

STREAMNET'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE FISH AND WILDLIFE PROGRAM

discussion paper - April 23, 1997

Desired Outcome

1. StreamNet is recognized as a vital component of the region's Fish and Wildlife Program and that it plays an especially key role in monitoring and evaluation.
2. Agreement is reached on near-term StreamNet activities related to the Program and especially M&E.

Key Considerations

1. The Council and CBFWA are in the process of developing a "Program Framework" and "Conceptual Foundation" to guide future Fish and Wildlife Program Activities. The Council has an issue paper on the subject dated April 10, 1997. Evaluation and monitoring (M&E) is a key component of this effort.
2. StreamNet (and before it, CIS) has been collecting data that can serve as the basis for an effective M&E program. However, to date, there has not been an explicit effort to identify the data that will be needed to implement M&E nor how those data could or should be applied.
3. Further, little attention has been given to determining how Program-related data management (collection/compilation/distribution) should be accomplished.
4. With completion of its technical applications strategy, StreamNet is now in a position to assume a central role in Program-wide data coordination. In addition, StreamNet data development systems are now firmly in place. In many cases we have the necessary data. Where this is not the case, we are either in the process of developing strategies for doing so, or have in place the interagency network necessary to compile new forms of data.
5. There is a perception among some Program participants that StreamNet is simply one more project, analogous to a field-level project and in competition for dollars with field-level projects. In reality, StreamNet plays a support role to projects - both providing data for these projects and serving as a means to assemble and deliver data collected through these projects.

6. We are about to prepare our FY 98 work statement. Given the above considerations, it makes sense to target the work statement at specific Program information needs.

Recommendations for the Near-term

1. Project Tracking. StreamNet should proceed with development of a project tracking system. Key elements:
 - a) System would be build upon and complement existing BPA project tracking data
 - b) System would include state, agency, and other non-Program projects (in addition to Program-funded projects)
 - c) System would include information on Program-funded project results
 - d) Project tracking data would link to other StreamNet data (production, habitat, species distribution, etc.), thus providing the basis for M&E.
 - e) System would include the capability to provide multi-project summaries for use in public information and policy briefings (example: existing dollar allocation map)
1. Service to Program Activities. StreamNet should proceed with development of a system for compiling and delivering data and reports generated through Program-funded research and restoration projects, to include:
 - b) an Internet catalog, storage, and download capability, and
 - c) reports incorporated into, and accessible from, the StreamNet library.
1. Comprehensive Data Strategy. StreamNet staff should work with the Council, BPA, the ISAB, and appropriate CBFWA committees to produce an information management strategy that can be incorporated into the Council's Framework. That strategy should include:
 - c) information support for Program projects,
 - d) maintenance of system-wide data (sub-basin planning, goals and strategies, etc.), and
 - e) providing essential data, analytical capabilities, and products for M&E.
1. Coordination. A formal mechanism should be established to ensure that StreamNet data activities meet the needs of the Program. This might include closer links to the ISAB and/or CBFWA committees, StreamNet

b) Hydropower and dams

- Facility data
- FPC data
- Fish passage (new StreamNet dataset)
- Systems operations data (new StreamNet dataset)

c) Habitat

- Stream habitat parameters (IRICC, state stream surveys)
- Analytic data (GAP, Eastside assessment, etc.)
- Flow, temperature, water quality (USGS and EPA)
- Land use risk (particularly important for ESA evaluations)

d) Harvest

- Ocean, by type
- River, by type

e) Hatcheries

- Facilities
- Stocking records

1. Species Data

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- b) providing baseline information on fish production, distribution, and other factors
 - c) providing data exchange protocols and mechanisms
 - d) preparing custom data and GIS map products for use by project participants
 - e) serving as a repository for data and reports prepared through these projects

3. Research Projects

- a) providing baseline information on fish production, distribution, etc.
- b) serving as a repository for data and reports

Management							
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2. Additional Funding Sources. StreamNet potentially serves the needs of others in addition to the Fish and Wildlife program. A concerted effort should be made to secure commitments for shared funding from others who benefit. The Council and CBFWA should take the lead in this, with active support from StreamNet staff. An effort should be made to secure some funding for FY 98 though out-years hold greater promise for long-term commitments.

Other federal beneficiaries include (in order of need and priority) NMFS, USFS and BLM, EPA, USFWS, and USGS. The states and tribes also benefit though it is less likely that funds can be obtained from those sources. A policy should also be developed regarding cost-recovery for products, especially when these benefit private interests.