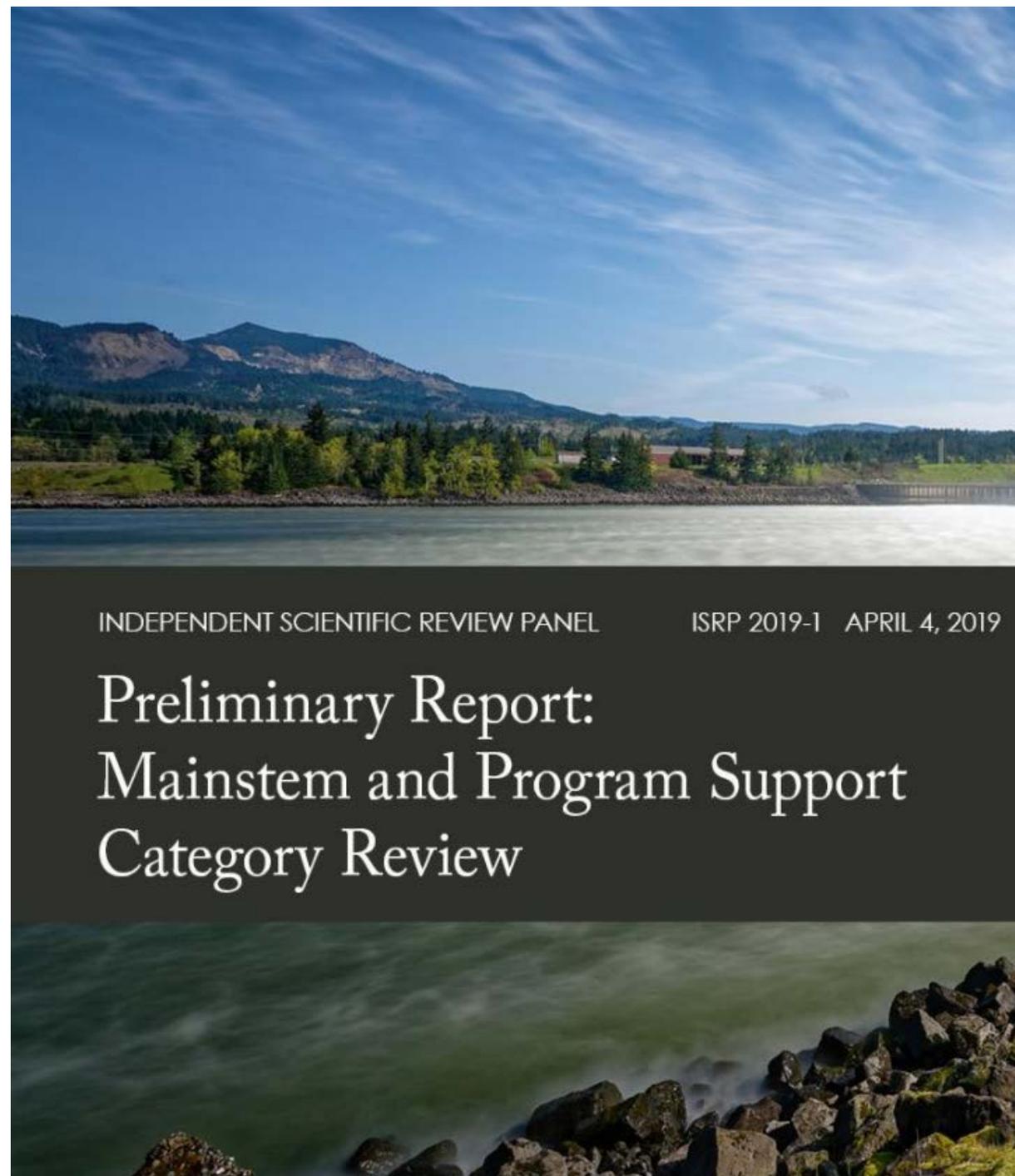# ISRP Comments on Inter-Tribal Monitoring Data Project

2019 Annual ITMD Workshop

Toppenish, WA

INDEPENDENT SCIENTIFIC REVIEW PANEL   ISRP 2019-1   APRIL 4, 2019

Preliminary Report:
Mainstem and Program Support
Category Review

We qualified (see pg. 63)!

ID	Title	Proponent	Meets ISRP criteria?	Page
Ocean				
199801400	Ocean Survival of Salmonids	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Yes	16
Predation				
199007700	Development of Systemwide Predator Control	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	Qualified	19
199702400	Avian Predation on Juvenile Salmonids	Oregon State University, Real Time Research	Yes	24
200800400	Sea Lion Non-Lethal Hazing	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC)	Response requested	26
Climate Change				
200900800	Climate Change Impacts	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC)	Response requested	29
Habitat RM&E				
201600100	BPA Project Action Effectiveness Monitoring (AEM) Programmatic	Cramer Fish Sciences, Natural Systems Design	Response requested	34
200725200	Hyporheic Flow Assessment in Columbia River Tributaries	Umatilla Confederated Tribes (CTUIR)	Yes	40
201700300	Yakama Action Effectiveness Monitoring	Yakama Confederated Tribes	Response requested	42
Water Transactions				
200201301	Water Entity - CBWTP	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Yes	47
Freshwater Mussels				
200203700	Freshwater Mussel Research and Restoration	Umatilla Confederated Tribes (CTUIR)	Response requested	50
Data and Information Sharing				
200400200	Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Program (PNAMP) Coordination	US Geological Survey (USGS)	Response requested	54
198810804	StreamNet - Coordinated Information System (CIS)/ Northwest Environmental Database (NED)	Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	Response requested	58
200850500	StreamNet Regional Library	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC), Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (MFWP), Northwest Power and Conservation Council, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Pacific States Marine ~~Fisheries Commission~~	Yes	61
200850700	CRITFC Inter-Tribal Monitoring Data	Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC)	Qualified	63
201102000	Data Management Project	Kalispel Tribe	Qualified	67
199800401	Columbia Basin Bulletin	Intermountain Communications	Not applicable	70

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No response required....for now

"**The ISRP's recommendations and comments for the 37 projects that received not applicable, meets criteria, or meets criteria (qualified) recommendations are final, and the ISRP does not need a response from those projects during the response loop for this process.**

"**The ISRP notes that that data management is a full-time effort and requires an appropriate level of financial support.**"

Value of the ITMD Project and Personnel

- The proposal includes a strong and clearly stated goal that centers around effective data management, and the text has a comprehensive and explicit explanation of what effective data management means.

- The ISRP believes that the project is highly relevant to member tribes as well as to other regional data management programs. The proponents have the technical skills to be successful.

- The ISRP was pleased to see that "At the close of 2018, all the tribes and CRITFC possess the required infrastructure to be able to share data regionally. Experiments in uploading and downloading data have taken place to several regional repositories. The expectation is that by the close of 2019 some tribal and CRITFC data will be available across the region." This is a very positive development.

Responses for FY19 Annual Report

1. Objectives need to be quantitative with specific timelines for attaining clearly stated milestones and criteria for success.

2. Provide an Adaptive Management (AM) process description for ISRP review.

3. Provide the ISRP documentation on the project mission and out-year work plan, i.e., the plan developed to guide future activities. The documentation needs to include the strategic approach or activity list, as well as the timeline to support multi-year implementation.

4. The proponents adequately addressed some qualifications from the previous ISRP review(2012-6), but some were not addressed. The ISRP would like to discuss Qualifications No. 1 and No. 3 (and possibly Qualifications 2 and 4) from the previous(2012-6) review in a face-to-face meeting. No. 1 relates to objectives being restated in terms of desired outcomes rather than tasks and No. 3 relates to defining the success criteria used to determine whether each of the five project objectives will have been met specified milestones. The ISRP believes that these can be accomplished as long as there is a common understanding of what is expected.

Quantifiable Metrics

- Some objectives are not written in a way that progress toward them can be evaluated.

- The objectives (p. 5) are very general and lack timelines for completion. They are really work statements rather than quantifiable objectives.

- While the nine deliverables are quite detailed, they are generally qualitative in describing activities but not outcomes, as recommended by the 2012 ISRP review.

Adaptive Management

- There is no mention of any documentation of a strategic approach or activity list and timeline to support multi-year implementation. The ISRP mentions this because the proponents do not feel that this project needs an adaptive management (AM) process.

- The ISRP feels that the project could improve efficiency by having a clearly articulated AM process for both internal and external issues.

Regional Connection

- The ISRP is still not completely clear on how the proposed data management activities are related to data management activities of other programs in the Basin, for example, the AEM activities proposed by the Yakama Tribe, PNAMP, StreamNet, and others. The ISRP would appreciate understanding how much database sharing and overlap occurs.

Appropriate Support

- Although the project is intended as an interim effort, it is limited by the need for improved data management staffing.

- The ISRP is concerned whether the project is threatened by personnel issues (p. 16) without having adequate funding to acquire and retain skilled staff, to train and educate staff (continuing education and conferences), and to overcome the difficulties in recruiting skilled professionals to remote tribal locations.

- The proponents understand that a serious threat to project success (p. 17) is not having adequately trained personnel and have established a process for maintaining that expertise over time.

- The ISRP is concerned that several data stewards are only part-time positions. A discussion with the proponents and the Council/BPA is warranted to see if the positions can become full-time. Part-time positions, ones that have responsibilities elsewhere, do not bode well for long-term success.

Discussion Points

- <u>Quantifiable metrics</u>- How do we track success?

- <u>Adaptive Management</u>-IT is always changing, but can (should) we align the ITMD's strategy towards an A.M. plan?

- <u>Regional Connection-</u> This exists, but is nuanced with how the ITMD Project serves the tribes. The tribes control their own data...not ITMD.

- <u>Appropriate Support-</u> Excellent result of this process! What should we bring to a face-to-face meeting?