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February 3, 2015

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee members

**FROM:** Council staff

**SUBJECT:** Update on O&M regional process letter

#### **BACKGROUND:**

**Presenter:** Mark Fritsch, project implementation manager

**Summary:** Continued discussion regarding one of the highest priorities the region defined as part of the 2014 F&W Program (Program). An update will be provided on ongoing efforts and meetings that have occurred since the last Committee meeting.

**Relevance:** As part of the Program implementation, an investment strategy is outlined (Part Six; Section II, and Appendix P). Within this strategy long-term maintenance of past investments was prioritized as one of the highest Program priorities.

**Workplan:** A long-term maintenance framework of the assets created by prior Program investments is one of the top priorities of the draft 2015 Fish and Wildlife work plan.

**Background:** Since the last update, as part of the January Committee meeting, the staff has met with Bonneville staff regarding the inventory received from the Fish Screening Oversight Committee. In addition, an O&M Strategic planning meeting was held with Bonneville on February 5th. These activities and efforts will be summarized and discussed with the Committee members at the February meeting.

**More Info:**

- [2014 F&W Program](#) (Part Six, Section II, page 114; and Appendix P, Maintenance of Fish and Wildlife Program Investments, page 199).
- <http://www.nwcouncil.org/media/7148580/f8.pdf> - December 2014 Fish and Wildlife Committee packet memo regarding *O&M long-term funding strategy framework*.
- <http://www.nwcouncil.org/media/7148646/f2.pdf> - January 2015 Fish and Wildlife Committee packet memo regarding *Update on O&M regional process letter*.

# Update on O&M strategic plan

Fish and Wildlife Committee  
February 10, 2015

# Background

- Over the past three decades, BPA has made substantial investments in the Columbia River Basin through the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program.
- Adequate funding for O&M was one of the highest priorities recommended to the Council.
- Adequate funding for O&M will ensure that existing Program funded infrastructure remains properly functioning, and will not only continue to benefit the fish and wildlife in the basin, but will continue to help BPA meet its mitigation requirements.

# O&M Strategic planning

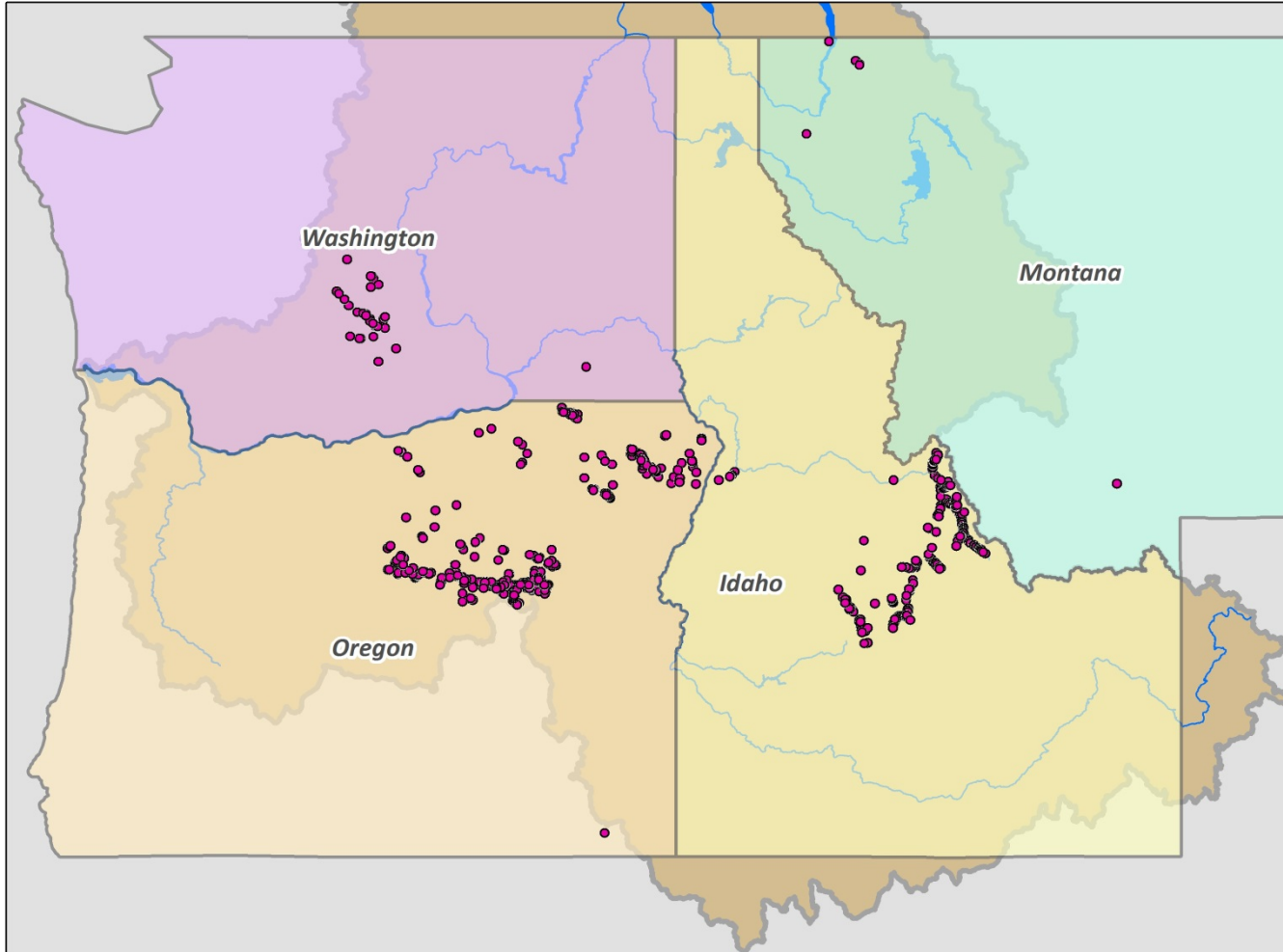
- Initial steps
  - A planning meeting was held on February 5<sup>th</sup>
  - IEAB Task
  - FSOC – Geographic Category review (Programmatic Issue #C)
  - Next steps in developing a Strategic Plan for Public Review
- Proposed Categories
  - Screens and diversions: inventory and assessment in progress
  - Hatcheries, fishways and traps: initiating, more definition is needed
  - Lands: inventory in progress, influenced by settlements
  - Two other potential issues were mentioned and need further discussion (i.e., monitoring equipment and water transactions)
  - BOG will continue to be used as a tool to address natural events, emergencies and misc. needs

# Screens and diversion

- Initiated by Programmatic Issue #C of the Geographic Category review, FSOC was tasked to do an inventory of screens in the basin.
- Difference in complexity of the facilities found in this category, which complicates assessment



# Existing Fish Screens by State



# Lands

- The majority of BPA's wildlife mitigation program has focused on the permanent protection of high priority habitats through acquisition
- Restoration and maintenance activities continue after acquisition to enhance and maintain mitigation
- Settlement agreements to date:
  - Montana Wildlife Settlement
  - Dworshak Wildlife Settlement
  - Washington Interim Wildlife Agreement
  - Willamette Wildlife Agreement
  - Southern Idaho Wildlife Agreement with ID



# Lands (continued)

- Wildlife mitigation on a project-by-project basis has been conducted in the following areas:
  - Albeni Falls
  - Southern Idaho
  - Upper Columbia
  - Lower Columbia
  - Lower Snake
- Acquisition for anadromous and resident fish is often a crucial first step to securing habitat restoration opportunities and to obtain key locations for fish production.

# Hatcheries - Overview

- Lower Snake River Compensation Plan (LSRCP)
  - 11 hatcheries built by the Corps using appropriated funds. Ownership was transferred to USFWS, but hatcheries are operated mainly by states and tribes
  - BPA provides \$31m in direct LSRCP direct funding for O&M
  - All capital re-investments are funded through appropriations
- Bureau of Reclamation Hatcheries
  - 3 hatcheries built by the BOR using appropriated funds. Ownership transferred to USFWS
  - O&M is funded by the BOR, with combination of funding received from both BPA under the FCRPS Direct O&M funding agreements and appropriations
  - Capital reinvestment is solely through appropriations

# Hatcheries (continued)

- Corps of Engineers Hatcheries
  - 12 hatcheries built by the Corps using appropriated funds
  - USFWS operates four and ODFW operates eight
  - Many of the facilities have multiple funding sources. The Corps funds O&M with a combination of funding from both appropriations and BPA under the direct O&M funding agreements
  - Capital re-investment is solely through appropriations
- NPCC F&W Program hatcheries
  - 13 hatcheries directly funded and constructed with BPA capital funds. Ownership was transferred to either a tribal entity or the USFWS
  - O&M and capital re-investment is directly funded by BPA

# Hatcheries (continued)

- Mitchell Act Hatcheries (NMFS)
  - 21 hatcheries built using appropriated funds.
  - Mitchell Act was passed in 1938 to mitigate the impacts to fish from water diversions, mainstem dams, pollution and logging
  - O&M and capital re-investments are funded through appropriations
- Total BPA budget for hatchery O&M is ~\$40m

# Asset Management Strategy

- Phase 1: Inventory
  - Shared understanding of non-recurring maintenance
  - Standardize data for development of system support
  - Clarity on rolls and responsibilities
- Phase 2: Condition Assessment
  - Safety – compliance – condition
- Phase 3: Prioritization
- Phase 4: Strategic Planning
  - Planning – funding – transition