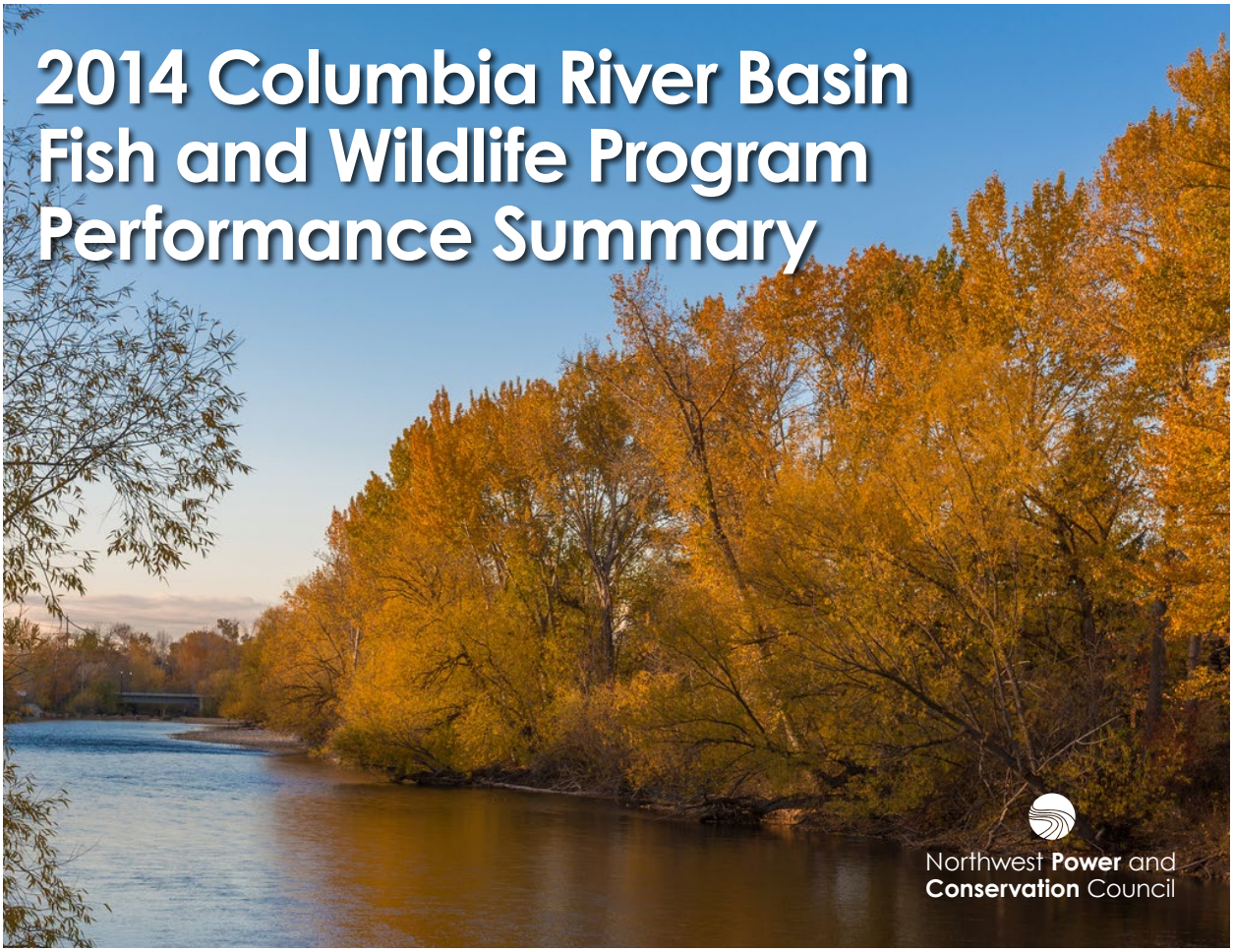
2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Performance Summary



Overview

2014 was a record year for salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River.

More fish returned from the Pacific Ocean to spawn in the wild and at hatcheries last year than in any year since fish-counting began in the river, at Bonneville Dam when it was completed in 1938. By the end of the year, the Bonneville count stood at 2,574,321. That is more than 400,000 better than the second-biggest return, 2.1 million fish in 2001. Consistently over the last 15 years, with the single exception of 2007, Bonneville counts have been over 1 million fish per year.

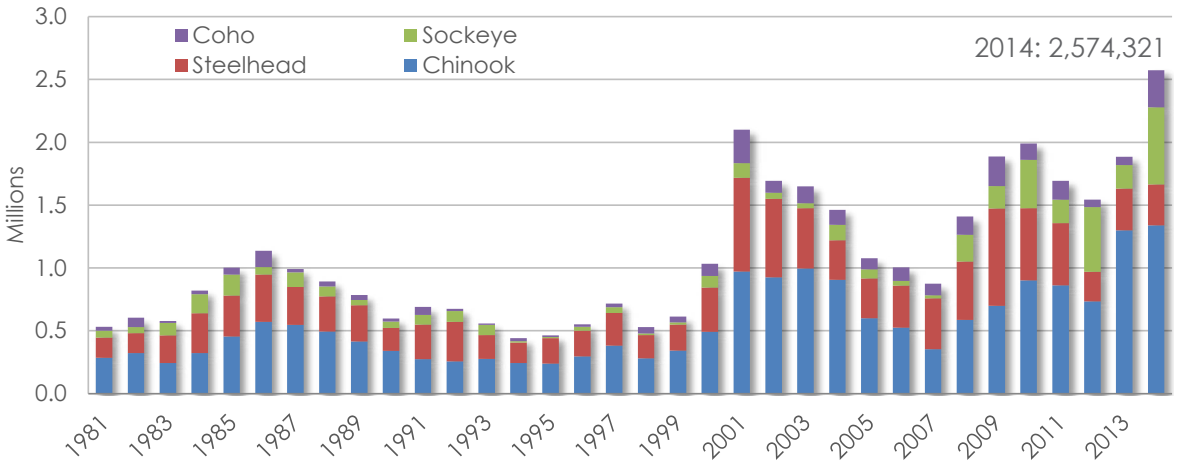
Fish and wildlife managers in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington expect the 2015 return to again top 2 million fish, continuing a trend of record or near-record runs compared to runs in the 1990s. This success is due to a number of factors, including some that result from improvements in the freshwater and hatchery environments, such as habitat improvements and supplementation programs that aim to boost the number of fish that spawn in the wild, and factors that are beyond human control, such as conditions in the ocean where climate shifts like El Nino can affect the abundance of food for salmon and steelhead.

Since 2001, in response to a request from the governors of the four Northwest states, the Council has reported annually on all costs related to fish and wildlife incurred by the Bonneville Power Administration, including costs to implement the Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program.

2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Performance Summary

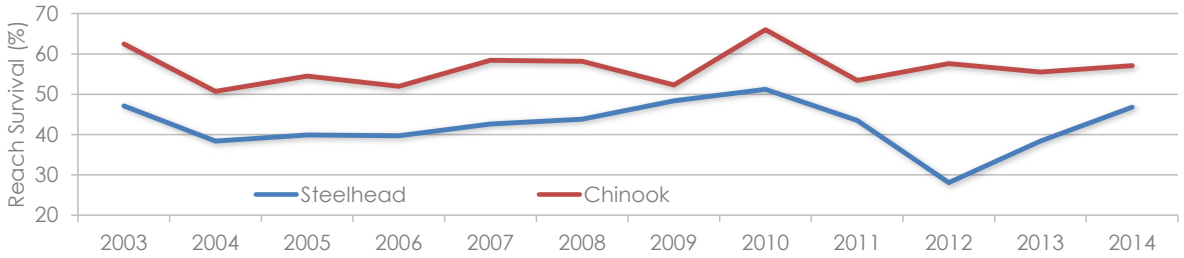
Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Salmon and Steelhead Counted at Bonneville Dam, 1981-2014

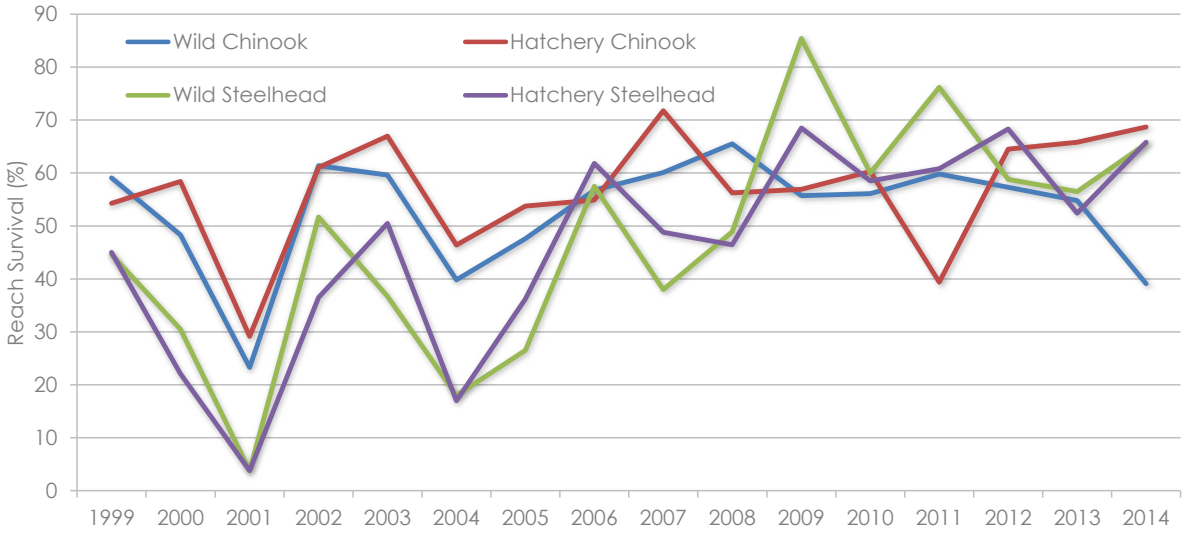


More salmon and steelhead returned from the Pacific Ocean and were counted at Bonneville Dam in 2014 than in any year since counting began in 1938. Source: www.fpc.org

Survival of Juvenile Upper Columbia Hatchery Steelhead and Chinook, Release Points to McNary Dam, 2003-2014



Reach Survival of Juvenile Snake River Salmon and Steelhead, Lower Granite to Bonneville Dams



NOAA Fisheries collects data on juvenile fish passage and survival at Snake and Columbia river dams (unavailable for some years). The information in these two charts, and other passage information, is reported annually at www.salmonrecovery.gov.

2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Performance Summary

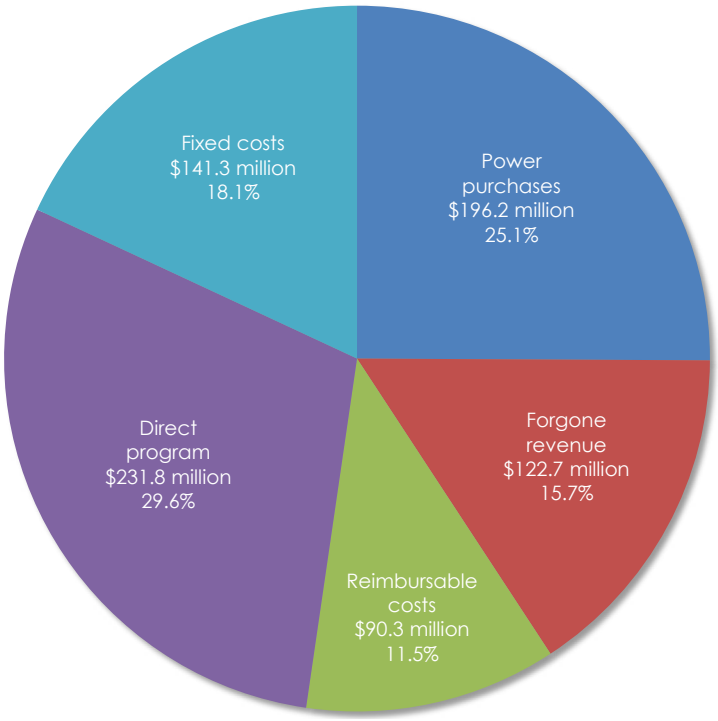
Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Summary of 2014 costs

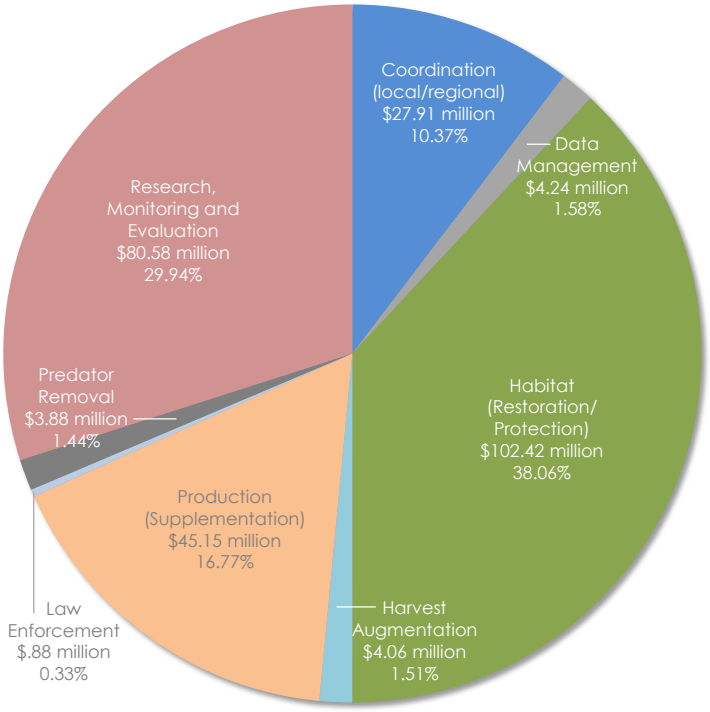
In Fiscal Year 2014, Bonneville reported total fish and wildlife costs of approximately $782.3 million, as follows:

- $231.8 million to implement the Council's fish and wildlife program
- $90.3 million in direct costs and reimbursements to the Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for investments in fish passage and fish production
- $141.3 million in interest, amortization, and depreciation of capital investments
- $122.7 million in forgone hydropower sales revenue that results from dam operations to protect migrating fish
- $196.2 million in power purchases when hydropower dams are operated to protect migrating fish

A more detailed version of this report is at www.nwcouncil.org/reports/financial-reports/2015-04.



Direct Program 2014 Costs by Major Category, totaling $269.1 million



2014 Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program Performance Summary

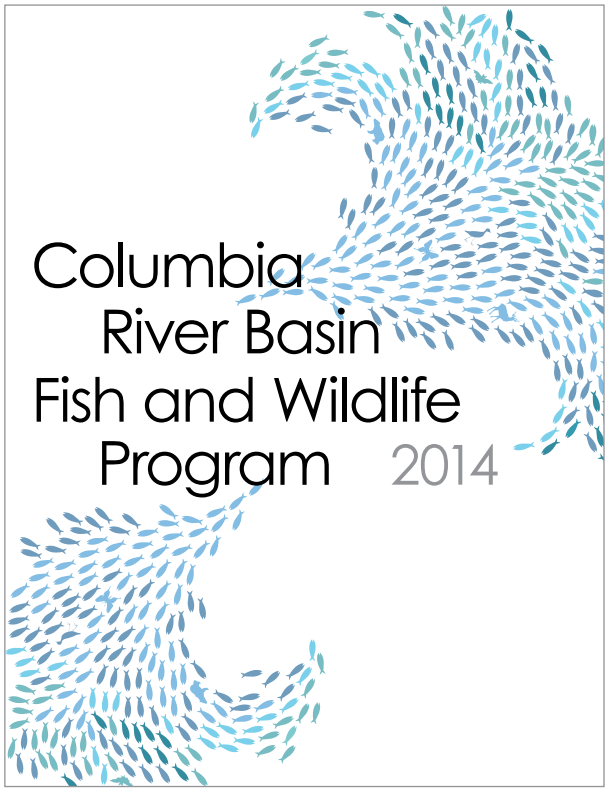
Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Program successes

The Council, working with regional partners, has made progress in a number of key areas since the Northwest Power Act was enacted in 1980:

- Improved over 2,400 river miles of habitat, supporting hundreds of thousands of natural-origin juvenile salmon
- Supported critical funding to help save Snake River sockeye salmon from extinction, and supports efforts to move beyond conservation toward recovery
- Supported state and tribal efforts to acquire more than 400,000 acres for resident fish and wildlife including conservation of riparian habitat in Montana for sensitive species like bull trout
- Significantly improved salmon and steelhead survival at federal dams
- Increased flows that improve fish production, migration, and survival
- Supported construction of hatcheries to recover species like the endangered Kootenai River sturgeon and mitigate for lost salmon and steelhead with resident species such as rainbow trout and kokanee in Lake Roosevelt above Grand Coulee Dam
- Supported state and tribal efforts to operate Libby and Hungry Horse dams in ways that improve biological benefits to fish and wildlife
- Protected the Hanford Reach of the Columbia River where fall Chinook spawn
- Supported new and ongoing efforts that are expected to show results in the near future including reintroduction of extirpated coho to the Yakima River Basin

The fish and wildlife program is at www.nwcouncil.org/fw/program. For more information on program successes, please visit the High-Level Indicators page at www.nwcouncil.org/ext/hli.



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