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April 7, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee members

FROM: Mark Fritsch

SUBJECT: Update on Resident Fish and Sturgeon Review

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Mark Fritsch

Summary: The Council's Resident Fish and Sturgeon Project Review process began in early November 2019. Based on current public health directives the review process has been extended approximately 60-days. Bonneville is supportive of the extension. Following is the language used to notice the managers and sponsors.

"The COVID-19 situation has disrupted regular work activities (i.e., office and field activities) and as many are adjusting to the effects of closures and public health directives, an extension to the Resident Fish and Sturgeon Project Review process for approximately 60 days has been provided"

On April 3rd the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) provided their preliminary review ([ISRP document 2020-4](#)), and the review was posted for public comment. Staff will provide a brief status report on the adjusted process including key deliverables and anticipate decision dates associated with this review.

Following are the adjusted time frames.

- Initiate Public Comment April 3, 2020
- Managers and Sponsors responses due by June 23, 2020 – earlier responses are welcome
- Final ISRP report on August 6, 2020
- Public comment closes on September 7, 2020
- ISRP presentation to the Council August 11/12, 2020
- F&W Committee recommendation September 15, 2020
- Council decision October 13/14, 2020

Relevance: Section 4h(10)(D) of the Northwest Power Act directs the Council to review projects proposed for funding by the Bonneville Power Administration to implement the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program (Program). The Council engages in this review with the assistance of the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP).

Workplan: Fish and Wildlife Division preliminary work plan 2020; Program Implementation (2014 Program and 2020 addendum); Project review.

More Info: [Council packet memo November 2019.](#)
[Fish and Wildlife Committee packet memo January 2020](#)