



2010 FISH FACTS

Costs of Fish & Wildlife Actions and Rate Impact

- **Total cost of BPA Fish & Wildlife actions since inception (1978-2009):** approximately **\$11 billion.**ⁱ
- **Annual BPA Fish & Wildlife costs:** BPA's fish and wildlife costs vary year to year due to a number of factors including water conditions, program requirements and energy markets.
 - In 2009, fish and wildlife costs were **\$745.3 million (\$383.1 million** in foregone revenue and power purchases and **\$362.1 million** in program expenses) with an **additional \$163.7 million** in capital investment.ⁱⁱ
 - In 2010, spill at the Lower Snake projects during the month of August when a small number of juveniles are passing is projected to cost **\$10 million.**ⁱⁱⁱ
- **Impact on BPA power rate:** Fish and wildlife costs account for approximately **one-third** of BPA's wholesale.^{iv}

Status of Salmon Runs

- **Which Runs are protected?** Most populations of salmon and steelhead on the West coast of the contiguous U.S. are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Many populations in Canada are also depressed. Thirteen sub-populations, or "runs", of Columbia River fish are listed as threatened or endangered under the ESA. Nine runs occur in the mainstem Columbia and Willamette Rivers and four in the Snake River. Some of these ESA-listed runs occur primarily below the federal hydrosystem.
- **2009 Results:** Adult returns for coho, steelhead and sockeye were all above 10-year averages, some reaching record levels.^v
- **2010 Forecast:** The forecast for adult returns in 2010 is mixed due to the impact of ocean conditions on different runs of salmon. Columbia River spring chinook, fall chinook and steelhead are expected to have above average returns. Ocean conditions may not have had as favorable an impact on other runs of salmon. Coho salmon are expected to return in about half of the record numbers observed last year. These fish return to tributaries primarily below the federal hydrosystem.^{vi}

Status of Biological Opinion and Implementation of Actions

- **Current Biological Opinion:** NOAA Fisheries issued the BiOp in 2008 and supplemented it in September 2009 with the Adaptive Management Implementation Plan (AMIP). The National Wildlife Federation, the State of Oregon and the Nez Perce tribe have challenged it in U.S. District Court. In February 2010, Judge Redden ordered a 3-month voluntary remand for NOAA-F to incorporate the AMIP into the BiOp.

- **Implementation of the 2008 BiOp and AMIP is ongoing** even as it being challenged in District Court, including funding for over 100 tribal projects and preparation of a plan for the study of breaching the Lower Snake River dams.

For the foreseeable future, salmon and steelhead mitigation in the Northwest will continue to be one of the largest wildlife recovery efforts in history. PPC remains committed to cost-effective, science-based approaches to ensure ratepayers funds committed to the important endeavor produce measureable results.

ⁱ *NW Power and Conservation Council's Eighth Annual Report to the Northwest Governors on Expenditures of the Bonneville Power Administration; August 2009*

ⁱⁱ *Bonneville Power Administration (information provided to customers)*

ⁱⁱⁱ *Id.*

^{iv} *NW Power and Conservation Council's Eighth Annual Report to the Northwest Governors on Expenditures of the Bonneville Power Administration; August 2009*

^v *Columbia River DART* <http://www.cbr.washington.edu/dart/adult.html>

^{vi} *2010 Joint Staff Report: Stock Status and Fisheries for Spring Chinook, Summer Chinook, Sockeye, Steelhead, and Other Species, and Miscellaneous Regulations Joint Columbia River Management Staff, ODFW and WDFW. U.S. v Oregon Technical Advisory Committee Sub-group memo dated, February 19, 2010 and NOAA-F Ocean indicators website* <http://www.nwfsc.noaa.gov/research/divisions/fed/oejp/g-forecast.cfm>. WDFW News Release on 2010 Fisheries dated April 15, 2010