



**Northwest Power and
Conservation Council**

Columbia River Basin

Protected Areas and Hydroelectricity Development

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The Columbia River Basin



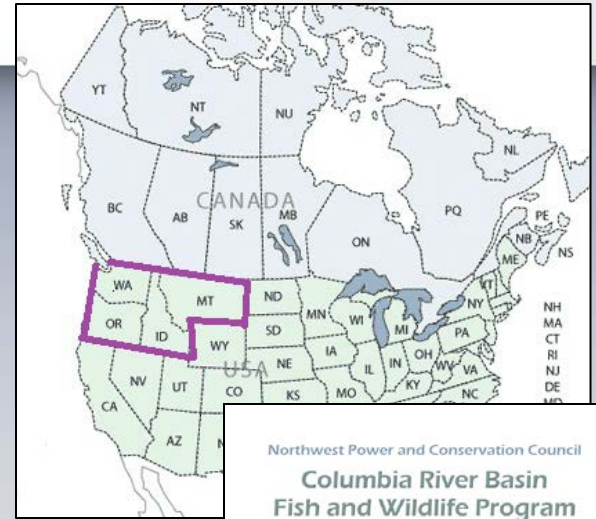
- Complex, large international watershed
- Diversity of ecosystems
- Diversity of native fish
- More than 300 Hydropower Projects
- Generates about 142,000 GW-hours per year, supplying about 11.8 million homes/year.



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- 1980 federal Northwest Power Act enacted by U.S. Congress
- Interstate compact agency
- Protect, mitigate, and enhance fish, wildlife, and habitat affected by hydroelectric projects ... while assuring the Northwest region an adequate, efficient, economical, and reliable power supply.
- In 2013 funded USD\$ 239 million in projects



Northwest Power and Conservation Council
**Columbia River Basin
Fish and Wildlife Program**



**Sixth Northwest Conservation
and Electric Power Plan**

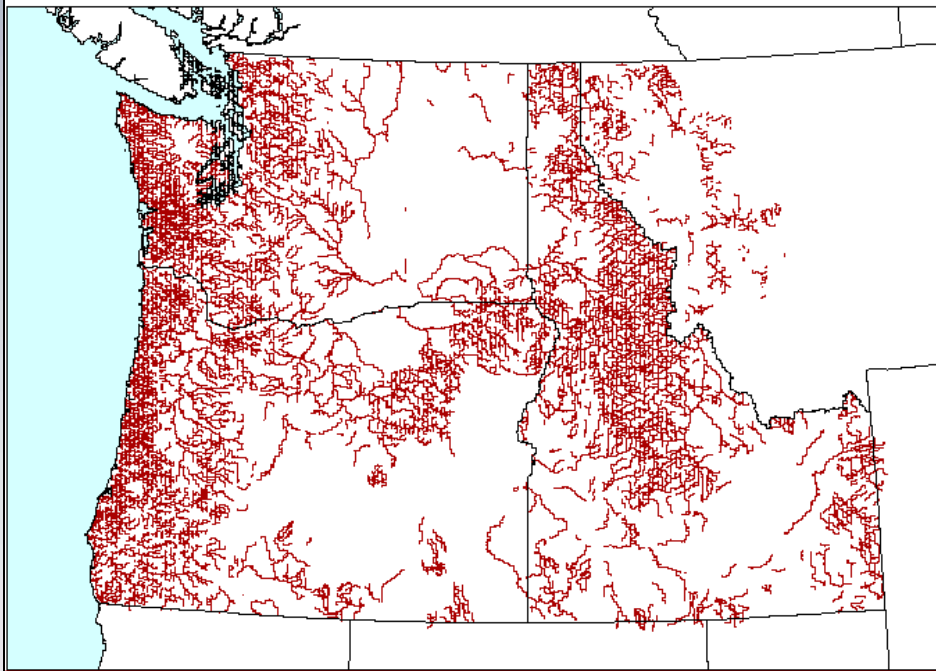


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Protected Areas and New Hydropower Projects

Protected Areas



- Informed by extensive studies
- Unacceptable risks of loss to fish and wildlife species of concern, their productive capacity, or their habitat
- 70,811 stream kilometers protected in the four states since 1988
- Standards to apply to the development and licensing of new hydropower facilities



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For location of protected areas see
<http://www.streamnet.org/ProtectedAreas.html>

Keys to Success....

- Integrating fish and wildlife policies with hydropower generation policies during decision making process
- Amending policies through a public process
- Independent scientific review of fish and wildlife projects
- Regular check-ins of the adequacy of the region's power supply
- Applying a long-term perspective



Council members at work with the staff in Spokane April 9



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Questions?



“ If the conversation is not about fish and justice, about electricity and ways of life, about production and nature, about beauty as well as efficiency, and about how these things are inseparable in our own tangled lives, then we have not come to terms with our history of this river.”

(Richard White, 1995)



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Info on NPCC’s Power Plan & Fish and Wildlife Program: www.nwcouncil.org
Info on the basin’s fish and wildlife: <http://www.nwcouncil.org/ext/dashboard/>
Info on Hydro passage: <http://www.salmonrecovery.gov/>