Northwest **Power** and Conservation Council

March 7, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee

FROM: Nancy Leonard

SUBJECT: Update on the Program's Fish Information/Data Products (2013-001-00).

BACKGROUND:

Presenter: Nancy Leonard (Council staff), Binh Quan (QW Consulting), Neil Ward (QW Consulting), Chris Wheaton (StreamNet), and Tom Pansky (BPA).

Summary: Staff will update the Committee on accomplished and ongoing tasks, including how these relate to the Council's recommendations for improving, in a cost-effective manner, access and maintenance of the fish information supporting the Council's Program (Council's 2014 decision). Staff will also share a draft launch webpage seeking the Committee's input on how to improve this webpage to increase the visibility and accessibility of the Program web-tools related to this work.

Relevance: Status and trend information for program focal species is to be organized by subbasin, species, habitat, and high-level indicator topics to provide a context to understand the effects of projects funded through the Program. (Program section V). This information contributes to understanding progress and facilitates public access to this data (Program Part Four-Reporting).

Background:

The Fish Data Product Technical Services is successfully applying the Council's guidance related to:

- Updating and improving the information graphics on the Fish Information Site in an increasingly cost-efficient manner.
- Adding resident fish and other anadromous fish High-Level Indicator (HLI) graphics to complement existing salmon and steelhead HLI graphics, and providing the detailed supporting graphics on the Fish Information Site.
- Improved connections with other Council Program web-tools (e.g., Maps).
- Used web-services, as available, to reduce the manual labor involved in maintaining salmon and steelhead abundance graphics. This task also requires modifying the displayed graphics on the Fish Information site.
- Over the last 5 years, staff has streamlined the Technical Services budget to be a cost-effective product for the Council's Program. The project budget operates below the 2014 Council recommendation of do not exceed $85,000/year:
    o 2011-2012 budget $698,481
    o 2013-2014 budget $250,000
    o 2014-2015 budget $94,486
    o 2015-2016 budget $81,070
    o 2016-2017 budget $55,460

Staff will continue to oversee the Fish Data Product Technical Services to ensure it focuses on addressing Program information needs while remaining below the Council recommended budget threshold of not exceeding $85,000. Ongoing tasks include:
- Working with the Council's Public Affairs division to improve accessibility and user-experience to fish information and tools.
- Improving the efficiency of maintaining the fish information by improving the integration among Program tools/sites.
- Continuing to automate data connections and adjusting the fish graphics accordingly, such as salmon and steelhead indicators provided by StreamNet. Coordinated Assessment effort and information from other partners.
- Adjusting the fish graphics to align with the Program's reporting needs.

StreamNet continues to work with state and tribal partners to prioritize updating data that supports the Council's fish information graphics. The Fish Data Product's progress to streamline the data maintenance task is facilitated by accessing current data and derived estimates from StreamNet.

More Info: To follow link to these sites, place cursor over icon and Ctrl+Click.