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Conservation Council**

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December 7, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Erik Merrill, Independent Science Manager, and Leslie Bach, Senior Program Manager and ISAB Ex Officio

SUBJECT: Discuss ISAB Appointment of Desiree Tullos and Term Renewal for Thomas Quinn

DISCUSSION ITEM: Staff will discuss with the Council the appointment of Desiree Tullos to the Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) and the renewal of Thomas Quinn's appointment for a second term. This discussion should assist Chair Guy Norman in his capacity as the Council's representative on the ISAB's Administrative Oversight Panel, which will make the final ISAB appointment decision. The other Oversight Panel representatives are Aja DeCoteau (Executive Director, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission) and Kevin Werner (Science Director, NOAA-Fisheries Northwest Fisheries Science Center). A separate decision memo will be sent to the Oversight Panel for their consideration of Tullos's appointment and Quinn's renewal.

SIGNIFICANCE: The eleven-member ISAB continues to provide the Council and the region with independent reviews of critical scientific issues facing Columbia River Basin fish and wildlife mitigation and recovery efforts. With the addition of Tullos to the current set of ISAB members, the ISAB should maintain its ability to effectively review the science pertaining to topics likely to arise in the next few years such as salmon reintroduction assessments, life cycle models, and habitat restoration monitoring approaches.

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The ISAB operates on an annual budget, independent of the Council's budget, funded by the Bonneville Power Administration through the Fish and Wildlife Program. No additional funds are requested.

BACKGROUND

ISAB and ISRP members are eligible to serve two consecutive three-year terms with adjustments in term duration to ensure continuity. Tullos and Quinn have been evaluated and recommended by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine for their scientific credentials (see the National Academies' [2014](#), [2011](#), and [2005](#) memos). They meet the required scientific qualifications for ISAB membership. They have disclosed potential conflicts of interest or bias, and their review roles are managed to avoid any potential conflict or appearance of bias that would interfere with the ISAB's or ISRP's independence. They have expertise needed to ensure the ISAB is an effective multi-disciplinary group that addresses the Fish and Wildlife Program's many scientific issues informing mitigation, restoration, recovery, and research. Tullos has completed two terms on the ISRP, providing valuable scientific advice and gaining important experience, and Quinn has been a successful joint member of both the ISAB and ISRP.

All qualified ISAB and ISRP members are appointed without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, gender identify (including gender expression), sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, genetic information, or military or veteran status.

Appointment

[Desiree Tullos](#), Ph.D., PE, is a Professor at Oregon State University, Biological and Ecological Engineering Department. She has expertise in ecohydraulics, river engineering, and habitat restoration. She has broad experience modeling and researching the ecosystem impacts of dam operations and flood risk management in the Pacific Northwest, China, and other areas (see her [OSU webpage](#) and [full curriculum vitae](#)). On the ISRP, she has served as Vice-chair, providing guidance through major project reviews. She has reviewed the full range of Fish and Wildlife projects, with a focus of providing insightful reviews of habitat restoration, floodplain reconnection, and passage projects. In addition to this institutional knowledge of Program implementation, she would provide engineering and hydrological expertise to augment the fisheries expertise represented on the ISAB. She does not have any conflicts of interest that would interfere with the ISAB's independence.

Term Renewal

[Thomas Quinn](#), Ph.D., is a professor at the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences at the University of Washington. His expertise and research interests include salmon and trout ecology, predator-prey interactions, and the selective effects of fisheries and artificial propagation, among others (see his [UW webpage](#), [Salmon Science website](#),

and [full curriculum vitae](#)). In 2018, he completed the second edition of his book [The Behavior and Ecology of Pacific Salmon and Trout](#). He has served on the ISAB Executive Committee and has significantly contributed to ISAB reports on American shad, predation management, Upper Columbia salmon reintroduction, and salmon survival analyses. He has a conflict of interest related to his spouse’s employment that is managed when making assignments to avoid the appearance of bias or conflict of interest. His spouse works for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) on ecotoxicology issues, primarily in the Puget Sound. Her work is not tied to any BPA-funded project and is not in the Columbia River Basin. To avoid the appearance of conflicts or bias, Quinn is not assigned to review WDFW projects or analyses, and if any review might potentially overlap with his spouse’s work, we would tailor his review role to avoid the appearance of bias.

The appointment of Tullos would fill one of four ISAB member positions which opened when William Jaeger, Cynthia Jones, Thomas Turner, and Peter Moyle recently completed their ISAB service. Deliberations are underway to fill the other three open positions. Jaeger, Jones and Turner have agreed to serve until their replacements are appointed. Council staff plans to discuss the three appointments with the Council in the next few months.

Table of Current ISAB Members

ISAB Member	Affiliation	Expertise	Term
William Jaeger	Oregon State University	Economics and policy	Complete
Cynthia Jones	Old Dominion University	Biometrics, fisheries and population dynamics	Complete
Thomas Turner	University of New Mexico	Fisheries - genetics	Complete
Peter Moyle	University of California, Davis, emeritus	Fisheries, ecology, and habitat	Complete
Stan Gregory	Oregon State University, emeritus	Fisheries, ecology, and habitat	2023, 2nd
Thomas Quinn	University of Washington	Fisheries - salmonid ecology, behavior, and artificial propagation	2021, 1st
Courtney Carothers	University of Alaska, Fairbanks	Social sciences, environmental anthropologist, marine and fisheries systems	2022, 1st

John Epifanio	Consultant, formerly Illinois Natural History Survey	Fisheries, genetics and hatcheries	2022, 1st
Dana Infante	Michigan State University	Hydrology and ecosystem modeling	2022, 1st
Kenny Rose	University of Maryland	Biometrics and modeling	2022, 1st
Thomas Wainwright	Oregon State University, Affiliate Faculty; National Marine Fisheries Service, retired	Fisheries, ocean and salmonid ecology	2022, 1st