

The Northwest Power Act

Collaborative Regional Policymaking
For Energy and the Environment

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The Columbia River Basin



A River of Commerce

- A major river
- Early impressions
- Modern uses



River of Salmon

- Abundance
- Importance
- Decline
- Causes

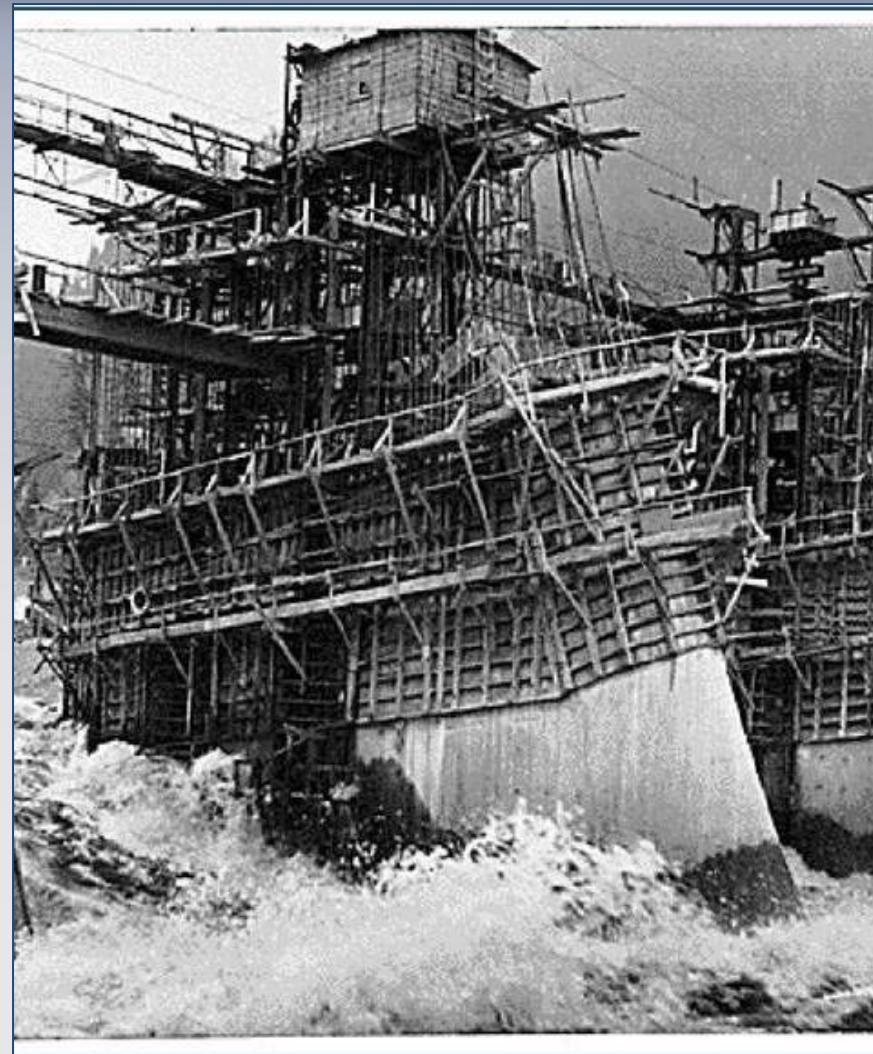


Columbia River cannery floor, late 1800s

Dam It

1932: U.S. Army plan:

- “Greatest system”
- Multiple dams
- Federal policy



‘Servant of the People’

- New Deal
- Rural electrification
- Jobs
- Power at cost
- A legacy begins



Bonneville Dam dedication
September 28, 1937

A Working River

- Hydropower
- Flood control
- Navigation
- Irrigation
- Recreation
- Fish Passage



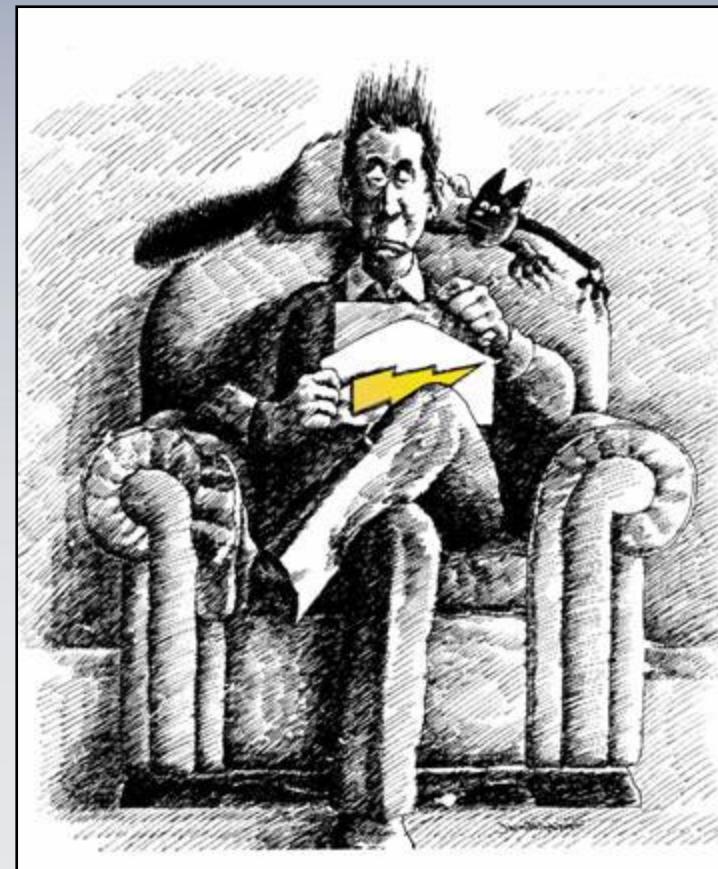
From Too Much to Not Enough

- Regional growth
- Limited hydropower
- Preserve low-cost
- Hydro-thermal Power Program
- WPPSS

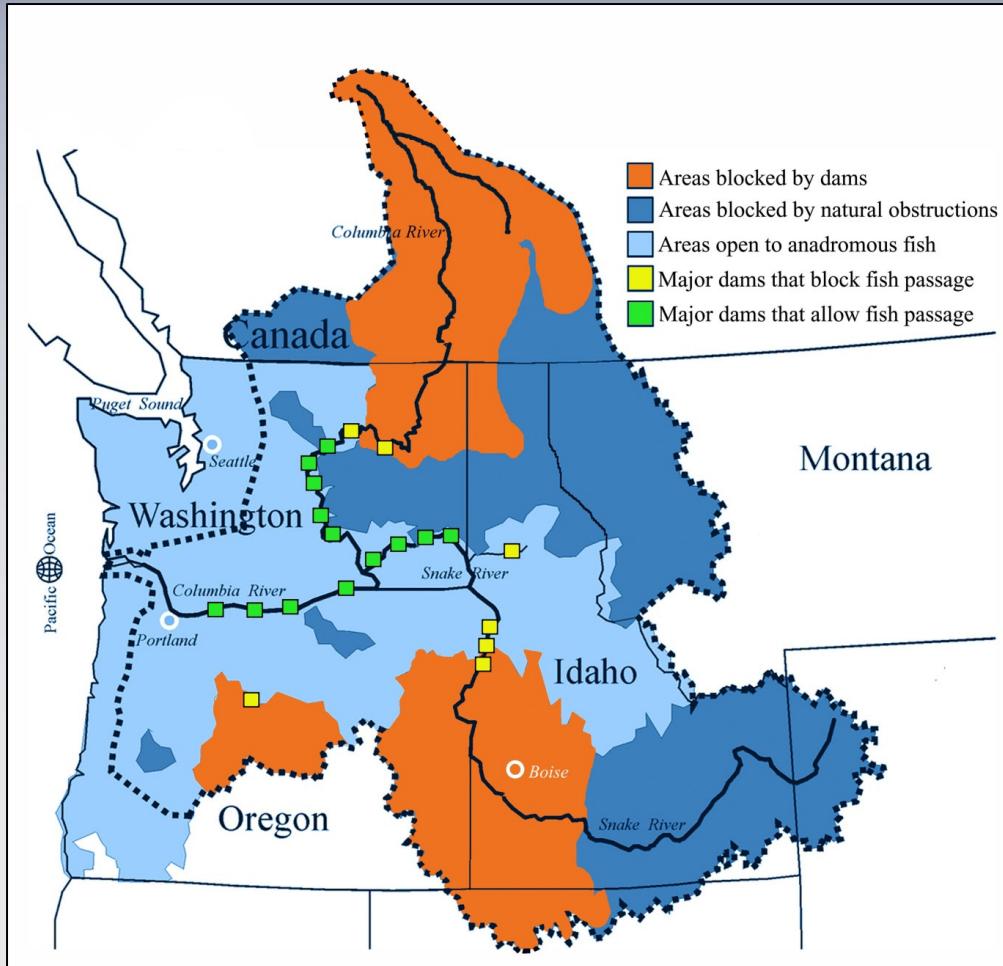


Disaster

- Uncompleted plants
- BPA: 600-percent rate hike
- Ratepayers revolt
- Conservation vs. generation
- \$7 billion bond default
- BPA: Plants 1, 2 & 3



Accessible and Blocked Habitat



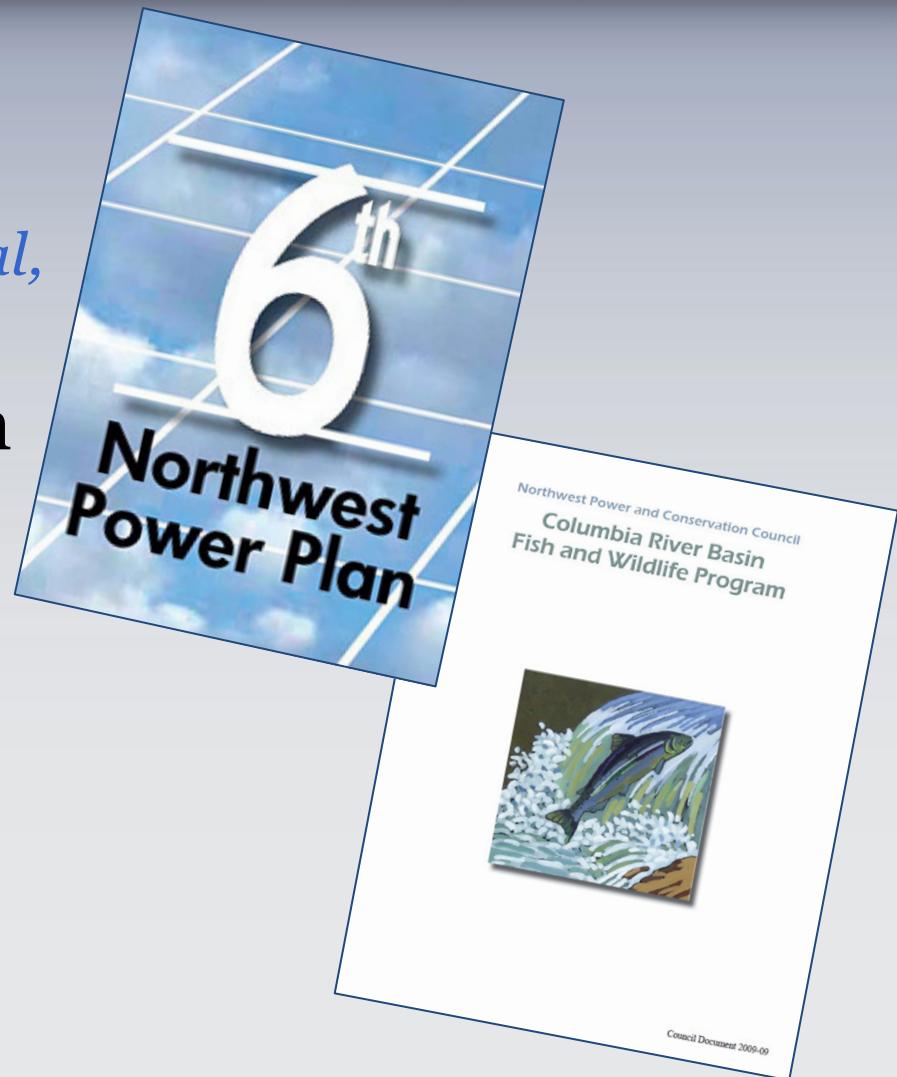
Northwest Power Act, 1980

- A new idea
- Interstate compact
 - 20-year plan
 - Energy conservation
 - BPA role
 - Fish and wildlife
 - Public involvement



Council Plan and Program

- Power Plan:
 - *Adequate, efficient, economical, reliable*
- Fish & Wildlife Program
 - *Protect, mitigate, enhance*
- Public involvement
- Revise every five years



'Sustainability is a Systems Problem'

Power Act, Section 2 (purposes):

- Participation and consultation
- Facilitate orderly planning
- Provide environmental quality
- Protect, mitigate, and enhance
- Spawning grounds, too



'Social, Economic, Environmental Dimensions of Sustainability'

Power Act (Section 2, Purposes):

- ‘Suitable environmental conditions’
- Obtainable from FCRPS
- Dams and habitat
- Role of agencies and tribes
- Plus offsite mitigation



'Tradeoffs, Synergies, Benefits'

Regional energy planning

- Open, public, collaborative
- Low-cost resources
- Energy efficiency focus
- Protect fish and wildlife
- Monitor cost and progress
- Address multiple goals



Questions?

