

Contact: Glenn Vanselow, Executive Director, PNWA  
503-234-8551 direct  
503-804-2663 mobile  
[glenn.vanselow@pnwa.net](mailto:glenn.vanselow@pnwa.net)



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### **PNWA supports salmon BiOp in new lawsuit**

Environmental groups filed a lawsuit today to prevent implementation of the new salmon Biological Opinion (BiOp), which was released May 5<sup>th</sup>.

"We expect the region and, ultimately, the court to embrace this new BiOp. It is time to end the lawsuits and get to work on fish recovery", said Glenn Vanselow, executive director of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association. "The new BiOp does more to help recover Endangered Species Act-listed fish than any set of actions this region has undertaken before", he said. "The main shortcoming of previous BiOps, lack of certainty about habitat improvements, has been resolved through agreements with the region's Tribes."

The new BiOp meets ESA requirements in three ways:

- 1) The new BiOp provides more funding to rebuild fish runs. Hundreds of millions of dollars in new programs and projects will complement the ongoing investment in existing programs that have already demonstrated significant survival benefits.
- 2) The new BiOp provides more certainty for the needed funding. Congress is an important funding source, but additional funds from regional ratepayers provided through BPA will ensure that the money will be there when it is needed for river operations and on-the-ground projects.
- 3) The new BiOp strengthens collaboration among the federal agencies, states and tribes. That will lead to new partnerships, more cooperation and, ultimately, more success in reaching fish recovery goals.

PNWA is the voice of navigation, trade and economic development interests from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and northern California. Members include public ports, navigation, international trade, tourism, agriculture, forest products, energy and state and local government interests. PNWA also represents the Inland Ports and Navigation Group, comprised of ports from Oregon, Washington and Idaho, towboat companies, and shippers of maritime cargo from agriculture and the forest products industry. IPNG is an intervenor in the BiOp lawsuit. You can learn more about PNWA at [www.pnwa.net](http://www.pnwa.net).

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ph. 503-234-8550 • f. 503-234-8555 • 9115 SW Oleson Road • Suite 101 • Portland, OR 97223