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January 4, 2023

DECISION MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Erik Merrill
Independent Science Manager

SUBJECT: ISRP Appointment of Dr. Ellen Wohl

PROPOSED ACTION: Council staff asks that the Council appoint Dr. Ellen Wohl to the Independent Scientific Review Panel (ISRP) for a first term of February 1, 2023 to September 30, 2026.

SIGNIFICANCE: The eleven-member ISRP provides scientific review of Fish and Wildlife Program proposals and their results, improving program implementation and ensuring accountability. Dr. Wohl has the expertise needed to ensure the ISRP is an effective multi-disciplinary group that addresses the Fish and Wildlife Program's many scientific issues informing mitigation, restoration, recovery, and research.

BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The ISRP 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 for this appointment decision.

BACKGROUND

ISRP and Independent Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) members are eligible to serve two consecutive three-year terms with adjustments in term duration to ensure continuity (see Table of ISRP members and terms below).

[Ellen Wohl](#), Ph.D., is a Professor of Geology and University Distinguished Professor, Department of Geosciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins. She is a fluvial geomorphologist with extensive experience and expertise regarding physical-ecological interactions in river ecosystems. She has been evaluated and recommended by the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine for her scientific credentials (see NASEM [2014](#) memo) and thus meets the required scientific qualifications for ISRP and ISAB membership. She is currently serving on the ISAB, and her joint membership would benefit both groups through increased understanding of interactions between review of Program development issues on the ISAB and project accomplishments on the ISRP. In addition, she has published many articles and books on river processes and restoration, reaching scientific and general audiences. This expertise will translate well to conducting and communicating ISRP reviews, especially of habitat assessment and restoration. She does not have any conflicts of interest that would jeopardize the ISRP's independence.

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.

Table of ISRP Members and Terms

ISRP Member	Affiliation	Expertise	Term (FY)
Stan Gregory	Oregon State University, emeritus	Fisheries, ecology, and habitat	2023, 2 nd
Kurt Fausch	Colorado State University, emeritus	Fisheries - population and stream ecology	2024, 2 nd
Richard Carmichael	Consultant, formerly with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fisheries, management, research, and recovery science	2025, 2 nd
Kurt Fresh	Consultant, formerly with National Marine Fisheries Service	Fisheries, ocean and salmonid ecology	2025, 2 nd
Josh Korman	Ecometric Research, Consultant, Vancouver, Canada	Biometrics and modeling	2025, 2 nd
Thomas Quinn	University of Washington	Fisheries - salmonid ecology, behavior, and artificial propagation	2025, 2 nd
Patrick Connolly	Consultant, formerly with United States Geological Survey, Washington	Fisheries, ecology, and habitat	2026, 2 nd
Dana Infante	Michigan State University	Hydrology and ecosystem modeling	2023, 1 st
Kenny Rose	University of Maryland	Biometrics and modeling	2023, 1 st
Thomas Turner	University of New Mexico	Fisheries - genetics	2024, 1 st