



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION

January 2011

In 2000, the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (Council) and Columbia Basin Trust (CBT) agreed to formalize the relationship that had developed between our two agencies through the designation of liaisons and an exchange of letters that came to be characterized as a "Memorandum of Understanding." In 2011 the Council and CBT hereby reaffirm that relationship by formalizing this Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation.

The Council and CBT recognize this relationship as a means of enhancing transboundary cooperation on key issues related to ecosystem and river management in the Columbia River Basin, as detailed below. We also recognize that the relationship is a means to advance CBT's mandate to create a legacy of social, economic and environmental well-being in the Basin and its goal of playing a creative role in positive change and to advance the Council's mandate of promoting public education, outreach and involvement on regional energy and fish and wildlife matters.

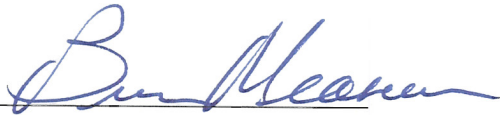
Specifically, the Council and CBT agree to work collaboratively to:

1. Foster and promote an understanding and appreciation of the connection the Columbia River provides between residents on the two sides of the international border.
2. Encourage public awareness and support for the concept of Basin-wide and sub-Basin planning consistent with Basin-wide goals and objectives.
3. Pursue the development, funding and implementation of projects to protect, mitigate and enhance transboundary species of fish and wildlife, consistent with each organization's project-funding requirements and processes.
4. Share scientific information and pursue mutually beneficial scientific research, consistent with the unique program goals and project-funding requirements of each agency.
5. Conduct joint activities such as public workshops, conferences and meetings that address Columbia River Basin fish, wildlife, energy and water issues.
6. Exchange visits by liaisons designated by each agency at least annually to report on current and future planned activities and provide notice of initiatives of mutual interest.

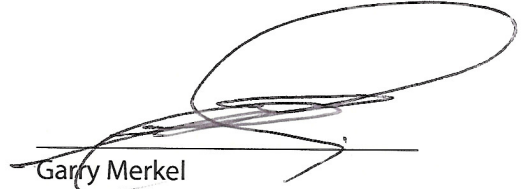
7. Continue an informal dialogue on Columbia River Basin policy issues including, but not limited to, water management, water quality and the impact of hydropower on transboundary fish and wildlife, with the understanding that this dialogue could lead to common policy positions that may be communicated to state, provincial and national elected officials and action agencies, when appropriate.

Staff will jointly develop an annual workplan that identifies specific projects linked to these objectives and tracks actions taken by both the Council and CBT.

On behalf of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and the Columbia Basin Trust, we look forward to the continuation of our long and fruitful relationship that will benefit the people and the environment of the Columbia River Basin.



Bruce Measure
Chair
Northwest Power and Conservation Council
Date: March 18, 2011



Garry Merkel
Chair, Board of Directors
Columbia Basin Trust
Date: March 18, 2011