

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Tuesday, April 21st

9:30 - 10:00am Morning Refreshments

10:00 - 10:30am Welcome

10:30am - 12:00pm Plenary Session

Back to the Future: Reintroduction of Salmon and Steelhead above Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee Dams

Review of the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) proposed Phase 1 work plan presented to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council to assess feasibility of reintroducing salmon and steelhead above Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams. Presentation and panel discussion will focus on collaborative approach being taken to assess the science, technology, stock selection, pilot actions, evaluation and public engagement needed.

12:00 - 1:15pm Lunch & Keynote

SimSalmon: Vision Support Tools to Meet Ecologic and Habitat Needs John Anderson, University of Idaho

1:15 - 2:45pm Concurrent Sessions

Transboundary Ecosystem Management: Canadian Contributions and Pathways

We are not alone. This session focuses on Canadian collaboration, experiences and projects. Learn about Canadian Columbia River Intertribal Fisheries Commission (CCRIFC) feasibility studies and pilot program to restore salmon to their waters by 2040; lessons learned and progress supporting Kokanee and rainbow trout with Arrow Lakes Reservoir Nutrient Restoration Program; and creation of the Kootenay-Koocanusa Fish and Wildlife Program.

Upper Columbia Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study Status Report

Residential and upland soil sampling, Phase II sediment sampling, and activities at Bossburg Flats are among the updates and progress that will be reported on.

Poster Session: Enjoying Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area

Receive updates and engage with Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area managers on how they're meeting recreational and other interests. Marina and campground improvements, boating opportunities, non-native mussel prevention activities, shoreline management and education are featured.

2:45 - 3:00pm Break

3:00 - 4:30pm Concurrent Sessions

Transboundary Ecosystem Management: Upper Columbia Contributions and Pathways

Project managers and researchers will share successes and lessons learned from the Upper Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative; habitat assessment and modeling efforts on the Colville Reservation; and Kalispel led efforts to provide native trout fish passage past six dams on the Pend Oreille & Clark Fork rivers. All of these projects provide inspiration and experience to support transboundary ecosystem management and the feasibility of reintroducing anadromous fish.

Grand Coulee: Operations and Renovations

Get the latest information on 2015 lake level forecasts and multi-million dollar renovations to replace aging equipment and bring 21st Century efficiencies to the operation of Grand Coulee Dam. Will these renovations effect future lake levels and operations? Here's the place to find out.

Public Guide to RI/FS Human Health Findings and Fish Advisory

The Washington Department of Health worked with stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of fish advisory signs and literature distributed to the public. Hear about the results, and see new graphics to communicate key messages even more effectively. Roundtable discussion will also summarize and discuss human health messages that are based on surface water and beach sampling activities.

5:00 - 6:30pm Reception

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Questions? Call 509-535-7084

Wednesday, April 22nd

8:30 - 9:15am Morning Refreshments

9:15 - 10:45am Plenary Session

Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial: Kicking Off a Second Century of Stewardship

The National Park Service will share their Centennial celebration goal to connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates. This includes reintroducing the National Park Service to the American public. At the same time, local leaders will reflect on Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area's 70th anniversary and community values.

10:45 - 11:00am Morning Break

11:00am - 12:30pm Concurrent Sessions

Interpreting Lake Roosevelt's Natural Resources

Lake Roosevelt National Recreation Area: Connecting stewardship, community development and cultural values from one generation to the next. Exploring opportunities and roundtable discussion to bring NPS Find Your Park campaign to Lake Roosevelt.

Aquatic Invasive Species: Building Transboundary Defenses

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) can threaten property, infrastructure and water quality. Invasive species can also imperil native species through predation, competition for food, interbreeding, disease transmission, food web impacts, and physical habitat alteration. They also pose direct threats to our fish and wildlife restoration efforts. Once in the ecosystem, they can cost millions of dollars to manage, control or eradicate. Learn about ongoing U.S. and Canadian coordinated efforts to develop a regional framework to defend the Pacific Northwest waters against non-native quagga and zebra mussels; management efforts to control other invasive species, such as aquatic plants and northern pike; WDFW updates on Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention and Enforcement Program; and Lake Roosevelt AIS prevention efforts from National Park Service.

WA State Proposals to Reduce Toxic Pollution and Update Surface Water Quality Standards

Governor Inslee has proposed legislation and funding to reduce toxics entering our environment. At the same time, Ecology has proposed updates to surface water quality standards that are based, in part, on how much fish citizens can eat. Kelly Susewind, Special Assistant to the Director, will present on these related initiatives.

Questions? Call 509-535-7084

12:30 - 1:45pm

Lunch & Keynote

"We make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill

As we learn from our past, join us in recognizing Dr. Al Scholz. 25 years of leadership at Eastern Washington University central to bringing our fisheries back. As we shape our future, hear about outcomes and next steps from the 2014 Transboundary Conference.

1:45 - 2:15pm

Plenary Session

A Journey Up the Columbia River for People and Salmon

Follow a voyage of discovery as five canoes, carved and paddled by native and non-native youth, journey the length of the Columbia River. Paddlers honor the salmon, hear stories of the people, and think about what it would mean for salmon to return to the upper Columbia.

2:15 - 2:30pm

Break

2:30 - 4:00pm

Concurrent Sessions

Washington State Innovations in Water Management

Ecology will provide a legislative and management update on new approaches and investment strategies to develop water supplies to benefit both instream and out-of-stream uses. Sullivan Lake and the Colville Basin provide local examples that a panel will discuss and review.

Building an Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail

Partners from federal, state, tribal, and private organizations are developing a 1,600 mile Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail. Learn about interpretive themes, site locations, transportation, and opportunities for communities to participate and benefit.

Current and Future Directions of Lake Roosevelt Fisheries

Visit with fishery managers working together to continue to improve and balance our native and sport fisheries. They will share new directions and methods for creel survey, and how it will support new on-line fishing reports for anglers; introduction of triploid kokanee; acoustic tracking of rainbows; and stock assessments to help support burbot.

4:00 - 4:15pm

Afternoon Break

4:15 - 5:00pm

Concurrent Sessions

Current and Future Directions of Lake Roosevelt Fisheries Continued

Open discussion with fishery managers on questions and topics of your choice.

Moving Forward with Merkel-Cassidy Challenge

Open discussion with Northwest Power and Conservation Council and Columbia Basin Trust staff on next steps to support Merkel-Cassidy Challenge and transboundary cooperation.