Quick Overview

- The cost of BPA’s Fish & Wildlife (F&W) program is 17% of the Tier 1 rate, and increases to about 25% of the Tier 1 rate when the cost of lost generation due to spill is included.
- BPA’s F&W program funds a wide variety of programs including passage improvements, habitat, hatchery production, predation management, and scientific study and monitoring.
- The F&W program is funded by BPA ratepayers, informed by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, and largely implemented by states and tribes.
- The F&W program has provided many tangible accomplishments to help fish, though there remains room for improvement in efficiency and focus.

How BPASpends $1 of Power Revenue

As shown below, 17% of BPA’s Tier 1 rate revenue goes towards funding its F&W program. After including the cost of lost inventory due to spill to support fish and wildlife, the cost of BPA’s F&W program increases to about one-quarter of the Tier 1 rate, assuming continuation of the 2018 Injunctive Spill regime. (Source: BPA)
BPA’s F&W Program Costs

More than half of BPA’s F&W program funds are spent on direct F&W projects in the Columbia Basin, including habitat restoration, hatcheries, land acquisitions, predator control and research and evaluation. The remainder of BPA’s F&W program funds are spent on interest, amortization and depreciation of capital investments; operations and maintenance for federally-owned hatcheries and fish passage improvements; power purchases for when dams are operated to protect fish; and forgone hydropower sales revenue that results from dam operations to protect migrating fish but reduce hydropower generation. This rest of document focuses on the allocation of the “Direct F&W Program” funds, which exceed $250M annually.

Source: 2018 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Costs Report
DIRECT F&W PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

The following charts show the distribution of direct F&W program expenditures by different metrics. Note: The data embed in the direct F&W costs an amount of obligations to capital projects, so the data do not exactly match the direct F&W program costs found in BPA’s Integrated Program Review.

By Recipient, Average (FY 2012-2018)

The chart below shows the average annual amount of direct F&W funding each recipient received from FY 2012-2018.

Federal 11%
ID 6%
MT 1%
OR 5%
WA 4%
Tribes 42%
Land Acq. 9%
Other 22%

($000s)
Federal $32,569
ID $16,973
MT $2,970
OR $14,216
WA $11,324
Tribes $119,062
Land Acq. $26,264
Other $61,736
TOTAL $285,114

The largest sub-recipients are shows in parentheses:
• Federal (BPA overhead, NOAA, USFWS)
• Idaho (IDFW)
• Montana (MFWP)
• Oregon (ODFW)
• Washington (WDFW)
• Tribes (Yakama, Colville, Nez Perce)
• Land Acquisitions
• Other (private/non-profit/other, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission)
By Recipient, Annual

The charts below show the trend of funding by recipient over time. For each recipient, the annual funding for 2012-2018 is shown; the average annual is shown last and is highlighted in yellow. Note: the y-axis scale changes between the two charts.
Allocation of F&W Program Costs by Recipient, Including Land Acquisitions

The chart below shows FY 2018 data only and allocates the Land Acquisitions funding to the recipient. For example, in FY 2018, $10M of Land Acquisitions went to MFWP, so the funding to Montana is increased. The chart also delineates which recipients signed the 2018 Accords.

Sources: NWPCC Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Costs Report and BPA