



COLUMBIA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE AUTHORITY

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June 16, 2008

TO: Members Advisory Group (MAG)
FROM: CBFWA staff
SUBJECT: Comment on NPCC Program High Level Indicators

Coordinating and promoting effective protection and restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitat in the Columbia River Basin.

The Authority is comprised of the following tribes and government agencies:

Burns Paiute Tribe
Coeur d'Alene Tribe
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks
National Marine Fisheries Service
Nez Perce Tribe
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall
Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Coordinating Agencies
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission
Upper Columbia United Tribes
Compact of the Upper Snake River Tribes

On June 12, 2008 the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) requested public comment on a draft set of high-level indicators (HLIs) designed to measure the success of the Fish and Wildlife Program. The biological and implementation indicators could become part of the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. Public comment is due by July 11, 2008 (see proposed indicators at <http://www.nwcouncil.org/library/2008/fwindicators.pdf>). The Council expects to incorporate these indicators into their annual reports to the Congress and Governors.

CBFWA recently provided comments to the Council regarding their seventh annual report to the Northwest Governors and suggested merging the Status of the Resource Report with the Council's high level reports to Congress and the four Governors. The Members of CBFWA proposed a monitoring and evaluation framework and reporting mechanism in their Program amendment recommendations provided on April 4. This is an ideal opportunity to work with the Council to link the adaptive management framework in the CBFWA amendment recommendations with the required reporting necessary to evaluate Program implementation in order to redirect future efforts.

A CSMEP work team has been working with CBFWA staff to develop a list of high-level indicators that are consistent with the Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan as submitted in the CBFWA program amendment recommendations. Attachment 1 (attached) provides a summary of the information needed at various scales within the framework. In comparing the Council's proposed HLIs with the appendix, there are several important comments that would be relevant to share with the Council:

- The Council provides a good summary list of potential HLIs, but fails to make the connection at various geographic scales to link the specific information needs to support each HLI (i.e., we do not generate population estimates for each anadromous fish population and therefore may not be able to support reporting a total abundance for all populations at the basinwide scale);

- The Council should say how each HLI will be used to direct future decision making – link each HLI with an assumption(s) and objective(s) to complete the adaptive management loop; and,
- The list of HLIs is missing relevant resident fish and wildlife indicators.

MAG will be asked to comment on these indicators and ensure that anadromous fish, resident fish and wildlife indicators are adequate for Program level reporting. Are these the appropriate indicators to be reporting at the Basinwide scale of the Program? Are they expressed in the appropriate metrics/units? Are these indicators supported by the agencies' and tribes' Program amendment recommendations? Are these indicators supported by existing information sources or will additional data collection and management be necessary to support this level of reporting?

Proposed Action: The MAG requests that CSMEP, working with the CBFWA Members Advisory Committee representatives, develop a detailed response to the Council's June 12 request for public comment, providing a clearly articulated RM&E Plan for anadromous fish, resident fish, and wildlife, consistent with the Program amendment recommendations, which could be the basis or outline for high level reports. A draft of the comments will be presented at the June Members meeting for review and approval.

Enclosure: Attachment I

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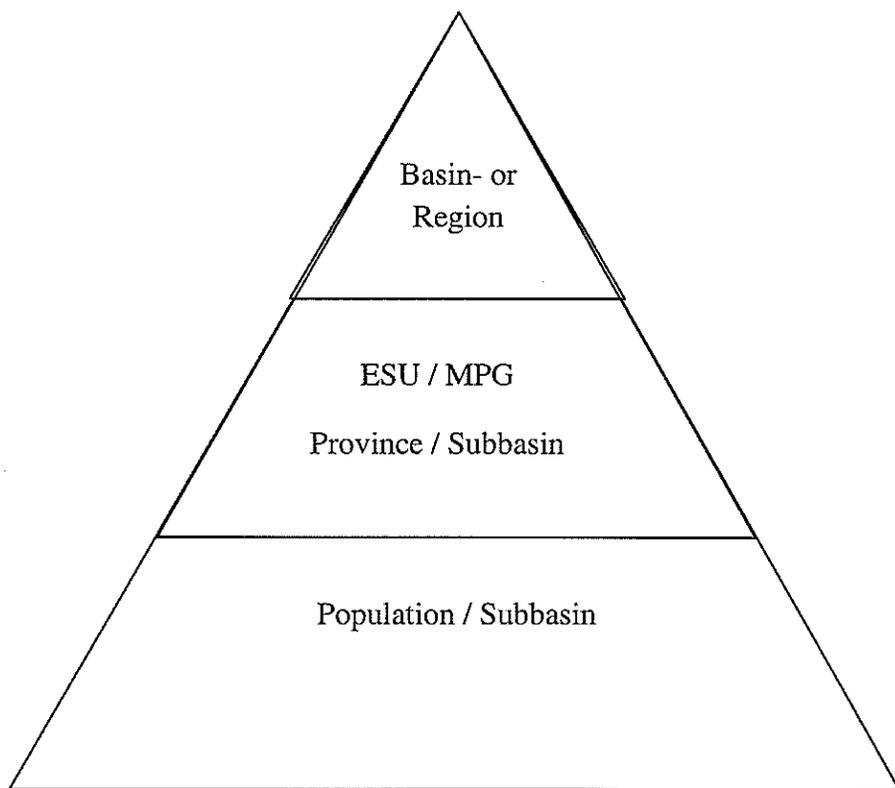
Memo to MAG from CFWA Staff

June 16, 2008

RE: Comment on NPCC Program High Level Indicators

ATTACHMENT I

INDICATOR PYRAMID



Scale		Indicator	Units	Source	Notes
Basin / Region	Biological Indicators	Adult Returns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Bonneville returns relative to 5 million fish goal (by species, race, hatchery, natural) ○ Mainstem dams adult counts (by species, race, hatchery, natural) 		
		ESUs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ % listed ○ % ESUs increasing, stable, decreasing or % very low, low, moderate, and high risk categories 		
	Performance Indicators	Hatcheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total releases 		Ad Hoc Supplement Work Group Draft in Progress
		Harvest	Species/Race <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Harvest Number by Fisheries Location ○ Hatchery vs Wild 		
		Imp	Implementation Indicators (Roll up of Province/ESU/MPG indicators)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Miles of stream protected/accessible ○ Water acquired ○ Number/Types of projects 	
ESU / MPG (Province) (Roll up or representative populations for each ESU)	Biological Indicators	VSP			
		○ Abundance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total spawners and NORs relative to aggregate ESU target ○ MPGs meeting targets ○ Trend: MPGs increasing, stable, decreasing or % very low, low, moderate, and high risk categories 		
		○ Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MPGs meeting targets ○ Trend: MPGs increasing, stable, decreasing ○ % change smolt productivity aggregated across index sites ○ SARs 		
		○ Spatial Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MPGs meeting targets ○ Trend: MPGs increasing, stable, decreasing ○ % accessible area utilized 		
		○ Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MPGs meeting targets 		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Trend: MPGs increasing, stable, decreasing ○ See Recovery Plans 		
	Performance Indicators	Hatcheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total releases ○ Hatchery spawners (target and non-target areas) 		
		Harvest	Species/Race/Origin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Impact rate ○ Harvest Number ○ Hatchery vs Wild ○ Fisheries location 		
		Hydrosystem performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ % adult and juvenile mortality by project ○ System Survival ○ TIR 		
		Predation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Avian, pinniped, pikeminnow predation rates 		
		Habitat Status & Trend	Limiting factor indicators [TBD] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Watershed Condition ○ Water Quality and Quantity 		Need to discuss with the land and water managers
Imp	Implementation Indicators (Roll up of Subbasin/Population indicators)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Miles of stream protected/accessible ○ Water acquired ○ Number/Types of projects ○ Etc. 			

Population/ Subbasin		VSP		
	Biological Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Abundance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total spawners and NORs relative to target ○ Trend: increasing, stable, decreasing 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Productivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lambda, R/S relative to target, smolt production [index areas; primary populations] 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spatial Structure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ % MSAs occupied or meeting recovery objectives? 	
	Pe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ See Recovery Plans 	
Hatcheries		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Report against hatchery objectives 		

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Total releases ○ Hatchery fraction ○ Harvest ○ Returns to hatchery ○ PNI for ea. hatchery program 		
		Habitat [fish productivity]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Spawner to Smolt trends (representative population/IMW) 		
		Habitat Status & Trend	Limiting factor indicators [TBD] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Watershed Condition ○ Water Quality and Quantity 		Need to discuss with the land and water managers
	Imp	Implementation Indicators (accomplishments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pisces/PCSRF/ performance indicators ○ % with HGMPs / ESA coverage 		

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