

Columbia River Project Water Use Plan

Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan Monitoring Program and Physical Works

Annual Report: 2022

Implementation Period: July 2021 to June 2022

- CLBMON-19 Kinbasket Sturgeon Inventory and Habitat Use
- CLBMON-20 Mid Columbia River White Sturgeon Spawning Habitat Assessment
- CLBMON-21 Mid Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Program and Tracking of Existing Sonic Tagged Sturgeon
- CLBMON-23 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Egg Mat Monitoring and Underwater Videography Feasibility
- CLBMON-24 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Genetics
- CLBMON-25 Kinbasket Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Use
- CLBMON-26 Kinbasket Sturgeon Recolonization Risk Assessment and Habitat Suitability
- CLBMON-27 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Incubation and Rearing Study
- CLBMON-28 Lower Columbia River Adult Sturgeon Population Monitoring
- CLBMON-29 Lower Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Monitoring
- CLBMON-30 Lower Columbia River Opportunistic Assessment of High Flow Events
- CLBMON-54 Mid Columbia Effects of REV 5 Flow Changes on Incubation and Early Rearing Sturgeon
- CLBWORKS-24 Mid Columbia Experimental Aquaculture
- CLBWORKS-25 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture
- CLBWORKS-26 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Upgrade Hatchery
- CLBWORKS-27 Lower Columbia White Sturgeon Physical Works: Physical works options to address white sturgeon recruitment failure in the lower Columbia River
- CLBWORKS-28 Lower Columbia River Planning and Assessment of WSG Turbidity
- CLBWORKS-34 Lower Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture Program

Licences for Kinbasket storage (27068 and 39432), Mica diversion (39431), Revelstoke diversion and storage (47215), and Arrow storage (27066)

BC Hydro Columbia River Project Water Use Plan Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Annual Report: 2022

1 Introduction

This document represents a summary of the status and the results of the Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan Water Use Plan (WUP) monitoring programs and physical works to June 30, 2022, as per the Columbia River Order under the *Water Act*, dated January 26, 2007. There are 12 monitoring programs and six physical works.

2 Status

The following table outlines the dates that Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan WUP monitoring programs and physical works were submitted to and approved by the Comptroller of Water Rights (CWR).

Table 2-1: Dates of Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan WUP TOR Submissions and Approvals by the Comptroller of Water Rights

| Monitoring Program & Physical Works TOR | Order Clause | Original ToR Submission | | Most Recent ToR Resubmission | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| | | Date Submitted | Date Approved | Date Submitted | Date Approved |
| CLBMON-19 Kinbasket Sturgeon Inventory and Habitat Use | Schedule F.1.a | Feb 22, 2008 | Apr 24, 2008 | | |
| CLBMON-20 Mid Columbia River White Sturgeon Spawning Habitat Assessment | Schedule F.1.b | Feb 22, 2008 | Apr 24, 2008 | Aug 21, 2009 | Nov 10, 2009 |
| CLBMON-21 Mid Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Program and Tracking of Existing Sonic Tagged Sturgeon | Schedule F.1.c, Schedule F.1.d | Jun 15, 2007 | Jul 11, 2007 | Jul 16, 2018 | Aug 03, 2018 |
| CLBMON-23 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Egg Mat Monitoring and Underwater Videography Feasibility | Schedule F.1.e | Jun 15, 2007 | Jul 11, 2007 | Jan 09, 2019 | Feb 05, 2019 |
| CLBMON-24 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Genetics | Schedule F.1.f | Feb 10, 2021 | Mar 04, 2021 | | |
| CLBMON-25 Kinbasket Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Use | Conditional List 9.b | Conditional | | | |
| CLBMON-26 Kinbasket Sturgeon Recolonization Risk Assessment and Habitat Suitability | Clause 10.c Conditional List | Jan 07, 2009 | Mar 19, 2009 | | |
| CLBMON-27 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Incubation and Rearing Study | Schedule F.1.g | Jan 07, 2009 | Mar 19, 2009 | | |
| CLBMON-28 Lower Columbia River Adult Sturgeon Population Monitoring | Schedule F.1.h | Feb 22, 2008 | Apr 24, 2008 | Mar 18, 2022 | Apr 22, 2022 |
| CLBMON-29 Lower Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Monitoring | Schedule F.1.i | May 12, 2008 | Jun 25, 2008 | Mar 18, 2022 | Apr 22, 2022 |
| CLBMON-30 Lower Columbia River Opportunistic Assessment of High Flow Events | Schedule F.1.j | Jan 07, 2009 | Mar 19, 2009 | | |
| CLBMON-54 Mid Columbia Effects of REV 5 Flow Changes on Incubation and Early Rearing Sturgeon | Clause 2.e of the Amended Order | Aug 21, 2009 | Oct 19, 2009 | | |
| CLBWORKS-24 Mid Columbia Experimental Aquaculture | Schedule F.3.a | Apr 17, 2008 | May 12, 2008 | | |
| CLBWORKS-25 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture | Schedule F.3.b | Apr 17, 2008 | May 12, 2008 | Jan 09, 2019 | Feb 05, 2019 |
| CLBWORKS-26 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Upgrade Hatchery | Schedule F.3.c | Apr 17, 2008 | May 12, 2008 | | |
| CLBWORKS-27 Lower Columbia White Sturgeon Physical Works | Conditional List 10.a | Mar 17, 2017 | Sep 29, 2017 | Dec 17, 2021 | Jan 25, 2022 |
| CLBWORKS-28 Lower Columbia River Planning and Assessment of WSG Turbidity | Schedule F.2.a | Mar 31, 2010 | Jun 03, 2010 | | |
| CLBWORKS-34 Lower Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture Program | Schedule F.3.b | Apr 17, 2008 | May 12, 2008 | | |

3 Schedule

The following table outlines the current schedule for the monitoring programs and physical works being delivered for the Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan WUP.

Table 3-1: Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Schedule as of June 30, 2022

Columbia River Water Use Plan – Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan
 Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Annual Report: 2022

| Monitoring Programs | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 | 2027 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | WLR YR1 | WLR YR2 | WLR YR3 | WLR YR4 | WLR YR5 | WLR YR6 | WLR YR7 | WLR YR8 | WLR YR9 | WLR YR10 | WLR YR11 | WLR YR12 | WLR YR13 | WLR YR14 | WLR YR15 | WLR YR16 | WLR YR17 | WLR YR18 | WLR YR19 | WLR YR20 | WLR YR21 |
| CLBMON-19 Kinbasket Sturgeon Inventory and Habitat Use | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBMON-20 Mid Columbia River Spawning Habitat Assessment | | | | x | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBMON-21 Mid Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Program and Tracking of Existing Sonic Tagged Sturgeon | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | | | | | |
| CLBMON-23 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Egg Mat Monitoring and Underwater Videography Feasibility | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | □ | □ | □ | | |
| CLBMON-24 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Genetics | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | | | | | |
| CLBMON-25 Kinbasket Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Use | C* | | | | | | | | | | | | | ☒ | | | | | | | |
| CLBMON-26 Kinbasket Sturgeon Recolonization Risk Assessment and Habitat Suitability | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBMON-27 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Incubation and Rearing Study | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBMON-28 Lower Columbia River Adult Sturgeon Population Monitoring | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| CLBMON-29 Lower Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Monitoring | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| CLBMON-30 Lower Columbia River Opportunistic Assessment of High Flow Events | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CLBMON-54 Mid Columbia Effects of REV 5 Flow Changes on Incubation & Early Rearing Sturgeon | | | | x | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Physical Works | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBWORKS-24 Mid Columbia Experimental Aquaculture | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBWORKS-25 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | □ | □ | □ | | |
| CLBWORKS-26 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Upgrade Hatchery | | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBWORKS-27 Lower Columbia White Sturgeon Physical Works | C* | | | | | | | | del | del | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | | ■ | | ■ | |
| CLBWORKS-28 Planning and Assessment of WSG Turbidity | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓F | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CLBWORKS-34 Lower Columbia Sturgeon Aquaculture Program | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | u/w | | | | | |

Legend:

- = Program to be undertaken/initiated in identified year
- u/w = Project is underway
- ✓ = Program completed for the year
- del = Program is delayed
- x = Program started, but encountered operational or hydrological delays
- ✓F = All field work for this project is complete. No further field work is planned.
- ☒ = Relief granted
- = Proposed extension of work until WUPOR
- C* = Program is on the conditional list

4 Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Terms of Reference

The monitoring programs and physical works being implemented under the Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan WUP are described in Terms of Reference. These Terms of Reference and the reports for work completed to date can be found here:

https://www.bchydro.com/toolbar/about/sustainability/environmental_responsibility/water-use-plans/southern-interior/columbia-river/columbia-sturgeon.html

5 Status of Monitoring Programs

5.1 CLBMON-19 Kinbasket Sturgeon Inventory and Habitat Use

This monitoring program was initiated in 2008 and was carried out over a three-year monitoring period ending in 2011. The primary management question of this program was whether White Sturgeon were present in the Kinbasket Reservoir. The final report from this work helped inform CLBMON-26 described below. This project is complete.

5.2 CLBMON-20 Mid Columbia River White Sturgeon Spawning Habitat Assessment

This monitoring program was initiated in 2010 and was carried out over a three-year period ending in 2014. The overall objective of this study was to model the effects of Revelstoke Dam discharges and ALR levels on velocity/depth patterns in the White Sturgeon egg deposition/incubation and early rearing area. This objective was met, detailed results and modelling scenarios were presented in the report and discussed in the context of the programs' management questions and the biology of the species. This project is complete.

5.3 CLBMON-21 Mid Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Program and Tracking of Existing Sonic Tagged Sturgeon

This monitoring program was initiated in 2007 and was scheduled to be carried out over ten years ending in 2017. Cost efficiencies allowed for an additional year of monitoring, with no additional budget required, which was completed in 2018. Following the Mid-Columbia River White Sturgeon Technical Forum in December 2018, and with the support of the participants, the program was extended to the WUPOR to ensure management questions could be adequately addressed. Additional sampling effort was deemed necessary to contribute to a longer-term dataset to improve confidence in the results through increased recaptures of hatchery-origin fish in the Mid Columbia River.

This monitoring program was designed to monitor the success (growth and survival) of hatchery-origin White Sturgeon released into the MCR and Arrow Reservoir. The monitoring program has been successful in addressing general habitat use in the MCR through use of telemetry on a subset of individuals. However, there has been limited success in evaluating growth and survival of fish released from the aquaculture program despite significant capture efforts. To date, only 57 individuals have been captured, precluding any quantitative evaluation of survival. Low capture rates in MCR may be due to predation, slower growth, or a more challenging reservoir environment to sample. The majority of the captures have been captured

within one and half years following release (n=39) from the hatchery with the remaining individuals captured between two to ten years following release. While captures of fish years after release suggests some capacity for survival, the program has yet to produce sufficient data to estimate survival or year class abundance which is required to address the management questions.

To address survival following release, the size of hatchery-origin juveniles has been increased over time: 75 grams in the initial Years one to five; 150 grams in Years six to eight; and 300 grams in Years eight to ten. The five-year study extension following the 2018 Technical Forum (2019-2023) is to evaluate survival of the recent and largest year classes, and to obtain a sufficient sample size to address the management questions.

The Year 15 report, dated July 2022, is attached.

5.4 CLBMON-23 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Egg Mat Monitoring and Underwater Videography Feasibility

This monitoring program was initiated in 2007 and was initially planned for ten years ending in 2016. Cost efficiencies allowed for two additional years of monitoring with no additional budget, ending in 2018. The study was supported for extension until WUPOR by participants at the Mid Columbia River White Sturgeon Technical Forum in December 2018 and approved by the CWR in February 2019. As the WUPOR has not yet commenced in the Columbia, we are requesting an additional extension of the program using underspend for three years (2023-2025).

This will provide a longer dataset to improve the confidence in the results which is important for a long-lived species like White Sturgeon.

This monitoring program was designed to ensure consistent annual monitoring based on the outcome of the Mid Columbia White Sturgeon Management Plan 2012 Midterm Review, which was reviewed again in 2018. A key result from the program has been the collection of both wild-origin eggs and larvae that were transferred to the hatchery program in each of 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021. Since the inception of the aquaculture program in 2001, wild White Sturgeon from Arrow Reservoir had not been represented in supplemental progeny that were released. Wild-origin juveniles from the Revelstoke spawning site are being reared to a larger size (700 g) threshold for release to hopefully improve survival in the wild. Of note, spawning has been detected in the Mid Columbia River near Revelstoke in 15 of 20 years where monitoring has occurred (12 of 15 WUP years). There has been no significant change to the delivery or implementation of this program except for increasing sampling effort to attempt to collect additional wild-origin progeny for the conservation aquaculture program. These samples will also contribute to results from genetic analysis planned under CLBMON-24 towards the end of the WUP. Prior to successes in 2018 and 2019, very few tissue samples have been obtained as a result of low larval capture numbers.

The Year 15 report, dated July 2022, is attached.

5.5 CLBMON-24 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Genetics

The purpose of this program was to analyze samples collected from monitoring under CLBMON-23 to estimate numbers of spawning adults contributing to progeny collected at the Revelstoke spawning area. However, challenges in collecting sufficient genetic samples delayed this program. In 2018, monitoring was successful

in collecting a larger number of progenies from spawning events. In 2019, 2020, and 2021, further samples were obtained from spawning events which, combined with the ones collected in earlier years (2007-2017), were sufficient for analysis. This is timely as other pertinent genetic questions exist in the lower Columbia River and work to analyze both sets of samples can occur concurrently to ensure efficient use of resources.

The TOR for this program was approved on March 4, 2021 and this study is underway, being delivered in partnership with other recovery team members that have genetic samples from the population (US partners) and experts in White Sturgeon genetics. Results are expected in 2023.

5.6 CLBMON-25 Kinbasket Juvenile Sturgeon Detection and Habitat Use

This is a conditional study that was originally intended to be implemented if juvenile White Sturgeon were experimentally released into Kinbasket. A decision was made at the 2012 Mid Columbia White Sturgeon Management Plan Midterm Review to focus on questions related to sturgeon recovery in the Arrow Lakes Reservoir before conducting concurrent work in Kinbasket. This conditional study, if implemented, would focus on identifying any unresolved questions rising from CLBMON-26, described below.

At the 2018 Mid Columbia River White Sturgeon Technical Forum, participants agreed that CLBMON-26 is complete; hence no need for further work under CLBMON-25 while the Arrow Lakes Reservoir programs are being evaluated. A review of the feasibility of utilizing Kinbasket Reservoir as a recovery area for juvenile White Sturgeon will be conducted during the Columbia River Water Use Plan Order Review. For this reason, the CWR granted relief on May 13, 2020 from implementing CLBMON-25.

5.7 CLBMON-26 Kinbasket Sturgeon Recolonization Risk Assessment and Habitat Suitability

This monitoring program was initiated in 2010 and was carried out over a three-year period ending in 2014.

CLBMON-26 was designed in two phases. Phase one was an ecological risk assessment and forms the basis of the early reports. At the 2012 Mid Columbia White Sturgeon Management Plan Midterm Review a decision was made to prepare a conservation aquaculture strategy for Kinbasket Reservoir. Even though this strategy has not been implemented, it will help inform future discussions around the use of Kinbasket reservoir as a failsafe or recovery area for White Sturgeon.

At the 2018 Mid Columbia River White Sturgeon Technical Forum, participants agreed that this study is complete. Further evaluation of Kinbasket as a recovery area will only occur if Arrow efforts are unsuccessful.

5.8 CLBMON-27 Mid Columbia River Sturgeon Incubation and Rearing Study

This monitoring program was initiated in 2009 and was carried out over three years ending in 2012. The primary purpose of this study was to investigate aspects of the relationship between temperature and early life history survival and recruitment. This project is complete.

5.9 CLBMON-28 Lower Columbia River Adult Sturgeon Population Monitoring

This monitoring program was initiated in 2008 and was initially carried out over 12 years. Cost efficiencies during implementation will allow for additional years of monitoring with no additional request for budget; therefore, the juvenile monitoring study was approved by the CWR on April 22, 2022 for extension until 2027.

An important aspect of this program in recent years is the initiation of a systematic stock assessment that started in 2013 to estimate the number of White Sturgeon in the transboundary reach of the Columbia River. This study represents the first systematic population estimate for the entire transboundary reach; a secondary objective is to estimate survival of hatchery released juvenile in this reach. At the conclusion of 2021, 18 sessions have been completed and preliminary data analyses have estimated a wild population abundance of 1,070 (802 – 1,427) individuals.

Another key objective of this program is to monitor spawning activity at the known spawning locations in the lower Columbia River to identify the timing, frequency, and duration of spawning. As part of this work, wild-origin progeny is collected and transferred to the hatchery to serve as progeny for the conservation aquaculture program. 2021 represented another successful year where spawn monitoring was completed, and sufficient numbers of wild-origin progeny were transferred to the hatchery to meet the release target of 200 individuals.

This project has been identified as critical by recovery initiative partners as it is providing data that are important for recovery of White Sturgeon in the Columbia. Cost efficiencies will allow for additional years of monitoring with no additional request for budget; therefore, the stock assessment was approved for extension until 2027 to further refine population abundance estimates, identify natural recruitment, and better define movements of both wild and hatchery-origin fish.

The Year 13 and 14 data report, dated July 2022, is attached.

5.10 CLBMON-29 Lower Columbia River Juvenile Sturgeon Monitoring

This monitoring program was initiated in 2008 and was carried out over 12 years. Cost efficiencies during implementation will allow for additional years of monitoring with no additional request for budget; therefore, the juvenile monitoring study was approved by the CWR on April 22, 2022 for extension until 2027.

Work under this program to describe survival, growth, and habitat use of hatchery-origin White Sturgeon following release from the aquaculture program into the river has been very successful and informs management decisions related to stocking targets. Monitoring results have found there are 5,043 (3,823 – 6,648) hatchery origin White Sturgeon at large in the lower Columbia River, extending the estimated extirpation of the population by several decades. Recent work has described the reproductive structure of the hatchery-origin population. Results suggest that a small proportion of males have reached maturity and may be contributing to spawning events. Further, significant progress was made in 2020 and 2021 describing habitat use of hatchery-origin sturgeon under varying environmental conditions (temperature and discharge).

Larval monitoring under this program has been successful in identifying larvae distributing from the Hugh L. Keenleyside (HLK)/Arrow Lakes Hydro (ALH) spawning area, downstream of Kinnaird, and from the Waneta spawning site downstream into the US portion of the lower Columbia River. These progenies are captured in the wild

and transferred to the hatchery for rearing and release to increase genetic diversity in the conservation aquaculture program.

The Year 13-14 report which covers some larger analyses of juvenile growth is in draft and will be finalized later this year. It will be included with the next annual report.

5.11 CLBMON-30 Lower Columbia River Opportunistic Assessment of High Flow Events

This monitoring program was initiated in 2009 and carried out over ten years. The program focused on assembly of long-term datasets, followed by larger analyses to evaluate how sturgeon habitat use and movements are influenced by environmental variables.

A large relational database was developed to manage all data types required for the analysis including life history information (e.g., capture and biological information), environmental covariates (e.g., flows or habitat), animal movements (e.g., telemetry), and other important program components (e.g., hatchery programs). A long-term data set has also been developed to address the effects of higher flow years on White Sturgeon movements, spawning site selection, and habitat use.

The analyses of these datasets began in 2019 but are not complete given more time than expected to develop databases, models, and find qualified personnel. A final report outlining the results of this program is expected by the end of 2022.

5.12 CLBMON-54 Mid Columbia Effects of REV 5 Flow Changes on Incubation and Early Rearing Sturgeon

This monitoring program was initiated in 2010 and was carried out over a three-year period ending in 2014. The overall objective of CLBMON-54 was to examine the effects of the additional (5th) generating unit at Revelstoke Dam on the spawning and early life stage habitat at the known spawning area. Results of this work demonstrated that the additional flows of Revelstoke unit five were only slightly beneficial to the conditions experienced at the spawning location and more suitable early life stage habitat exists in the area than previously known. Suitable spawning parameters (depths and flows) existed over most operational scenarios tested. This project is complete.

6 Status of Physical Works

6.1 CLBWORKS-24 Mid Columbia Experimental Aquaculture

This physical works was initiated in 2007 and was carried out over five years ending in 2012. The purpose of this program was to provide larvae and juveniles for release into the Mid Columbia to evaluate survival, habitat use, and impacts of Arrow operations on juvenile habitat availability and suitability (CLBMON-21).

This project is complete, and CLBWORKS-25 has been initiated to continue conservation aquaculture in the Mid-Columbia.

6.2 CLBWORKS-25 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture

This physical works was initiated in 2012 and carried out over six years. The project was supported for extension until the WUPOR by participants at the 2018 Mid

Columbia River White Sturgeon Technical Forum and approved by the CWR in February 2019. As the WUPOR has not yet commenced in the Columbia, we are requesting an additional extension of the program using underspend for three years (2023-2025).

This program is a continuation of CLBWORKS-24. One primary goal of CLBWORKS-25 is to release juvenile sturgeon of a larger body size compared to historical values to help address questions of survival under CLBMON-21.

Attached is the report for Year 10 dated July 2022.

6.3 CLBWORKS-26 Mid Columbia Sturgeon Upgrade Hatchery

This physical works was initiated in 2008 and ended in 2010 with the construction of temporary rearing facilities that could be located on the banks of the Columbia River (e.g., Revelstoke). Currently, the facilities are under operation at the Kootenay Trout hatchery based on a 2009 decision to not relocate them to the banks of the Columbia without more certainty in how streamside rearing would fit within recovery goals.

This project is complete.

6.4 CLBWORKS-27 Lower Columbia White Sturgeon Physical Works: Physical works options to address white sturgeon recruitment failure in the lower Columbia River.

This project was initiated in 2018. Workshops were held in May 2019 and February 2020 to evaluate the suitability of current conditions at the known White Sturgeon spawning areas in the Lower Columbia River and to identify restoration options at spawning areas based on biological and technical feasibility. A final restoration alternative was selected for consideration in Phase two of this program, and a design was completed and approved.

The Terms of Reference for Phase three Construction was approved on January 25, 2022. Construction is scheduled to begin in late September 2022 and be completed by November 30, 2022. The final report for Phase 2 will be submitted with the next annual report.

6.5 CLBWORKS-28 Lower Columbia River Planning and Assessment of WSG Turbidity

This physical works was initiated in 2011 and was carried out over two years ending in 2013. This study has helped to inform development of Terms of Reference and associated physical works options under CLBWORKS-27 by investigating likely causes of recruitment failure as they relate to physical and environmental conditions in the lower Columbia River. This work has been peer reviewed by several technical experts and serves as an important study discussing historical recruitment patterns for this population.

This project is complete.

6.6 CLBWORKS-34 Lower Columbia Sturgeon Conservation Aquaculture Program

This physical works was initiated in 2008 and was carried out over 12 years ending in 2019. Cost efficiencies allowed for additional years of this physical works with no additional request for budget; therefore, the LCR sturgeon aquaculture program was

extended until 2022. Continuation of the program will be discussed at the UCWSRI annual meeting later in the fall.

Starting in 2014, this program started piloting the use of wild eggs and larvae as supplemental progeny in the hatchery program. This was based on the results of genetic work conducted under CLBMON-28 which suggested that more wild adults could be represented in supplemental hatchery progeny using this method compared to the traditional broodstock program. A small streamside trailer was established on the banks of the Columbia River near the Waneta spawning grounds. Results from the 2014 pilot year for the streamside facility were successful, with over 1,000 wild origin juveniles released into the LCR. The program was then fully adopted in 2015 and the traditional broodstock program was suspended for the lower Columbia going forward. Wild-origin progeny have been successfully collected, reared, and released annually from 2015-2022. Additional discussions are occurring at the UCWSRI TWG to determine long-term population goals and how this aquaculture program can meet those targets while augmenting genetic diversity through techniques like the culture of wild origin progeny.

Attached is the report for Year 14 dated July 2022.

7 Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Costs

The following table summarizes the Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan WUP monitoring programs and physical works costs approved by the Comptroller and the Actual Costs to June 30, 2022.

Table 7-1: Columbia River White Sturgeon Management Plan WUP Monitoring Programs and Physical Works Costs

| Monitoring Programs | Costs approved by CWR | Life to Date Actuals (LTD) | Estimated to Complete (Forecast) | Total Forecast (LTD and Forecast) | Variance Total to Approved | Explanation | Corrective Action |
|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CLB MP5 White Sturgeon Annual Report | \$17,096 | \$15,782 | \$5,503 | \$21,285 | (\$4,189) | | Resubmit TOR on August 19, 2022 |
| C05M19A KIN: Sturgeon Invent | \$591,767 | \$548,372 | | \$548,372 | \$43,395 | Project complete | |
| C05M19A KIN: Sturgeon Invent - OR DM | \$47,474 | \$33,419 | | \$33,419 | \$14,055 | | |
| C05M19A KIN: Sturgeon Invent - OR Imp | \$544,293 | \$514,953 | | \$514,953 | \$29,340 | | |
| C05M20A MID COL White Sturge - ONR | \$65,316 | \$41,194 | | \$41,194 | \$24,122 | Project complete | |
| C05M20A MID COL White Sturge - ONR Imp | \$65,316 | \$41,194 | | \$41,194 | \$24,122 | | |
| C05M20A MID COL White Sturge - OR | \$313,123 | \$193,150 | | \$193,150 | \$119,973 | Project complete | |
| C05M20A MID COL White Sturge - OR DM | \$37,623 | \$24,819 | | \$24,819 | \$12,804 | | |
| C05M20A MID COL White Sturge - OR Imp | \$275,500 | \$168,331 | | \$168,331 | \$107,169 | | |
| C05M21A MID COL Juvenile Stu | \$2,466,620 | \$2,182,008 | \$284,612 | \$2,466,620 | (\$0) | | |
| C05M21A MID COL Juvenile Stu - OR DM | \$139,992 | \$113,279 | \$26,713 | \$139,992 | (\$0) | | |
| C05M21A MID COL Juvenile Stu - OR Imp | \$2,326,628 | \$2,068,729 | \$257,899 | \$2,326,628 | \$0 | | |
| C05M23A MID COL Sturgeon Egg | \$1,846,489 | \$1,564,435 | \$282,054 | \$1,846,489 | \$0 | | Requesting an extension for 2023-2025 using remaining underspend. |
| C05M23A MID COL Sturgeon Egg - OR DM | \$116,589 | \$117,130 | \$14,826 | \$131,956 | (\$15,367) | | |
| C05M23A MID COL Sturgeon Egg - OR Imp | \$1,729,900 | \$1,447,304 | \$267,228 | \$1,714,532 | \$15,368 | | |
| C05M24A MID COL Sturgeon Gen | \$94,561 | \$89,482 | \$4,995 | \$94,477 | \$84 | | |
| C05M24A MID COL Sturgeon Gen - OR DM | \$24,413 | \$8,051 | \$4,995 | \$13,046 | \$11,367 | | |
| C05M24A MID COL Sturgeon Gen - OR Imp | \$70,148 | \$81,431 | | \$81,431 | (\$11,283) | | |
| C05M25A KIN: Juv Sturg Detect | \$0 | \$1,563 | | \$1,563 | (\$1,563) | Relief granted | |
| C05M25A KIN: Juv Sturg Detect-ONR DM OS | | \$1,562 | | \$1,562 | (\$1,562) | | |
| C05M25A KIN: Juv Sturg Detect-ONR Imp OS | | | | | | | |
| C05M26A KIN: Sturg Recoloniz | \$325,523 | \$266,280 | | \$267,930 | \$57,593 | Project complete | |
| C05M26A KIN: Sturg Recoloniz - OR DM | \$51,455 | \$26,260 | \$1,650 | \$27,910 | \$23,545 | | |
| C05M26A KIN: Sturg Recoloniz - OR Imp | \$274,068 | \$240,020 | | \$240,020 | \$34,048 | | |
| C05M27A MID COL Sturg Incub | \$375,879 | \$361,272 | | \$362,922 | \$12,957 | Project complete | |
| C05M27A MID COL Sturg Incub - OR DM | \$66,570 | \$36,585 | \$1,650 | \$38,235 | \$18,335 | | |
| C05M27A MID COL Sturg Incub - OR Imp | \$319,309 | \$324,688 | | \$324,688 | (\$5,379) | | |
| C05M28A LC: Adult Sturg | \$3,483,799 | \$2,204,386 | \$946,172 | \$3,150,558 | \$333,241 | Efficiencies found during project implementation | |
| C05M28A LC: Adult Sturg - OR DM | \$422,141 | \$167,936 | \$16,052 | \$183,988 | \$238,153 | | |
| C05M28A LC: Adult Sturg - OR Imp | \$3,061,658 | \$2,036,450 | \$930,121 | \$2,966,570 | \$95,088 | | |
| C05M29A LC: Juv Sturgeon | \$3,120,256 | \$2,366,200 | \$207,916 | \$2,574,116 | \$546,140 | Efficiencies found during project implementation | |
| C05M29A LC: Juv Sturgeon - OR DM | \$218,003 | \$155,553 | \$13,836 | \$169,389 | \$48,614 | | |
| C05M29A LC: Juv Sturgeon - OR Imp | \$2,902,253 | \$2,210,648 | \$194,080 | \$2,404,728 | \$497,525 | | |
| C05M30A LC: Opportunist | \$526,741 | \$436,676 | \$41,309 | \$477,985 | \$48,756 | Efficiencies found during project implementation | |
| C05M30A LC: Opportunist - OR DM | \$131,917 | \$79,081 | \$11,309 | \$90,390 | \$41,527 | | |
| C05M30A LC: Opportunist - OR Imp | \$394,824 | \$357,595 | \$30,000 | \$387,595 | \$7,229 | | |
| C05M54A MCR Effect of Flow | \$328,107 | \$197,128 | | \$198,778 | \$129,329 | Project complete | |
| C05M54A MCR Effect of Flow - ONR DM | \$38,208 | \$18,727 | \$1,650 | \$20,377 | \$17,831 | | |
| C05M54A MCR Effect of Flow - ONR Imp | \$289,899 | \$178,401 | | \$178,401 | \$111,498 | | |
| C05W24A MID COL Expersturg | \$1,783,845 | \$1,783,948 | | \$1,783,948 | (\$103) | Project complete | |
| C05W24A MID COL Expersturg - OR DM | \$50,606 | \$23,510 | | \$23,510 | \$27,096 | | |
| C05W24A MID COL Expersturg - OR Imp | \$1,733,239 | \$1,760,335 | | \$1,760,335 | (\$27,096) | | |
| C05W25A MID COL Consr Sturg | \$3,159,806 | \$2,496,406 | \$583,794 | \$3,080,200 | \$79,606 | | Requesting an extension using underspend for 2023-2025. |
| C05W25A MID COL Consr Sturg - OR DM | \$83,368 | \$47,460 | \$10,808 | \$58,268 | \$25,100 | | |
| C05W25A MID COL Consr Sturg - OR Imp | \$3,076,438 | \$2,448,946 | \$572,986 | \$3,021,932 | \$54,506 | | |
| C05W26A MID COL Upgrd Sturg | \$585,560 | \$532,938 | | \$532,938 | \$52,622 | Project complete | |
| C05W26A MID COL Upgrd Sturg - OR DM | \$9,018 | \$6,743 | | \$6,743 | \$2,275 | | |
| C05W26A MID COL Upgrd Sturg - OR Imp | \$576,542 | \$526,194 | | \$526,194 | \$50,348 | | |
| C05W27A LC Recruitment Failure | \$6,442,707 | \$780,689 | \$5,385,957 | \$6,166,646 | \$276,061 | Efficiencies found during project implementation | |
| C05W27A LC Recruitment Failure - OR DM | \$579,664 | \$223,978 | \$232,308 | \$456,286 | \$123,378 | | |
| C05W27A LC Recruitment Failure - OR Imp | \$5,863,043 | \$556,711 | \$5,153,649 | \$5,710,360 | \$152,683 | | |
| C05W28A LC Pln Wsg Tur | \$182,520 | \$77,554 | | \$77,554 | \$104,966 | Project complete | |
| C05W28A LC Pln Wsg Tur - OR DM | \$33,304 | \$16,468 | | \$16,468 | \$16,836 | | |
| C05W28A LC Pln Wsg Tur - OR Imp | \$149,216 | \$61,086 | | \$61,086 | \$88,130 | | |
| C05W34A LC Sturg Aqua | \$2,773,383 | \$2,255,207 | \$182,830 | \$2,438,036 | \$335,347 | Efficiencies found during project implementation | |
| C05W34A LC Sturg Aqua - OR DM | \$152,467 | \$77,761 | \$9,844 | \$87,605 | \$64,862 | | |
| C05W34A LC Sturg Aqua - OR Imp | \$2,620,916 | \$2,177,445 | \$172,986 | \$2,350,431 | \$270,485 | | |

OR - Ordered Remissible
ONR - Ordered Non-Remissible

* Red values in parentheses denote overage.