



## PACIFIC NORTHWEST WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **PNWA reacts to Record of Decision for Columbia River System Operations Environmental Impact Statement**

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and Bonneville Power Administration yesterday issued the Record of Decision for the [Columbia River System Operations Environmental Impact Statement](#).

The Record of Decision documents that the agencies have selected and will implement the Preferred Alternative identified in the final Environmental Impact Statement issued on July 31, 2020, to accomplish the multiple purposes of the 14 Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation dams on the Columbia Snake River System while complying with relevant environmental laws and regulations.

The dams provide hydropower, navigation, irrigation, flood risk management, recreation, and municipal and industrial water supply for the region, while also providing important benefits for the ongoing recovery of endangered species like salmon.

Pacific Northwest Waterways Association Executive Director Kristin Meira made the following statement in response:

“As we face the dangers of more intense fires and marine habitat degradation driven by climate change, the Columbia Snake River System and its many benefits are more important than ever. Salmon, orcas and other wildlife are threatened by climate change impacts on marine environments, just as humans are threatened by fire and drought. The clean power and efficient commerce provided by the system’s hydroelectric dams and navigation locks are key to our region’s ability to reduce our carbon footprint – one of the most important steps in the fight against climate change. We are pleased to see that the Record of Decision supports a more sustainable future while keeping the river system strong and balanced for all needs.”

For more information on the clean energy, efficient transportation, farm irrigation, fish passage and other benefits of the Columbia-Snake River System, visit [www.pnwa.net/rivervalues](http://www.pnwa.net/rivervalues).

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*The Pacific Northwest Waterways Association is a non-profit, non-partisan trade association of ports, businesses, public agencies and individuals who support navigation, energy, trade and economic development throughout the region. Learn more at [www.pnwa.net](http://www.pnwa.net).*