

# **Columbia Basin Sturgeon Workshop III**

## **Day 1: Basin-wide Sturgeon Management Framework**

**January 11, 2012**

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council and Independent Scientific Review Panel have identified the need for the development of a comprehensive basin-wide planning framework to ensure that sturgeon projects are being implemented in a complementary and cost effective manner. The lower-mid Columbia sturgeon planning group has expanded their effort to organize development of this framework through a collaborative process with sturgeon interests in other parts of the basin. A draft/template sturgeon framework document is being developed by review and synthesis of the available published and unpublished material from throughout the basin. The 2012 sturgeon workshop will provide an overview of this effort and provide the opportunity for other regional sturgeon interests to participate in the framework development process. This workshop will discuss and provide input on critical uncertainties and needs for integration of efforts within and among different areas.

### **Agenda**

**8:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions**

**9:00 a.m. A Brief History of Sturgeon: Successes & Failures – Ray Beamesderfer (CFS)**

- Session Objective & Approach
- Status, Trends & Limitations
- Workshops, Plans & Programs

**9:45 a.m. What's new?: Innovations & Revelations, Challenges & Constraints**

- Lower Columbia River (mouth to McNary Dam) – *Tucker Jones (ODFW)*

**10:25 a.m. Break (20 min)**

**10:45 a.m. What's new? (continued)**

- Upper mid-Columbia – *Chad Jackson (WDFW)*
- Transboundary Columbia River (US) – *Jason McLellan (CCT)*
- Transboundary Columbia River (CAN) – *Jim Powell (FFSBC)*

**12:15 p.m. Lunch**

**1:15 p.m. What's new? (continued)**

- Kootenai River – *Jason Flory (FWS)*
- Snake River – *Ken Lepla (IPC) & Jeff Dillon (IDFG)*

**2:00 p.m. Work Session: Developing a comprehensive Strategic Plan in the Columbia River Basin**

**4:30 p.m. Wrap up and next steps**

**5:00 p.m. Adjourn**

# Columbia Basin Sturgeon Workshop III

## Day 2: Sturgeon Passage

January 12, 2012

The Northwest Power and Conservation Council has committed to work with Bonneville Power Administration, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Columbia Basin fish and wildlife managers to conduct a white sturgeon passage workshop to examine the current state of knowledge for sturgeon passage, upstream and downstream, in the Columbia Basin. The workshop will review sturgeon passage, define anticipated risks and benefits of passage among reservoirs, identify opportunities and constraints to implementing white sturgeon passage improvements, identify critical unknowns and potential assessments to address them, consider experimental and adaptive approaches for implementing changes, and identify monitoring needed to better assess passage.

### Agenda

#### 8:00 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

- ISRP/Council direction
- Basis for interest: summary of programs, plans, and policies calling for passage & mortality studies
- The role of passage in achieving sturgeon management objectives

#### 9:00 a.m. Columbia Basin Sturgeon Passage: What Do We Know About It?

- Overview and historical passage efforts – *Mike Parsley (USGS)*
- Sturgeon observations at FCRPS facilities – *Bjorn van der Leeuw (USACE)*
- Trawl & haul program – *Colin Chapman (ODFW)*

#### 10:10 a.m. Break (20 min)

#### 10:30 a.m. Sturgeon Passage Research: What can the experts tell us?

- Behaviour and passage success of Lake Sturgeon in a Quebec River fishway – *Jason Thiem (Carleton University)*
- Development and status of downstream passage technologies for sturgeon – *Steve Amaral (Alden Labs)*
- Flume studies of adult white sturgeon passage and stress responses – *Joe Cech (UC Davis)*

#### 12:00 p.m. Lunch

#### 1:00 p.m. Evaluating Passage Risks and Benefits

- Chutes and Ladders: Modeling Snake River Passage Alternatives – *Yetta Jager (ORNL)*
- Challenges in considering sturgeon passage in the Columbia River Basin – *Bernard Klatt (USACE)*
- Unintended consequences of providing passage – *Mike Parsley (USGS)*

**2:00 p.m. Break**

**2:20 p.m. Work Session on Sturgeon Passage: When Does It and Doesn't It Make Sense?**

- What else do we know about sturgeon passage?
- What are the pros, cons, and tradeoffs of providing sturgeon passage?
- What now?

**4:00 p.m. Wrap up and next steps**

**4:30 p.m. Adjourn**