

Envisioning the Future 2019 Resevelt Conference

FALL 2019

Getting to Know Reardan High School Students Communications & Water Resource Governance Lake Roosevelt Water Festival National Park Service 4 *Updates* Grand Coulee Third Power Plant Overhaul Update 4 The Fight Against Invasive Species Fish, Mussel and Crayfish Advisories 5-6 EPA Remedial Investigation **Updates** Draft Human Health Risk Assessment Can Lake Roosevelt and Banks Lake Make New

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Tuesday, November 19

REGISTER NOW AT WWW.LRF.ORG/CONFERENCE

9:00 - 9:45 Morning Refreshments and Welcome 9:45 - 10:30 PLENARY

Building Resiliency in an Age of Uncertainty

10:30 - 10:45 Break

10:45 - 12:15 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

• Defining the Role of EcoSystem Function: Transboundary Perspectives

• Columbia River Water and Fish Connections

• The Cultural Connection

12:15 - 1:15 Lunch

1:15 - 2:45 **PLENARY**

Columbia River Treaty: Transboundary Perspectives

The Power Equation

Discussion Panel

2:45 - 3:00 Break

3:00 - 4:30 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

• Upper Columbia Invasive Species: The Fight to Stop and Suppress

• Lake Roosevelt and Columbia Basin Development

Hydropower Energy Markets and a Zero Carbon Future

5:00 - 6:30 Reception

Wednesday, November 20

8:00 - 9:00 Morning Refreshments and Welcome 9:00 - 9:25 Plight of Southern Resident Killer Whales 9:25 - 10:30 U.S. Upper Columbia Salmon Reintroduction 10:30 - 10:45 Break 10:45 - 11:30 Canadian Columbia Salmon Reintroduction 11:30 - 12:00 Discussion Panel 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch 1:00 - 2:00 Upper Columbia Human Health Risk Assessment Community Perspectives 2:00 - 2:15 Break 2:15 - 3:30 Lightning Round Updates White Sturgeon Recovery

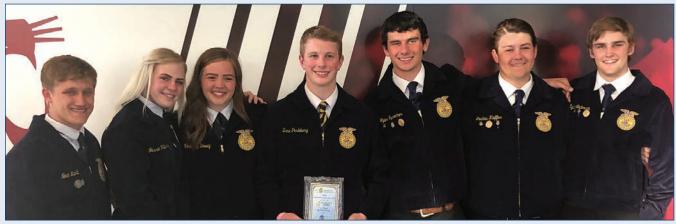
Lake Roosevelt Fishery

Grand Coulee Dam

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area

• Canadian Local Governments Committee

Getting to Know Reardan High School Students



Future Farmers of America Students from Reardan High School

Seven Reardan High School FFA (Future Farmers of America) students will bring the plight of the Southern Resident Killer Whales front and center at the conference the morning of November 20th.

In a fast-paced, 15-minute presentation, students will present the pros and cons of whether and how much to invest in orca recovery, including recommendations set forth by the Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force appointed by Governor Inslee. Said their teacher Rick Perleberg, "The students have invested hundreds of hours in research and preparation. That includes 16 presentations to community groups, agencies and elected officials."

And all their work has paid off!! In May they won the Washington State FAA competition. Now they're off to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis this October.

"In 2016," said Forum Executive Director Andy Dunau, "the students went to nationals and then presented at the conference on the subject of Salmon Reintroduction.

Frankly, they stole the show. There's something remarkable and comforting about seeing impeccably prepared and poised teenagers take a deep dive into the science and policies of such a complex and emotionally-charged issue."

This spring, five orca recovery bills addressing recommendations from the task force became law. They include a focus on protecting orcas from vessel noise and traffic, improving the safety of oil transportation through the Salish Sea, and increasing fish forage habitat and Chinook salmon for the orca's food source.

As Chinook are one of the species being investigated for reintroduction to the Upper Columbia, Lake Roosevelt once again finds itself at ground zero of a basin-wide debate. "That's also why the team is strategically placed on the agenda before U.S. and Canadian presentations on the status and development of salmon reintroduction plans," said Dunau.

Many thanks to the Reardan team for modeling effective and balanced dialog in our communities. •

Communications and Water Resource Governance: Connecting the Dots

Karen Trebitz University of Idaho PhD student

Communications networks are like spider webs of interlinked ties of people and their interactions. The threads are lines of communications, and the intersections (or nodes) represent various organizations (or actors). Central actors talk to each other frequently, and likely have a major interest in the system. More distant connections may provide bridges to outside resources, such as information, funding, or even political support.

My PhD studies are focused on the networks of communications for governing fisheries and water quality in five reservoirs of the Columbia River Basin: Lake Chelan, Lake Roosevelt, Lake Pend Oreille, Lake Koocanusa, and člýetkw (Flathead Lake). A sixth area, the St. Joe/St. Maries River sub-basin of Lake Coeur D'Alene, was a pilot study for the current research. The actors and stakeholders include a diverse array of U.STribes and Canadian First Nations; federal, state and local regulatory agencies; non-government organizations, and business and industry.

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Lake Roosevelt Water Festival: 20 Years of Environmental Education

Since its beginning in 1999, the Lake Roosevelt Water Festival is a mainstay for elementary students as they begin the new school year. To date, over 7,300 students have come to know about Lake Roosevelt and the tribal, federal, state and local agencies that work to preserve and protect the environment every year.

The Lake Roosevelt Water Festival is a partnership, with many volunteers working together. The partners that currently coordinate the event include the Lake Roosevelt Forum, National Park Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Avista Utilities, Spokane Tribe of Indians, Colville Confederated Tribes, National Weather Service, Stevens County Conservation District and the US Forest Service.

This year, 370 students from 9 schools participated. Joined by teachers and parents, a great time was had by all. Students tour and engage in hands-on activities to learn about research, environmental protection and other actions taking place to enhance and preserve the area for current and future generations. *Here's to 20 more years!*



Communications and Water Resource Governance

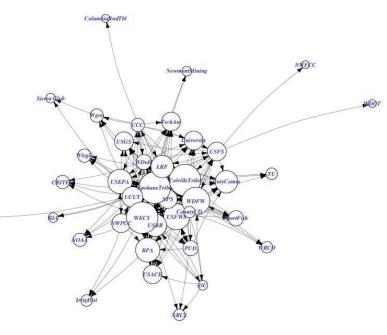
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A robust online survey was developed that is divided into three sections: health indicators for water quality and fisheries, networking opportunities, and attitudes regarding the success/health of networking as it relates to meeting organizational goals. The on-line survey has been completed by 73 organizations. With roughly forty identified actors per basin, this is a 37 percent survey response rate overall. Follow-up calls and emails with survey participants also yielded rich contextual information.

An early take away from implementing the survey is that organizations aren't social, people are.

Representatives from some organizations interacted numerous times to assure they were completing the survey properly, others completed the survey without comment, and some declined to complete the survey with or without comment. Differing protocols within organizations also became apparent with one, for instance, asking their press office to vet the survey first.

Each of the study areas show the same general "coreperiphery" pattern of multiple actors being densely connected in the center. As one moves away from this core, actors tend to be connected to the center, but are less and less connected to each other.



Those located at the core tend to be central actors with a major interest in the system, e.g.-- regulatory agencies, Tribes/First Nations, dam owner/operators, and major landowners. Still central, but less prevalent, are the US EPA,

National Park Service Updates

Asphalt Resurfacing Reaching Completion

This fall the National Park Service will complete resurfacing of all their owned and managed asphalt surfaces within the Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area. Campgrounds, day-use areas, boat launch and other parking areas, and connecting roadway were part of surfacing improvements needed to serve the over 1 million visitors that use these facilities annually.

Depending on the site, project work included crack sealing, micro-surface sealing, chip sealing, spot patching, total rehabilitation, and restriping of all roads, parking areas, and campsites within the recreation area. Through regular web site updates, news releases and other outreach, NPS staff kept visitors apprised of activity that could affect their recreational plans.

Porcupine Bay Campground Reopened

On May 24, the National Park
Service reopened the Porcupine
Bay boat launch. On August 31, the
National Park Service reopened
the remainder of the Porcupine Bay
facilities, including the day-use area,
campground, and all other associated areas.



One of the most popular recreation destinations on the lake, it was closed in April 2017 due to a landslide that washed out the Porcupine Bay access road maintained by Lincoln County. After the road was reopened in May, the Park Service conducted required work on the water system in order to fully reopen facilities by the end of August.

Grand Coulee Third Power Plant Overhaul Update

Six years in the making, two of six turbine units being overhauled in Grand Coulee Dam's Third Power Plant are now back in operation. The second unit came back online in March. Each of the units overhauled has a generating capacity of 805 megawatts.

The six turbines in the Third Power Plant became operational from 1975 – 1980. Other than general maintenance, they've been running continuously until each is opened for overhaul. And just like an aging house being remodeled and modernized, engineers and contactors discovered worn-out parts and other issues that dramatically changed the project schedule. Originally, managers envisioned overhaul of all six turbine units by the end of 2017.

To comprehend the size and importance of these turbines, think about one megawatt of electricity being able to serve the needs of about 650 residential homes. That means one of the units overhauled can meet the needs of over 500,000 residential homes and all six units can meet the needs of over 3,000,000 residential homes. Add in the capacity of the 18 generators from Grand Coulee's Right and Left Powerhouses that received turbine replacements between 2000 and 2010, and Grand Coulee Dam has the generating capacity to meet the needs of over 4.5 million residential homes. Alone, that's more than all the housing units in Washington State.

While this overhaul is essential to keeping the lights on in the Northwest, the investment is also very significant.



Generator at Grand Coulee Dam

The original cost of Third Power Plant construction was about 700 million dollars (in 1980's dollar value). Overhauling the first two units cost about 100 million dollars.

A third unit was disassembled this spring. Completing the overhaul of this unit will utilize lessons learned from the first two units with work currently scheduled for completion by the end of 2020. Then it's on to the next three units. •

The Fight Against Invasive Species Highlighted at Conference

Updates and progress in the fight to stop and/or suppress invasive species in Lake Roosevelt will be featured at this year's conference. Presentations will cover northern pike, flowering rush, mussels and regulatory actions.

Northern pike has garnered the most attention. This nonnative invasive species is a voracious predator of other fish that, once established with breeding populations, is known to devastate other resident fish populations. Since suppression efforts started in 2015, additional federal and state funds have been acquired to try and stop their migration before reaching salmon bearing waters downstream.

Presentations from fishery co-managers will show how the range and numbers of northern pike in the lake are continuing to expand despite increased suppression efforts. Co-managers will review suppression efforts such as the \$10-a-head bounty, an intensive interagency four-day gill netting operation last May, and ongoing operations.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will also review a September decision to upgrade northern pike from a Level 3 to Level 1 invasive species. This reclassification allows Washington's governor to declare an emergency and initiate response measures such as an incident command system if they are found to



be migrating downstream. In addition, WDFW will describe eDNA testing being used to support early detection measures below Chief Joseph Dam.

The Colville Confederated Tribes will present on the newest outbreak of an invasive species: flowering rush. This aquatic invasive plant species can alter fish and wildlife habitat, displace native species, reduce recreational opportunities, increase swimmers itch and more. A particular concern in Lake Roosevelt is that it also provides excellent habitat for northern pike and causes serious problems in irrigation canals.

Lastly, WDFW will present on a Lake Roosevelt rapid response exercise being conducted this fall to stop the spread of zebra and quagga mussels if they are detected. For the past twenty years, agencies have successfully collaborated to prevent their introduction into the Columbia Basin. As learned with the Great Lakes and other watersheds, once established they can cause catastrophic environmental, economic, and social/human health risks.





WA Department of Health Updates Fish, Mussel and Crayfish Advisories

The Washington Department of Health has updated their Upper Columbia River/Lake Roosevelt Fish Advisory to include Northern Pike in the healthy choice category. As northern pike are an invasive species that fishery managers are actively trying to suppress and/or eliminate from these waterways, catching and removing them from the system is strongly encouraged.

WDOH also updated their advisory to include mussels and crayfish. Mussels are in the DO NOT EAT category along with northern pikeminnow. Unlike marine mussels and clams, freshwater mussels and clams are not monitored for toxins or bacteria and should be considered unsafe to eat. The Department of Fish and Wildlife prohibits the harvest of freshwater clams and mussels from all Washington fresh water sources. Crayfish, however, were placed in the healthy choice category.

WDOH encourages eating fish because it's an important source of protein and omega-3 fatty acids. Following their consumption advisory assures the public can do safely.

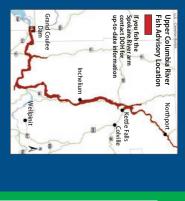
Funding and sampling made possible by the Upper Columbia River RI/FS enabled WDOH to evaluate the information necessary to update their advisories. •

Jpper Columbia River/Lake Roosevelt

(mercury and PCBs) that can harm your health. Fish are nutritious, but certain fish in the Upper Columbia River contain contaminants

Babies and children are most at-risk. Women who are or might become pregnant, nursing mothers, and children

should follow all of this advisory.



How much can I eat?

especially if pregnant Women 18 - 45

Children 1 - 17

and not pregnant Men 18 and older

Women 46 and older



Rainbow Trout Kokanee Lake Whitefish Vorthern Pike

2-3 servings per week

White Sturgeon

Rainbow Trout White Sturgeon Northern Pike Kokanee Lake Whitefish



(SP)

4 servings per month of any combination of these 5 fish

12 servings per month of any combination of these 5 fish



7 servings per week

Kokanee Lake Whitefish Rainbow Trout White Sturgeon Northern Pike

3 servings per week



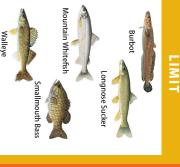
5 servings per month

Largemouth Bass Largescale Sucker

OR OR

CAUTION

HEALTHY CHOICE





2 servings per month

serving per week

Largemouth Bass Largescale Sucker

(9)



How to Use this Table

Women under age 46 and children under age 18 should eat from either the green or yellow column.

Examples:

Largescale Sucker

If a child eats 1 serving of kokanee and 1 serving of rainbow trout, no other fish should be eaten that week.

If an 18-year-old man eats 3 servings of walleye in a week, no other fish should be eaten that week.

DO NOT EAT

Northern Pikeminnow







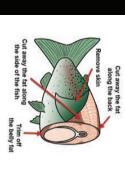


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Available in other formats for people with disabilities Updated from DOH 334-329 June 2015 Fish illustrations © Joseph R. Tomelleri 1-800-525-0127 (TDD/TTY call 711).

Preparing Fish the Healthy Way

What is a serving?



Following these tips will reduce the amount of chemical

Fish are part of a healthy diet.

Mercury cannot be reduced; it builds up in fish meat (the fillet). contaminants you eat (like PCBs) that collect in the fat of fish.

 Eat younger and smaller fish (within legal limits) Before cooking remove the skin, fat, and internal organs.

Eat a variety of fish.

A serving is about the size and thickness of your hand. Give children smaller servings

For Adults

For Children

EPA Remedial Investigation Updates

Over a decade has passed since EPA reached agreement with Teck in 2006 to conduct an Upper Columbia Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS). EPA intends to complete the Human Health Risk Assessment in early 2020. In contrast, the Ecological Risk Assessment continues to investigate the nature and extent of contamination and assess potential risks to the environment. Risk assessment is one component of the Remedial Investigation (RI). A draft RI Report will follow completion of investigations and risk assessments. A feasibility study to consider potential cleanup alternatives then follows completion of the RI.

Each newsletter carries an update to highlight recent studies and activities that are underway. To learn about the history of the entire RI/FS and what's been learned, visit our Public Guides at www.lrf.org/environment. Data summaries and other documents referred to below are available at www.ucr-rifs.com/home/documents-plans/

Northern Pike Sampling

In response to increased numbers of Northern Pike catch and consumption that's also being incentivized by a \$10 per head bounty to help rid the system of this invasive predator, Lake Roosevelt fisheries co-managers worked with EPA and Teck American Incorporated (TAI) to sample and analyze Northern Pike for mercury and other metals. Sampling was completed in July 2018 and results are presented in a final data summary report. In 2019, Washington Department of Health used this data to update the Lake Roosevelt Fish Advisory to include northern pike in the healthy choice category.

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Draft Human Health Risk Assessment Coming in November

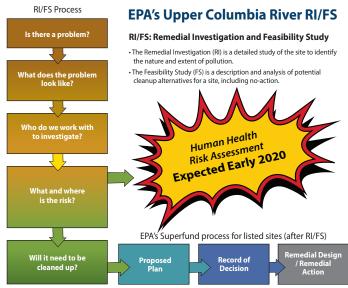
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updated the community on the Upper Columbia River Site Remedial Investigation & Feasibility Study (Upper Columbia RI/FS) in Northport, WA on October 15th.

The big news is that the draft Upper Columbia Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) is expected to be released by November 11, 2019. The public will have the opportunity to review the draft through the Citizens for a Clean Columbia organization. The Final HHRA is expected by February 2020. "It's a critical milestone representing years of effort and the collective work of multiple agencies and stakeholders," said Robert Tan, EPA's Upper Columbia Remedial Project Manager.

EPA describes the HHRA as "the process to estimate the nature and probability of adverse health effects in humans who may be exposed to chemicals in contaminated environmental media, now or in the future."

Of particular interest to the upper Columbia River Valley and Northport community is human exposure to lead. A focal point for the HHRA is children whose rapidly growing bodies absorb lead more rapidly than adults. Child exposure, for instance, can negatively affect cognitive development and self-control.

At the Northport meeting, EPA previewed how the HHRA will use blood level modeling to characterize human health risks in the upper Columbia Valley. EPA will share this process at the Lake Roosevelt Forum Conference as well.



Because the science and regulatory environment regarding lead toxicology is still evolving, 3 lead risk evaluation benchmarks will be shown in the HHRA. These protection benchmarks can then be compared to the presence of lead in soils to evaluate human health risk.

Using sites sampled to date, the difference in number of sites exceeding the benchmarks is far higher when using the most protective benchmark. Specifically, 392 sampling units previously tested exceed the most protective benchmark; 88 units exceed the middle benchmark, and 12 units exceed the least protective benchmark. These results will help EPA plan

Can Lake Roosevelt and Banks Lake Make New Contributions to a Carbon Free Future?

Last spring, Washington State passed legislation to achieve zero-carbon electricity generation by 2045. If achieved, fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas would no longer be used to generate electricity. California, Nevada and New Mexico passed similar legislation.

How to replace these megawatts with renewable or other carbon-free sources of electricity is now receiving a lot of attention.

At the Lake Roosevelt Forum Conference, Tim Culbertson will present a hydroelectric pumped storage option actively being developed by Columbia Basin Hydropower (CBHP). Currently, CBHP manages hydropower generation projects owned by three irrigation districts in central Washington.

Called the Banks Lake Pumped Storage Project, CBHP would use water from Banks Lake and Lake Roosevelt to support a gravity feed system to power two, 250 megawatt generating units. Currently, Banks Lake and Lake Roosevelt already operate to support 314 megawatts of pumped storage capacity at the Bureau of Reclamation's John W. Keys III Pump-Generating Plant.

For proponents of pumped storage, advantages go beyond replacing fossil fuel generation with a renewable energy source. Pumped storage can smooth out demands for electricity when wind or solar plants are idle because the wind isn't blowing, or the sun isn't shining. To avoid brownouts or price spikes, the need is highest when electricity is in most demand. For instance, in the morning when people are getting ready for school or work, or during extreme weather events, e.g.—cold snaps and heat waves.

Bringing a project like this to fruition, however, is a complex task. In addition to the cost to build it, CBHP



needs to prove that the project won't affect current generation and irrigation operations. Further, there are high environmental and regulatory standards that need to be satisfied.

This session will also feature presentations from the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. They'll take a broader look at the tools and generation sources being considered to achieve a carbon-free generation goal.

"The choices being made have broad and deep consequences," said Forum Executive Director Andy Dunau. "Whether you're motivated by maximizing the river system's eco-system function or retaining affordable, reliable and secure power 24/7, there needs to be a meeting of the minds. Whether it's irony or destiny, our communities again find themselves at the possible center of choices that may cascade down through history." \(\existsymbol{\text{constant}}\)

EPA Remedial Investigation Updates

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Mussel and Crayfish Sampling

The purpose of this sampling is to estimate exposure from human consumption and ecological risks of chemicals concentrating in tissues of fresh-water mussel and crayfish. In the spring and fall of 2016, samples were collected at various depths throughout the river/lake system. EPA approved the final data summary report in March 2018 and data are currently being integrated into the human health risk assessment. In 2019, WDOH used this data to place crayfish in the healthy choice consumption category. Mussels are in the DO NOT EAT category, which is

consistent with the state-wide advisory against consuming any freshwater mussels or clams.

Plant Tissue Sampling

The 2014 and 2016 Residential Soil Sampling program, residential yard soil removal actions, and the 2014 Upland Soil Sampling results document elevated levels of metals in soils sampled in these upper Columbia River Valley study areas. The Tribal Consumption and Resource Use Survey confirmed that plants may be harvested from areas where metals are elevated.

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EPA Remedial Investigation Updates

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Residents of the Colville Reservation consume and otherwise utilize plants which may be contaminated with heavy metals.

Exposure to these metals in plant tissue through consumption or use, however, is unknown. As a result, EPA determined that data for the concentration of metals in berries, nuts, roots, and leaves from a variety of plants was needed for the Upper Columbia River human health risk assessment. Reconnaissance in focused locations of the study area occurred in August 2017 to identify the type and availability of plants for sampling. In 2018, the sampling plan was approved, then three rounds of sampling occurred. Samples were analyzed and results presented in a final data summary report. Data are currently being integrated into the human health risk assessment. Consumption of nuts, berries, and leaves

are not likely to be a health concern. However, consumption of roots, bulbs, or lichens may be a concern.

Residential Soil Sampling

In addition to sampling and residential soil cleanup activities that took place in 2014-2015, another round of soil sampling occurred in 2016. Sampling occurred at some properties within the original boundary from 2014 and extended through the river valley as far south as China Bend. 144 residential properties were sampled. Results were sent to landowners in April 2017. A time critical soil removal triggered 4 additional properties being cleaned up, bringing the total number of properties receiving cleanup since 2014 to 17. Cleanup occurred as part of voluntary agreements between EPA and TAI for TAI to fund and conduct cleanup under EPA oversight. \bigcirc

Communications and Water Resource Governance

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lake Research Institutes, Lakes Commissions, and state-level departments of lands or natural resources.

Each network has at least one non-profit or collaborative council that is close to, if not, in the core.

Information exchange is a less evident, but perhaps a more important function of the central actors in the networks. In five of the study areas at least one central actor provides an information platform, in the form of regular (usually quarterly) meetings or presentations that are open to the public. Only the Lake Roosevelt Forum network breaks this pattern. The Lake Roosevelt Forum (LRF), a non-profit organization, is barely outside the cluster of the basin's most central actors. LRF is the only forum platform mentioned by survey respondents in the Lake Roosevelt network, and is even named in another basin. All but one of the respondents who named LRF have either attended or presented at Forum meetings. Multiple information sources are identified in all other basins, mostly hosted by one or more of the central actors.

Collaborations are a matter of communications, and can be blocked or promoted by various factors. Survey respondents were surprisingly candid in their answers: collaboration is hindered by funding limitations, a lack of common goals, poor communication, politics that get in the way, a lack of trust, and the unwillingness of some parties to share data. Interest in collaborating is promoted with an improved willingness by others to engage, share goals and purpose,

better communicate, and strongly support sustainable funding.

Statistical correlations of perceived network dynamics reveal similar relations. Data suggest that a network with more of an advisory role (and less binding or regulatory authority) relates positively to higher levels of collaboration, and is more able to identify issues and implement action plans. Neither authority scheme is associated with the ability to develop common goals or strategies, however. The availability of scientific data, more public participation, and higher levels of inclusiveness all correlate with more success in finding common goals and strategies as well as identifying and implementing action.

Areas with higher degrees of engagement are more likely to find common goals and jointly implement action. Higher degrees of engagement and inclusiveness, however, need additional support and a strong commitment by those with the highest standing and regulatory authority. This requires strong leadership and the presence of social and cultural norms.

These findings contribute to understanding Columbia River Treaty governance discussions and on-going federal, state and provincial regulatory processes. Elected officials and policy makers would do well to recognize that achieving goals is greatly affected by not only the standing of sovereigns in the process, but the extent and nature of networking and information exchange present.

Is your organization involved in one of these networks? If you have not yet had a survey filled for your organization, please contact Karen at treb6275@yandals.uidaho.edu.



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Communications and Water Resource Governance

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for future potential cleanup actions or assessments and may be considered during the planned Feasibility Study. As noted in the RI/FS updates, 17 residential properties have received soil cleanup via voluntary agreements between EPA and Teck American Incorporated.

The HHRA is expected to be a lengthy document covering findings for river-based exposures such as fish consumption, beaches and surface water; and upland exposures such as plants and contact with soils. Once the draft is released, then finalized after public comment, EPA and project partners will begin the process of assessing interim clean-up or other remedial measures that may need to be taken prior to completing the Remedial Investigation and conducting a site-wide Feasibility Study.

The HHRA is being completed as part of a 2006 settlement agreement between EPA and Teck American Incorporated. •

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