



OVERVIEW & UPDATE

PRESENTED BY
ANTHONY PEÑA

PNWA Background

Snake River Dams

- Overview
- Updates
- Next Steps

Questions?



PNWA Background

PACIFIC NORTHWEST WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION

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**Collaborative advocacy to
support ports, waterways,
and related industries in the
Pacific Northwest**

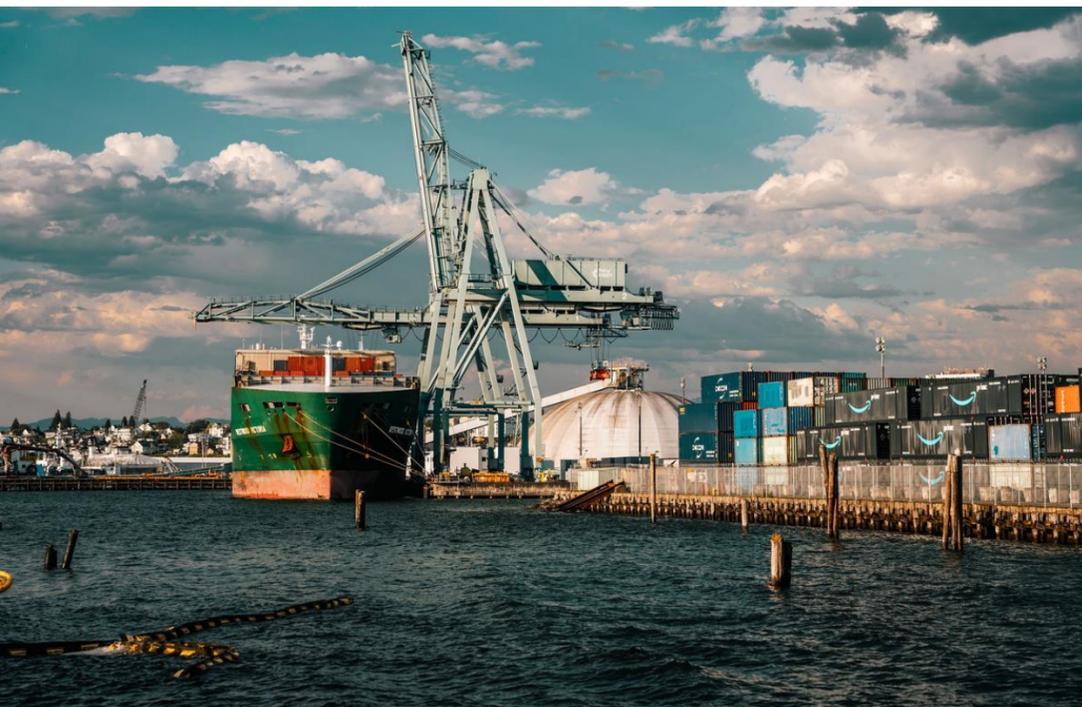


AREAS OF ENGAGEMENT



**PACIFIC NORTHWEST
WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION**

Deep Draft Navigation



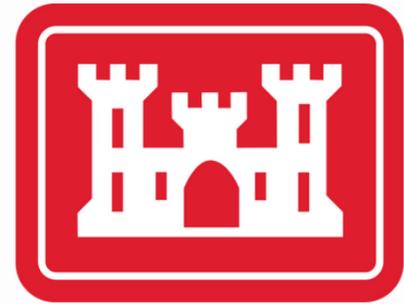
Inland Navigation



Small Ports



FEDERAL PARTNERSHIPS



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Portland, Walla Walla, Seattle Districts

Northwestern Division

Headquarters in DC

Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) – Pentagon



Congress

Northwest House & Senate Delegations (District & DC)

House & Senate Energy & Water Appropriations Subcommittees

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee (T&I)

Senate Environment & Public Works Committee (EPW)



White House

Office of Management & Budget (OMB)

CEQ



INLAND PORTS & NAVIGATION GROUP (IPNG)

”

Striving to protect inland navigation, hydropower, and irrigation on the Columbia Snake River System, while supporting a healthy environment and robust fish runs in the Northwest.





Snake River Dams

OVERVIEW

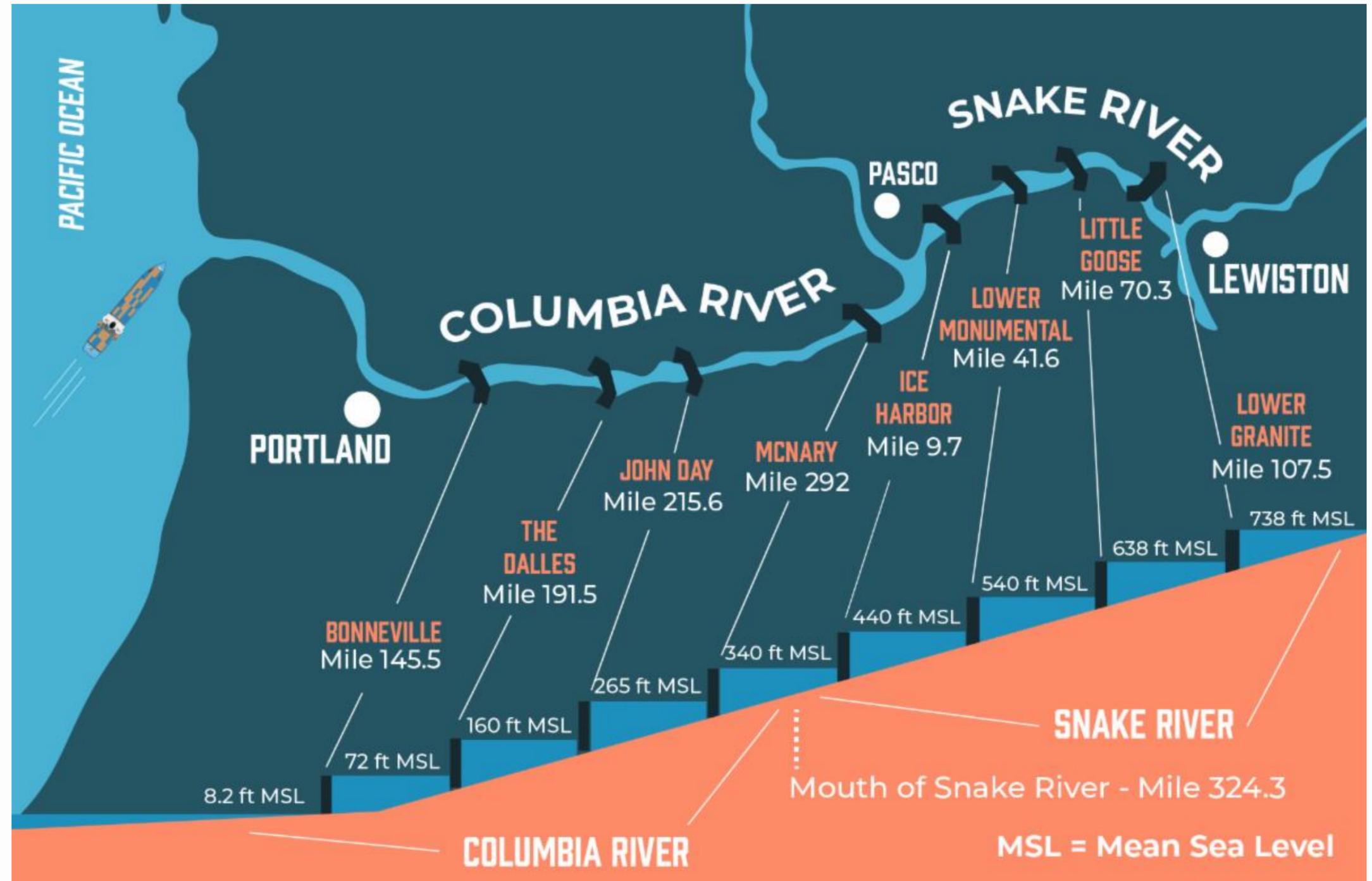
THE RIVER SYSTEM

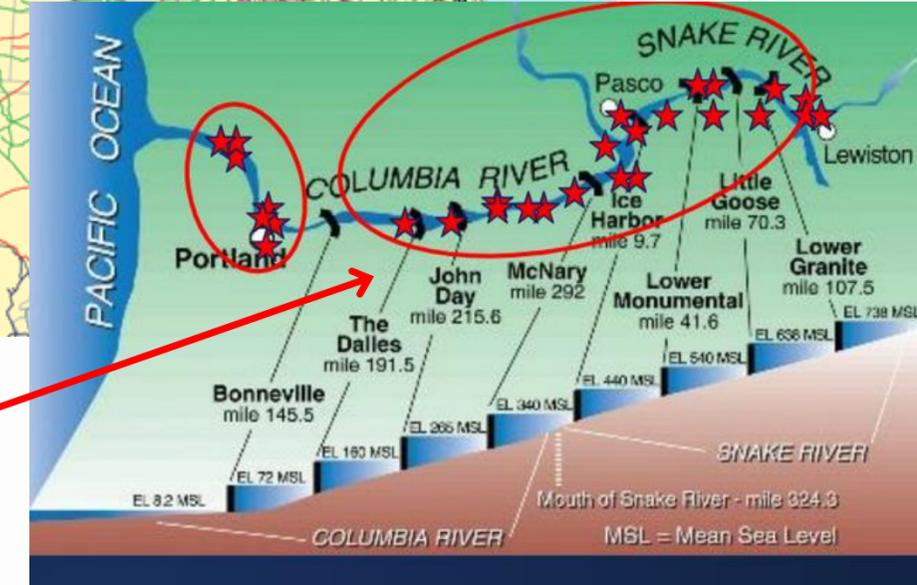
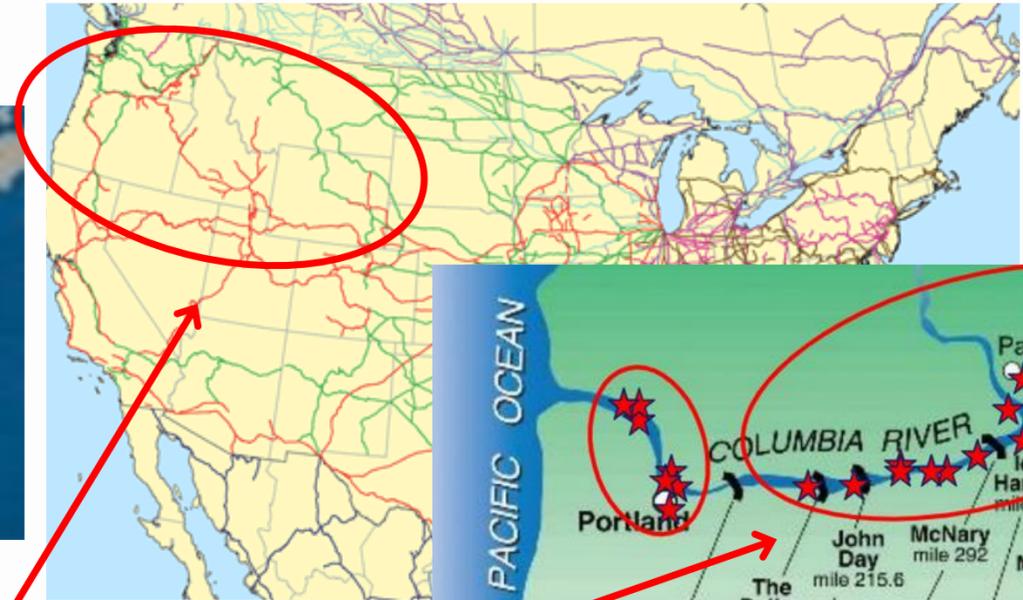
Deep Draft Portion

Astoria to Portland, Oregon
110 miles long
43 ft. deep
51 million tons of cargo

Inland System

Portland, Oregon to Lewiston, Idaho
365 miles long
14 ft. deep
8 lock & dams
8.5 million tons of cargo





RAIL BARGE

TRADE GATEWAY

- #1 Largest Wheat Export Gateway in the U.S.**
- #2 Largest Soy Export Gateway in the U.S.**
- #3 Largest Grain Export Gateway in the World**

GRAIN ON THE RIVER

A Multimodal Transportation Corridor



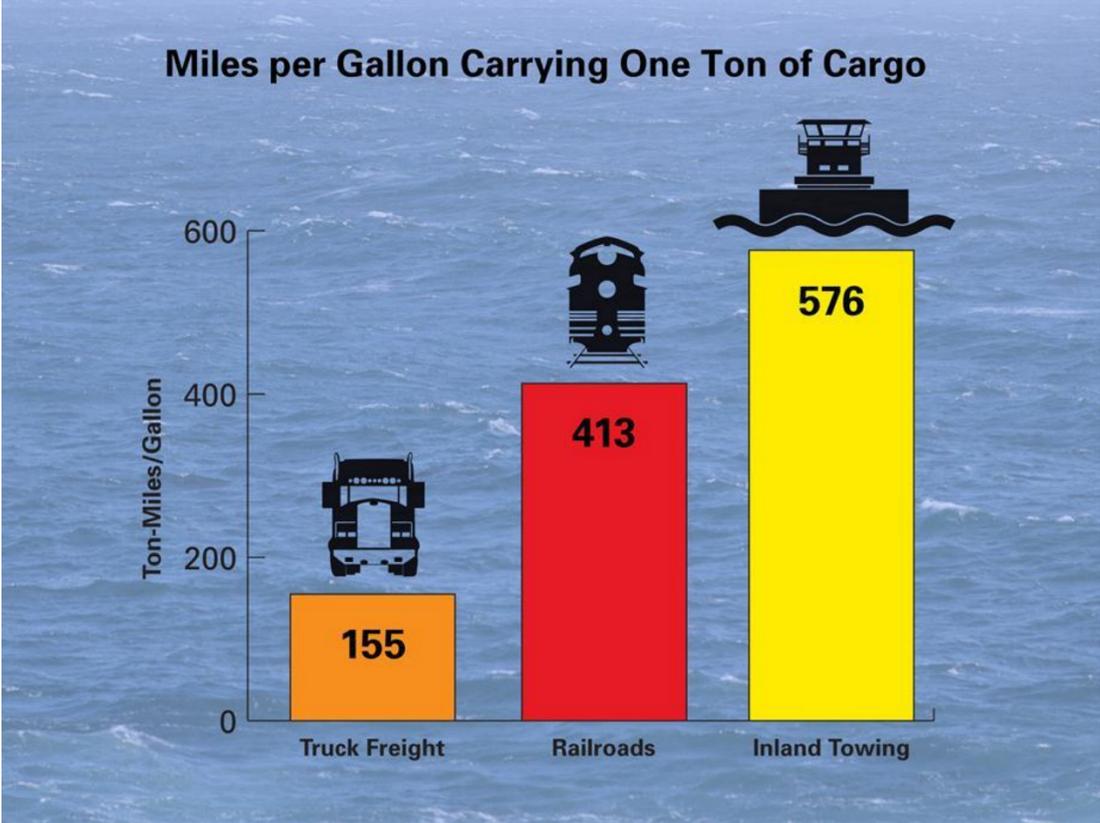
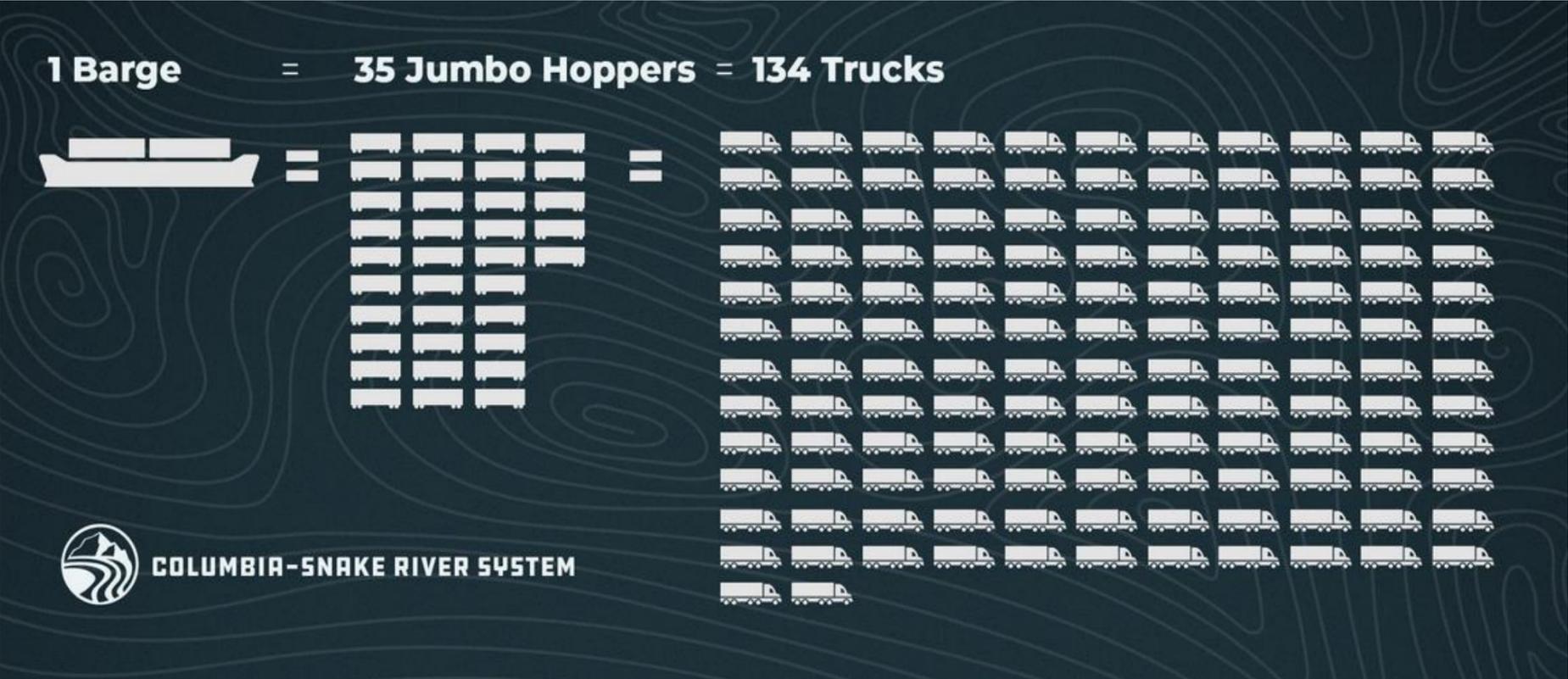
TRANSPORTATION BENEFITS

Benefits of Barging

4,216,000 tons by barge

OR

42,160 rail cars or 162,153 semi-trucks worth of cargo moved on just the Snake River in 2020



IRRIGATION BENEFITS

Within 67,000 acres of irrigated land, there are enough apples grown to feed 18.5 million people annually, sweet corn that can sustain 19 million people, and enough potatoes to feed 6.5 million.



CRSO EIS MEDIATION & LITIGATION

- 2020 Plan for River Operations
- Biden Administration & plaintiffs negotiate stay and mediation
- Snake River Dam breaching on the table
- Inland Ports and Navigation Group (IPNG) – subset of PNWA
 - 31 organizations from Washington, Oregon & Idaho
 - Intervener status in CRSO EIS and Snake River dredging



EARTHJUSTICE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - Fishing, Conservation Groups Take Step to Renew Legal Challenge

October 23, 2020

Media Contacts:

Maggie Caldwell, mcaldwell@earthjustice.org; <mailto:mcaldwell@earthjustice.org>; (347) 527-6397
Brett VandenHeuvel, bv@columbiariverkeeper.org; <mailto:bv@columbiariverkeeper.org>; (503)348-2436

Fishing, Conservation Groups Take Step to Renew Legal Challenge to Columbia-Snake Hydropower Operations

The long legal battle continues after latest federal plan fails to restore endangered salmon

Portland, OR – Today, Earthjustice on behalf of a coalition of fishing and conservation groups sent a 60-day notice of their intent to return to court to challenge the latest federal plan for hydropower operations on the Snake and Columbia Rivers.

This would be the sixth incarnation of a long legal fight focused on restoring endangered salmon and steelhead. The groups sending the notice have won the previous five challenges but the Trump administration continues to pursue



DONATE NOW

NEWSLETTER SIGNUP

TAKE ACTION NOW!



WHAT IS THE SCIENCE?

CRSO EIS	NOAA Policy Document
4 year process, \$40 million Broad stakeholder outreach, 59,000 public comments	?
Detailed list of preparers with both private and government experience	Undisclosed authorship, Plaintiff input
Looks at salmon recovery in the context of managing other authorized purposes of the projects	Salmon lens only, no consideration of other authorized purposes
Recognizes scientific uncertainty of delayed mortality	Adopts delayed mortality theory as basis for dam breach argument
No dam breaching recommendation	Dam breaching recommendation



Snake River Dams

UPDATES



CURRENT MEDIATION

Not your typical mediation...

WHO ARE THE PLAYERS?

WHAT ARE THE RULES?

WHAT ARE THE GOALS?

PNWA APPROACH

PARTIPATE IN GOOD FAITH

IDENTIFY COLLABORATION

ENGANGE WITH ALL AGENCIES



IMPACTS OF DAM BREACHING

The breaching and related mitigation costs of four Lower Snake River Dams are conservatively expected to range from \$10.3 to \$31.3 billion

Social Justice Impacts

Communities dependent on Snake River are older and have higher rates of poverty, unemployment, disabilities, asthma

Economic Impacts

Removal of the locks is likely to bankrupt thousands of farms as they attempt to change their freight distribution network

Transportation Impacts

Complete loss of ability to Barge for our inland system, requiring billions to be spent on new and improved highways and rail

Climate Impacts

Shifting commodity flows from barge to truck and rail will result in over 1 million tons of harmful emissions annually

INVESTING IN PROVEN SOLUTIONS FOR SALMON

Comprehensive Columbia Basin-wide approach to salmon recovery that includes proven solutions like...



**Habitat Restoration
& Reintroduction**



Hatcheries



**Predator Abatement
& Harvest Reductions**



**Climate
& Ocean Research**

September 21, 2023

P2IP Investment by Biden Administration

- The Administration announced a \$200 million dollar investment in the Upper Columbia River Basin for the Upper Columbia Tribes' Phase Two Implementation Program
- P2IP is an effort to study and test the feasibility of restoring salmon to the Upper Columbia River basin above Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee Dams
- The P2IP program will specifically conduct and implement these studies so that EDA-listed salmon will not be introduced into the blocked area, nor would these require major operational changes to the hydrosystem such as power production, flood control, or irrigation, or reduce salmon harvest

September 27, 2023

Presidential Memorandum

- The Biden Administration has set a new policy objective of achieving a standard of “healthy and abundant” fish populations in the Columbia River Basin
- Relevant federal agencies must *“operate, manage, and regulate the CRS to adequately protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the Federal dams in the Basin in a manner that provides equitable treatment for fish and wildlife with the other purposes for which the Federal dams are managed and operated.”*
- These agencies must review programs related to salmon, steelhead, and native fish populations within the Basin for consistency with the policy within 120 days, and within 220 days, agencies must provide an assessment of programs' resource needs to advance the policy's goals

October 31, 2023

The current stay in litigation was set to expire the week of October 31.

On October 30, the Federal Government filed a notice that they anticipate the approval and conferral process between all parties to take 45 days, set for December 15, 2023.

The US Government and Six Sovereigns have sent a document of actions and commitments to all parties for review and conferral.



Snake River Dams

NEXT STEPS

CONGRESS

Congressional Authorized



COMMUNICATIONS & COLLABORATION



IT'S OUR RIVER SYSTEM
Keep the Columbia-Snake River System balanced for fish, farmers, energy needs, and communities.
[GET INVOLVED ▶](#)

IT'S HER COLUMBIA-SNAKE RIVER SYSTEM
Supporting clean energy and jobs for a bright future
[JOIN US ▶](#)

River Values

The River Values campaign aims to support targeted communications and government relations efforts focused on advocating for preserving and maintaining the Snake River dams.



RIVER BALANCE

AGRICULTURE
Irrigation and municipal water supply from the Columbia and Snake rivers supports hundreds of communities and farms in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.

HYDROPOWER
The system provides us with a clean, reliable source of renewable power: hydroelectricity.

SALMON
Federal, state, tribal, and other partners work together to balance the river system by protecting and restoring hundreds of miles of stream and riparian habitat.

NAVIGATION
The Pacific Northwest is one of the nation's top export regions thanks to our working waterways.

Looking into this year in 2023 and 2024, we are ramping up our campaign by:

- **Launching a new monthly newsletter**
- **Partner toolkits & resources**
- **New physical and digital ads**
- **Identifying collaborative opportunities on salmon recovery**

COLUMBIA SNAKE RIVER SYSTEM

A healthy river is a healthy economy

A WORD FROM IDAHO'S ONLY SEAPORT - 740 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL

Hear from Port of Lewiston Commissioner Joe Anderson

Port of Lewiston Commissioner Joseph Anderson has a long, multigenerational connection to the Columbia Snake River System. "Family farming is deeply ingrained in our community—my father, my daughter and I have all hauled wheat that shipped down the Snake River."

With the introduction of barging in Lewiston, grain shipments increased in speed, capacity, and reliability and allowed the local economy to flourish in new ways.

"The construction of Lower Granite Dam opened up opportunities that just weren't possible before."



RIVER VALUES CAMPAIGN
4224 NE HALSEY ST, SUITE 325
PORTLAND, OR
WWW.RIVERVALUES.COM

COURTROOM



October 22, 2020

VIA FEDEX

Dan Brouillette
Secretary of U.S. Department of the Interior
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20460



July 21, 2023

VIA U.S. CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon
Commanding General and Chief of Engineers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters
441 G Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

Lt. Col. ShaiLin KingSlack
District Commander and Engineer
Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
201 North 3rd Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

Re: Sixty-Day Notice of Intent to Seek Removal of Lower Snake River Dams

Dear U.S. Army Corps of Engineers:

Columbia Riverkeeper, Idaho Conservation League, Idaho Rivers United, and the Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association provide 60 days notice of our intent to sue the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) for causing hot water conditions that kill and injure Snake River sockeye salmon in violation of the Endangered Species Act. To remedy these violations,

RE: Regarding Impacts of Columbia River System Operations on Threatened and Endangered Species

Dear Sirs and Madam:

This letter provides notice of intent to sue the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps"), the Bureau of Reclamation ("BOR") and the Bonneville Power Administration ("BPA") (collectively the "Action Agencies") for violations of § 7 and § 9 of the Endangered

THANK YOU



QUESTIONS?