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February 25, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Lynn Palensky

SUBJECT: Update on www.cbfish.org (aka Taurus)

Ben Zelinsky from Bonneville, and Matt Deniston and Dal Marsters from Sitka Technology Group, will provide an demo of www.cbfish.org to the Council. They will walk Members through the cbfish.org's Interactive Data displays, Change Requests, and other Budget Decision views. They will also provide a sneak preview of Proposals.

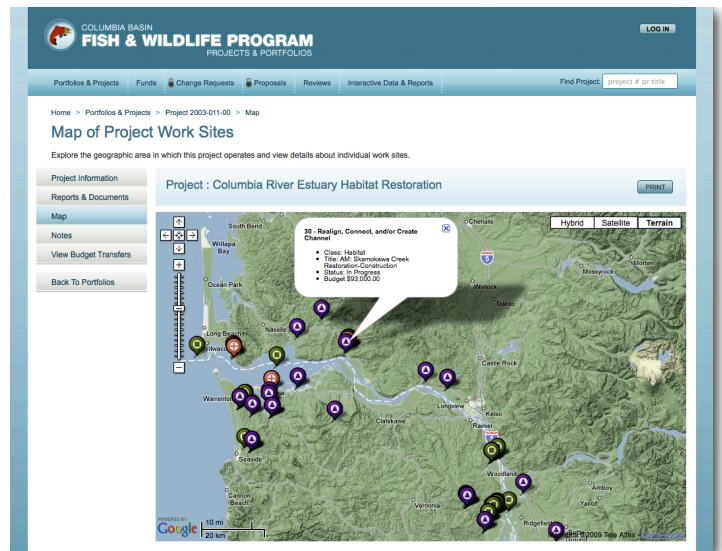
Attached is a one-page summary of the Taurus/cbfish project.

Taurus Project Overview

The Council/BPA Fish & Wildlife Program is the largest of its kind in the world. Its \$250+ million annual budget funds over 600 habitat restoration, research, and hatchery operations projects in the Columbia River Basin. A product of the Northwest Power Act of 1980, the Program is responsible for mitigating for the federal hydropower system, most significantly for its harmful effects on the Columbia and Snake River salmon runs. In recent years, the Program's annual budget has doubled in efforts to respond to Biological Opinions issued by regional scientists in order to do more to protect and restore threatened and endangered salmon, steelhead, and resident fish species.

To help BPA, Council, and regional partners manage the expansion, Sitka Technology Group started building a custom software system codenamed Taurus in October 2008. The mission: **To transparently and consistently manage project and portfolio decisions in support of the Fish & Wildlife Program's objectives and obligations.**

Taurus (www.cbfish.org) is both a public web site providing unprecedented views into the Program's activities and accomplishments, and a web application used by analysts and managers to define, review, evaluate, select, and budget project portfolios.



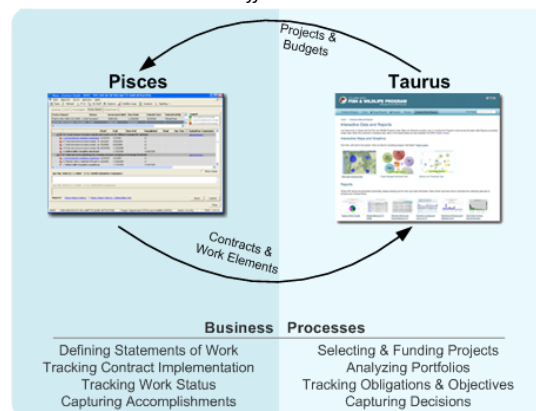
From www.cbfish.org, you can view program funds along with their present and past budgets, and peruse the recent history of reviews involving one or more projects, and access a wide range of project portfolios. The site offers a few ways to view portfolios, from the "Basic Info" view which provides project definition and location information, to the "Budget History" and "Expenditures" views which transparently display every budget adjustment ever made to a project (think checkbook register) and summarize expenditures under each projects' multiple contracts.

As the system of record, www.cbfish.org tracks and manages the decision history for each project as well as a wealth of other information such as relationships to other projects and to Biological Opinions. It also tracks the general location of each project, and shows detailed the sites of on-the-ground work. An information-rich system, www.cbfish.org provides numerous data tables which can be dynamically sorted and filtered for quick analysis, or downloaded for offline analysis. The site also offers a range of interactive maps and charts. For example, one interactive map provides insight into the Program's annual habitat accomplishments by region.

Simplified Taurus Data Model – Projects are the hub



How is Taurus different than Pisces?



Program participants can log in and do things like build their own portfolios based on a wide range of criteria, "tag" projects of interest, submit a Change Request for their project, and soon, submit a Proposal for new work. They can also run reports and explore any of the many "Interactive Data Displays."

Questions about this project? Contact Ben Zelinsky at bdzelinsky@bpa.gov