,386		
Inactives								