



# The way forward is together

Our Northwest Opportunity is a group of individuals, business owners, and organizations throughout the Northwest who believe that together we can restore salmon, strengthen communities, and invest in affordable, clean power, all while honoring the culture and treaties of sovereign tribal nations.

## Our Northwest Opportunity seeks four goals:

- 1** **Abundant and harvestable salmon populations** in the Columbia River Basin, which expands across seven states, including Washington, Oregon, and Idaho.
- 2** **An enhanced regional economy** that includes farming, fishing, recreation, port, and tribal businesses.
- 3** **Fulfillment of our federal treaty and trust responsibilities** with Tribes in the Basin, and honoring Tribes' identity and cultural values.
- 4** **A reliable, affordable, clean electric power system.**

## We have an opportunity to create a prosperous future for our families and our region.

Thanks to a once-in-a-generation opportunity on the lower Snake River, our region could lead the largest salmon recovery effort in history, invigorate our economy, and honor tribal treaty rights.

Right now, Northwest salmon runs are close to extinction—and at the same time, our utilities are rethinking how we produce energy to stay competitive. By solving these two issues together, we can create the prosperous future our region deserves.

The science is clear: removing the four lower Snake River dams is the best way to avoid extinction. But, it must be paired with irrigation solutions for farmers; highway and rail upgrades to replace river transport; and an expanded clean energy portfolio to continue providing affordable power.

# Our region's opportunity

If we come together to listen, share our stories, and think creatively we can solve each other's challenges and benefit all our communities.

## **We can invigorate our regional economy with abundant salmon populations.**

- We need to act now before salmon disappear from our region completely.
- Commercial fishers, recreational guides and outfitters, tourism and hospitality providers all rely on healthy fish runs.

## **We can create solutions that work for fish and farmers.**

- Many of our farmers depend on the lower Snake River dams to provide a steady supply of water for irrigation and to enable barging for exporting wheat and other crops.
- We can find new ways for both crops and salmon to get where they need to go, safely and affordably.

## **We can honor and uphold treaties with sovereign tribal nations.**

- This is our region's opportunity to honor and uphold treaties with sovereign tribal nations that have always relied upon and respectfully stewarded salmon and steelhead on the Snake, as well as upriver, downriver, and along the coast.

## **We can continue our regional legacy of affordable, clean power for our families and communities.**

- The lower Snake River dams are aging and require \$1 billion in upgrades.
- As new wind, solar, and storage technologies emerge and hydropower rates become less competitive, we can bolster our region by investing in a more diverse, affordable, reliable and resilient energy portfolio.

**“Our families are connected. My family and yours. My hope is that we can continue coming together for real solutions that bring us all forward.”**

— LUCINDA GEORGE SIMPSON, matriarch and advocate, Lapwai, Idaho, Nez Perce Reservation

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