

TRANSBOUNDARY COLUMBIA INITIATIVES, BY SCALE (International, Regional, Provincial, State, Tribal)

INTERNATIONAL

1. International Joint Commission (IJC)

- i. International Columbia River Board of Control
- ii. International Osoyoos Lake Board of Control
- iii. Canada – U.S. Hydrographic Data Harmonization Task Force

Keywords: *Transboundary River Governance, international data harmonization*

Summary: The International Joint Commission is an independent bi-national organization established by the United States and Canada under the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. The purpose of the Commission is to help prevent and resolve disputes about the use and quality of boundary waters and to advise Canada and the United States on questions about water resources. The Commission investigates issues only when requested to do so by both nations. Its recommendations are not binding.

The Commission has responsibilities related to the following treaties and agreements: Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909; Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement of 1978, amended 1987; and the Air Quality Agreement (1991). Separate boards are responsible for particular boundary waters issues including the International Columbia River Board of Control and the International Osoyoos Lake Board of Control. Ecology operates Zosel Dam on Lake Osoyoos (straddling the BC border and Oroville, Wash.) to achieve levels mandated by the International Joint Commission in 1982.

Since 2008, the IJC has also sponsored a task force dedicated to integrating and harmonization hydrologic data on all of the transboundary rivers, lakes, and streams that form the border between the United States and Canada. The task force is made up of representatives from Environment Canada, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resources Canada and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The integrated data uses GIS software (ESRI), is publicly available online and is designed to be used by the IJC and other water resource managers working in these transboundary watersheds. The harmonization task force's work is ongoing.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

<http://ijc.org/en /iolbc/home>

http://nhd.usgs.gov/Canada-US_Hydro_Harmonization.pdf

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2. Columbia River Treaty

i. Libby Coordination Agreement

Keywords: *Energy, Transboundary River Governance*

Summary: The Columbia River Treaty (1961) is an agreement between Canada and the United States on the development and operation of dams in the upper Columbia Basin for power and flood control benefits in both countries. The Canadian and U.S. Entities defined by the CRT, and appointed by the national governments, manage the operation and implementation of the treaty requirements. The Canadian Entity is the B.C. Hydro and Power Authority, and the U.S. Entity is the Administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration and the Northwestern Division Engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The CRT also established a Permanent Engineering Board that reports to the governments annually on CRT results, any deviations from the operating plans, and assists the Entities in resolving any disputes.

In 2024 the 60 years of purchased flood control space in Canadian CRT projects expires. Instead of a coordinated and managed plan to regulate both Canadian and U.S. projects for flood control, the CRT calls for a shift to a Canadian operation under which the United States can call upon Canada for flood control assistance. The United States can request this “called-upon” assistance as needed but only to the extent necessary to meet forecast flood control needs in the United States that cannot adequately be met by U.S. projects. When called-upon is requested, the United States will then have to pay Canada for its operational costs and any economic losses resulting from the called-upon flood control operation.

The CRT has no specified end date; it allows either Canada or the United States the option to terminate most of the provisions of the CRT on or after September 16th, 2024, with a minimum of 10 years advance written notice. 2024 is the first year a notice of termination would take effect assuming notice is given by 2014. Unless the CRT is terminated or the federal governments elect to modify the CRT, its provisions continue indefinitely, except for the changes in flood control described above. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Bonneville Power Administration are conducting a multi-year effort called the 2014/2024 Columbia River Treaty Review.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

<http://www.crt2014-2024review.gov>

<http://blog.gov.bc.ca/columbiarivertreaty/>

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3. North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)

- i. North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC)
- ii. Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Climate Change*

Summary: The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is a 1994 agreement signed by the governments of Canada, Mexico, and the United States, creating a trilateral trade bloc in North America. As a side-treaty of NAFTA, the North American Agreement on Environmental Cooperation (NAAEC) was created. NAAEC is an environmental agreement between the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to accompany the linearization of trade and economic growth with environmental protection in North America. With the creation of the NAAEC, the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) was established.

The CEC is an intergovernmental organization comprised of a Council overseeing the implementation of the NAAEC, a Secretariat, and a Joint Public Advisory Committee. The CEC's mission is to foster conservation, protection and enhancement of the North American environment in the context of increasing economic, trade, and social links among Canada, Mexico, and the United States. CEC strategic plans focus on Healthy Communities and Ecosystems, Climate Change-Low-Carbon Economy, and Greening the North American Economy with activities related to enforcement, environmental information, sustainability and pollutants and health.

More information:

http://www.cec.org/Page.asp?PageID=1226&SiteNodeID=310&BL_ExpandID=878

4. Environment Canada (EC) – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Statement of Cooperation on the Georgia Basin and Puget Sound Ecosystem (2000)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The EC and EPA Statement of Cooperation is a framework to promote sustainability in the Salish Sea region. It promotes Canada-U.S. collaboration in addressing the transboundary and global environmental challenges confronting the ecosystem. It confirms the commitment by the two federal levels of government to transboundary collaboration for the health of the Georgia Basin – Puget Sound ecosystem; recognizes the special role and interests of Coast Salish Nations and Tribes; and commits EC and the EPA to develop annual action plans and report to the public on progress.

The Statement of Cooperation Working Group is co-chaired by EC Pacific and Yukon and EPA Region 10 with representation from the Coast Salish Gathering Coordinators, the British Columbia Ministry of the Environment, Washington State Department of Ecology and the Puget Sound Partnership to facilitate a multilateral discussion.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

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5. CANUWEST – Canada-U.S. Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan

Keywords: *Ecosystem Functions*

Summary: The Canada-United States Joint Inland Pollution Contingency Plan provides for cooperative preparedness, reporting, and response measures between Canada and the U.S. when an oil release or hazardous substances emergency occurs along the shared inland boundaries. The “Annex I – CANUSWEST” (1998) is a cross-border plan for response to Oil and Hazardous Material Spills along the inland borders between British Columbia, Canada and the United States. The EPA Office of Emergency Management (OEM) administers programs jointly with Canada to prepare for and prevent environmental emergencies along the northern border of the United States. OEM’s Director serves as the EPA chair of the U.S. National Response Team, and OEM’s Deputy Director serves as the U.S. Co-chair for the International Joint Advisory Team. The EPA Regions head their geographically corresponding U.S. Regional Response Teams. The agency provides On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs), scientific support coordinators for inland spills, and Remedial Project Managers for hazardous waste remedial actions under Superfund. EPA funds the Environmental Response Team (ERT), which is dispatched at the OSC’s request to any response episode exceeding available regional resources. The ERT can provide support for site assessments, health and safety issues, action plan development, and contamination monitoring. Legal expertise is also available from EPA to interpret environmental statutes.

More information: <http://www2.epa.gov/emergency-response/us-canada-joint-inland-pollution-contingency-plan>
http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2014-08/documents/us_can_jcp_eng.pdf

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6. Pacific Salmon Commission

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: Formed in 1985 to implement the newly-signed Pacific Salmon Treaty, the Commission is a sixteen-person body consisting of 4 Commissioners and 4 alternates from the U.S. and Canada and aims to represent all interested parties including commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, as well as state, local, federal and tribal governments in setting long-term salmon management goals. The Commission itself does not regulate the salmon fisheries but provides regulatory advice and recommendations to the two countries. It has responsibility for all salmon originating in the waters of one country that are subject to interception by the other, affect management of the other

country's salmon or affect biologically the stocks of the other country. In addition, the Pacific Salmon Commission is charged with taking into account the conservation of steelhead trout while fulfilling its other functions. The Committee has two major functions: to conserve Pacific Salmon in order to achieve optimum production, and to divide the harvests so that each country reaps the benefits of its investment in salmon management. In effect, this Commission gives both countries a forum through which to resolve their difficult salmon management problems.

In June of 1999, the United States and Canada reached a comprehensive new agreement (the "1999 Agreement") under the 1985 Pacific Salmon Treaty. Among other provisions, the 1999 Agreement established two bilateral Restoration and Enhancement funds: the Northern Boundary and Transboundary Rivers Restoration and Enhancement Fund (Northern Fund) and the Southern Boundary Restoration and Enhancement Fund (Southern Fund). The purpose of the two funds is to support activities in both countries that develop improved information for resource management, rehabilitate and restore marine and freshwater habitat, and enhance wild stock production through low technology techniques.

More information: <http://www.psc.org>

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7. Transboundary Gas Group (Columbia River dissolved gas)

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Transboundary Gas Group (TGG) was organized in 1998 to help coordinate ongoing investigations and dissolved gas management efforts in the transboundary region of the Columbia River Basin. The TGG is a forum of dam operators, government scientists and resource managers from the Columbia Basin in the U.S. and Canada. It is made up of a steering committee and four technical working groups: Biological Effects and Research, Monitoring and Information Sharing, Modeling (Compute Simulations), and Operational and Structural Gas Abatement. The group meets semi-annually to discuss total dissolved gas reduction strategies and problems in the Columbia River and its major tributaries and reports to involved agencies and the BC/WA Environmental Cooperation Council (see #13).

High levels of total dissolved gas (TDG) are often produced below dams when spillway water plunges to depth; TDG is when the partial pressures of atmospheric gases in solution exceed their respective partial pressures in the atmosphere. Supersaturated levels of dissolved gas can cause gas bubble disease in aquatic biota. The Transboundary Gas Group's long term goal is reduce system wide TDG to levels safe for all aquatic life in the most cost-effective manner possible.

More information: http://www.nwd-wc.usace.army.mil/tmt/wqnew/tgg/2004_meeting/BC_WA_ECCPresentationFeb04.pdf

- 8. North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP)** (under the auspices of the Migratory Birds Convention)
- i. Pacific Coast Joint Venture
 - ii. Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: Recognizing the importance of waterfowl and wetlands to North Americans and the need for international cooperation to help in the recovery of a shared resource, the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) was signed in 1986 by the Canadian Minister of the Environment and the U.S. Secretary of the Interior. In it included a strategy developed by the United States and Canadian governments to restore waterfowl populations through habitat protection, restoration, and enhancement. The management plan has been updated three times, once in 1994 where Mexico became a signatory to the Plan, 1998 and again in 2004. The NWAMP is international in scope but regional in terms of implementation; partnering up with federal, state, provincial, tribal, and local governments, businesses, conservation organizations, and individual citizens on conservation projects. Leadership and oversight for the Plan's activities are provided by a Committee with delegates from Canada, the U.S., and Mexico. In turn the Committee receives technical advice from a Science Support Team.

As part of this overall management plan, there are two regional initiatives that fall within the purview of this report: the Pacific Coast Joint Venture and the Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture. These joint ventures coordinate wetland management and protection efforts within their geographic territory. To date they have helped conserve thousands of square kilometers of wetland territory on both sides of the border that are critical to migratory birds.

More information: <http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/NAWMP/index.shtm>

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- 9. North American Wetlands Conservation Act**
- i. North American Wetlands Conservation Council
 - ii. Migratory Bird Commission

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) of 1989 provides matching grants to organizations and individuals who have developed partnerships to carry out wetlands conservation projects for the benefit of wetlands-associated migratory

birds and other wildlife in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. NAWCA supports activities under the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (see #8), an international agreement that provides a strategy for the long-term protection of wetlands and associated uplands habitats needed by waterfowl and other migratory birds in North America. It does this through a Standard and a Small Grants Program. Both are competitive grants programs that support projects involving long-term protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands and associated upland habitats; they require that grant requests be matched by partner contributions at no less than a 1-to-1 ratio. The difference is the Standard Grants Program supports projects in all three countries and the Small Grants Program operates only the U.S. with grant requests not exceeding \$75,000.

NAWCA's Grants Program is facilitated through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Bird Habitat Conservation (Division). The North American Wetlands Conservation Council is a nine-member council established by the NAWCA that reviews the grant proposals and makes recommendations to the Migratory Bird Commission regarding which projects should be funded. The Commission has the final authority to give final funding approval to projects.

More information:

<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/Grants/NAWCA/index.shtm>

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10. Georgia Basin / Puget Sound / International Airshed Strategy

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: In August of 2002, a Statement of Intent was signed by the Regional Director General of EC Pacific and Yukon and the EPA Region 10 Regional Administrator to develop the Georgia Basin-Puget Sound International Airshed Strategy to develop and implement initiatives to improve air quality in the transboundary Georgia Basin-Puget Sound region. The GBPS International Airshed Strategy was developed by a coordinating committee, under the U.S. Canada Border Air Quality Strategy, a cooperative effort to investigate barriers to reducing air pollution in transboundary air basins in North America developed under the auspices of the 1991 U.S. Canada Air Quality Agreement. The Coordinating Committee is made up of members from regional, provincial, state and federal government agencies, and First Nations and Tribes. Environment Canada Pacific and Yukon Region (PYR) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 act as co-lead agencies, coordinating joint activities by the Committee.

The purpose of the Georgia Basin Puget Sound International Airshed Strategy is to: Reduce the impacts of air pollution to human health, ecosystems, and visibility in the GBPS airshed; Prevent future deterioration and work towards continuous improvement of air quality in the GBPS region; Establish practical and effective instruments to address shared concerns regarding transboundary air pollution in the GBPS region.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

<http://www.ec.gc.ca/Air/default.asp?lang=En&n=D6F2B21E-1>

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11. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference (Formerly Puget Sound – Georgia Basin Ecosystem Research Conference)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The biennial Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference is the largest, most comprehensive scientific research and policy conference in the Salish Sea region. It is hosted variously by Environment Canada, EPA, Puget Sound Partnership, Ecology and the Ministry of the Environment; alternating BC and WA locations. Purpose is to highlight and connect cross-border scientific research and management techniques for meaningful action, exploring the science/policy interface. The conferences involve scientists, policymakers, Coast Salish Tribes and First Nations, resource managers, business leaders, elected officials, non-profit organizations, educators, students, and concerned citizens to promote informed action in the Salish Sea based on sound science.

More information: <http://www.wvu.edu/salishseaconference/index.shtml>

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FIRST NATIONS & TRIBES

12. Coast Salish Gatherings

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The first Coast Salish Gathering took place in 2005 in Jamestown S’Klallam, followed by annual gatherings alternating between BC and WA tribal lands. The Gathering facilitates a shared effort to identify priority environmental concerns, issues, and projects in the transboundary Coast Salish Region that is comprised of the Puget Sound in the United States, the Georgia Basin in Canada, and the Straits of Juan de Fuca shared by both countries. The Coast Salish Gatherings provide a policy dialogue for U.S. tribal leaders and First Nation Chiefs, EPA and Environment Canada to build a collaborative body for mutual understanding to solve the environmental issues and recommend policy and actions to federal and state agencies.

The Coast Salish Gatherings are guided by a Coast Salish Gathering Steering Committee with administrative support from the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Coast Salish Sea Initiative and Georgia Basin Action Plan Steering Committee Coast Salish Nation representatives. Key non-tribal senior officials also participate from: Environment Canada, Pacific and Yukon, EPA Region 10, BC Ministry of the Environment, Washington State Department of Ecology, and the Puget Sound Partnership.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf
www.coastsalish.org

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13. Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) represents five major tribes in the area: the Coeur d’Alene Tribe, the Kalispel Tribe of Indians, the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, the Spokane Tribe of Indians and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. It was formed in 1982 to ensure a healthy future for the traditional territorial lands and to provide a common voice for the region through facilitating unified and effective communication with federal, state and local agencies as well as other tribes and entities. Some of their main concerns at the moment are fish passage and reintroduction, the Columbia River Treaty, and education and awareness within the Upper Columbia region. Currently they are only working south of the border in terms of fish passage and reintroduction, but their long term goal is to work with Canada as well on this issue. They recently completed a joint paper with Canadian First Nations of the Columbia River titled, “Fish Passage and Reintroduction into the US and Canadian Upper Columbia

Basin”. A document that is meant to inform both US and Canadian governments as well as other regional sovereigns and stakeholders on how anadromous salmon and resident fish can be reintroduced into the Upper Columbia Basin.

More information: <http://ucut.org/>

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14. Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC)

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission (CRITFC) coordinates management policy and provides fisheries technical services for the Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla, and Nez Perce tribes. CRITFC’s mission is to ensure a unified voice in the overall management of the fishery resources, and as managers, to protect reserved treaty rights through the exercise of the inherent sovereign powers of the tribes. This mission is accomplished with four primary goals: put fish back in the rivers and protect watersheds where fish live, protect tribal treaty fishing rights, share salmon culture, and provide fisher services.

More information: <http://www.critfc.org/>

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15. Canadian Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission (CCRIFC)

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Canadian Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission (CCRIFC) is a collaborative, non-profit organization of First Nation tribes in Canada committed to the restoration and conservation of fish and the aquatic ecosystems in the upper Columbia River Basin. The group was formed in 1993 by the Okanagan, Ktunaxa and Secwepemc nations. The CCRIFC’s mission is to provide scientific and technical advice to its member nations, but its more recent focus has been the restoration of historic runs of the Sockeye Salmon in the Okanagan River in British Columbia, Canada.

CRITFC and CCRIFC have regular and open dialogue with one another because they see themselves as counterparts with similar mandates. At this time however, other than sharing expertise and experience, they are not collaborating on any specific initiatives.

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16. Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) & Colville Confederated Tribes Partnership

- i. The Okanagan/Okanagan Basin Monitoring and Evaluation Program (OBMEP)
- ii. Upper Columbia River Salmon Restoration
- iii. Okanagan Sockeye Reintroduction Program

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) represents eight member communities, one of which is the Colville Confederated Tribes. They are by nature transboundary and therefore partners on many issues, one of the biggest being salmon restoration and fish passage.

The Okanagan/Okanagan Basin Monitoring and Evaluation Program (OBMEP) is a monitoring program that collects long-term data on summer steelhead and spring Chinook salmon in the Okanagan/Okanagan River Basin. In the United States the OBMEP was created in 2004 and is a program within the Confederated Colville Tribes' Fish and Wildlife Department that is funded primarily by the Bonneville Power Administration through the Columbia Basin Fish Accords. The Canadian OBMEP is an extension of the US OBMEP that has been ongoing since 2005 via the Okanagan Nation Alliance. The four primary goals of OBMEP are: to establish the current status of anadromous fish habitats and fish populations, to establish how the status is changing over time, to establish what effects restoration actions are having on fish populations and habitat conditions, and to establish what effects fishery management actions are having on fish populations.

The Upper Columbia River Salmon Restoration is another partnership between ONA and Colville Confederated Tribes as well as Bill Green from the CCRITFC. They are planning a Canadian Meeting for salmon leadership and salmon restoration (like the one currently in the United States between UCUT and NWPCC).

In 1997 ONA began work to bring the sockeye salmon back into the Okanagan Lake. Through their partnership with Colville Confederated Tribes, ONA was able to receive funding from Bonneville Power Administration for an Experimental Reintroduction of Sockeye Salmon in Skaha Lake from 2000-2003. The experiment results were independently reviewed and accepted on a 12-year adaptive management approach by the ONA, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ministry of Environment, Colville Confederated Tribes, and the Bonneville Power Administration. The Okanagan Sockeye Restoration Program is in year 6 of 12.

More information: <http://www.colvilletribes.com/index.php>
<http://www.sylx.org/>

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17. International Kootenai/y Ecosystem Restoration Team (IKERT)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The International Kootenai Ecosystem Restoration Team (IKERT) is a collaboration between the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Idaho Fish and Game, the B.C. Ministry of Lands - Operations, and independent consultants working to restore the Kootenai/y River, its aquatic inhabitants, and the surrounding ecosystem. The team is led by the Kootenai Tribe of Idaho.

More information: <http://www.restoringthekootenai.org/>

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PROVINCIAL & STATE

18. British Columbia – Washington State Environmental Cooperation Agreement

- i. Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Cooperation
- ii. BC – WA Environmental Cooperation Council (ECC)
- iii. Memorandum of Understanding on Environmental Assessment
- iv. Memorandum of Understanding on Referral of Water Rights Applications
- v. Interagency Agreement - Air Quality
- vi. Interagency Memorandum of Understanding – Columbia River

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: Under the British Columbia – Montana Environmental Cooperation Agreement of May 7, 1992 British Columbia's Ministry of Environment and Washington's Department of Ecology entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which established the Environmental Cooperation Council (ECC).

The ECC's purpose is to ensure coordinated action and information sharing on environmental matters of mutual concern. The ECC is co-chaired by the Director of the Dept. of Ecology and the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of the Environment. Other members include the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Environment Canada (EC), and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada Pacific Region.

To address critical cross-border environmental issues that require joint attention by Washington State and BC, the Council establishes and directs the work of Task Forces, which facilitate information sharing, coordination and cooperation on issues of mutual interest. The ECC and its Task Forces have addressed: flooding of the Nooksack River, the Abbotsford Sumas Aquifer, air quality in the Fraser Valley/Pacific Northwest airshed, the shared waters of the Georgia Basin and Puget Sound, and air and water quality issues in the Columbia River Basin.

The ECC still exists but has been inactive in the past two years due to budget constraints, the use of other cross border forums (most notably, joint climate initiatives, Pacific Coast Collaborative, and the EC/EPA Statement of Cooperation), and the spin-off of new working groups due in part to ECC coordination (Dissolved gas groups and Salish Sea science coordination). ECC task forces continue to meet and work in subject areas.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/spd/ecc/>

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19. British Columbia – Washington State Joint Cabinet Meetings

- i. Washington State – B.C. Memorandum on Pacific Coast Collaboration to protect Our Shared Climate and Ocean (2007)
- ii. Washington State – B.C. Coastal and Ocean Task Force (2007)
- iii. Washington State – B.C. Memorandum of Understanding on Coastal Climate Change Adaptation (2008)
- iv. Washington State – B.C. Joint Action Plan on Awareness and Outreach for Coastal Impacts of Climate Change (2011)
- v. Washington State – B.C. Joint Action Plan on Carbon Neutral Government (2011)

Keywords: Ecosystem Function, *Climate Change*

Summary: Beginning in 2005, Governor Gregoire and Premier Gordon Campbell hosted joint cabinet meetings on a range of cross border trade, economic development, transportation, health, emergency services and environmental issues resulting in over 25 agreements as of 2010. With Campbell's resignation (Nov. 2010), it is not known if his successor will continue these meetings.

The WA/BC Coastal & Ocean Task Force was established in June 2007 through the MOU between Washington and British Columbia on Pacific Coast Collaboration to protect Our Shared Climate and Ocean (a precursor to the Pacific Coast Collaborative – see #15), signed by Governor Gregoire and Premier Campbell. Its mandate is to provide a mechanism to enhance collaboration between the State of Washington and the Province of British Columbia on coastal and oceans issues. The Coastal and Oceans Task Force is to report to the respective governments through the BC/WA Environmental Cooperation Council. The Puget Sound Partnership (see #16) participates in and convenes the Coastal and Oceans Task Force. The task force is empowered to address coastal issues, has a three-year work plan covering transboundary issues of mutual interest, and includes priorities for governance and information sharing; science and policy; shared indicators of ecosystem health; and issue areas for habitat restoration, climate, and water quality.

Washington State – B.C. Memorandum of Understanding on Coastal Climate Change Adaptation (2008) was signed at a Joint Cabinet meeting in Kelowna, BC. This MOU commits the governments to share data & research, collaborate on sea level impact analysis, and work together on communication and policies related to adapting to coastal climate change impacts; signed by Premier Campbell and Ecology Director Manning for WA.

Washington State – B.C. Joint Action Plan on Awareness and Outreach for Coastal Impacts of Climate Change (2011) is an agreement signed between Washington State Department of Ecology Director Ted Sturdevant and B.C. Minister of State for Climate Action John Yap. It is a commitment, born out of the WA-BC MOU on Coastal Climate Change Adaptation, to further strengthen engagement with Washingtonians and British Columbians about how sea level rise threatens critical shoreland areas and communities.

Washington State – B.C. Joint Action Plan on Carbon Neutral Government (2011) is an agreement signed between Washington Department of Ecology Director Ted Sturdevant and B.C. Minister of State for Climate Action John Yap limiting carbon emissions from government operations and promoting awareness of the impacts of sea level rise on coastal areas. It was signed in tandem with the WA-BC Joint Action Plan on Awareness and Outreach for Coastal Impacts of Climate Change (2011).

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

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20. Pacific Coast Collaborative (PCC)

i. Action Plan on Climate & Energy (2013)

Keywords: *Climate Change, Energy*

Summary: On June 30, 2008, the leaders of Alaska, British Columbia, Oregon, California, and Washington signed the Pacific Coast Collaborative Agreement that brings together the Pacific leaders in a partnership and a forum for leadership, mutual action and a common voice on issues affecting the Pacific Coast region. The agreement was signed by Gov. Chris Gregoire, Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski, Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell. The Pacific Coast Collaborative meets at least once a year, with the chair and the meeting location rotating annually through each jurisdiction. The purpose of these meetings is to create a forum for information sharing and create the opportunity for collaborative action by several or all of the members together addressing climate change, ocean health, security, or regional economic growth and stability. PCC topics include clean energy; regional transportation; innovation, research and development; a sustainable regional economy, especially with respect to environmental goods and services; emergency management. Agreements signed in 2007 to take action on climate change between British Columbia and California, Washington and Oregon laid the foundation for the PCC.

The Action Plan on Climate and Energy (2013) is an agreement between British Columbia, Oregon, California, and Washington (the PCC minus Alaska) to lead national and international policy on climate change, transition the West Coast to clean modes of transportation and reduce the large share of greenhouse gas emissions from this sector, and to invest in clean energy and climate resilient infrastructure.

More information: <http://www.pacificcoastcollaborative.org/Pages/Welcome.aspx>
<http://www.pacificcoastcollaborative.org/Documents/Pacific%20Coast%20Climate%20Action%20Plan.pdf>

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21. Washington – British Columbia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Washington – British Columbia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society is made up of fisheries biologist from WA and BC interested in the conservation and enhancement of fish populations and their environment, while also advocating on behalf of the educational and technical aspects of the fisheries profession. The mission of the BC-WA Chapter is to advance the conservation and intelligent management of aquatic resources within a context of sound ecological principles, gather and disseminate information pertaining to aquatic science and fisheries management, and to promote the educational and technical aspects of the fisheries profession.

More information: <http://wabc-afs.org/about-us/>

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22. British Columbia – Montana Environmental Cooperation Arrangement

- i. British Columbia – Montana MOU and Cooperation on Environmental Protection, Climate Action, and Energy

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Energy, Climate Change*

Summary: The Province of British Columbia and the State of Montana established the British Columbia/Montana Environmental Cooperation Arrangement in 2003 to identify, coordinate and promote mutual efforts to ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of their shared environment for the benefit of current and future generations. Both governments recognize that environmental concerns and impacts respect neither geographical nor political boundaries, and that there is significant benefit in cooperation and collaboration on mutual environmental interests.

Acting on the obligation of the 2003 British Columbia - Montana Environmental Cooperation Arrangement, an MOU and Cooperation on Environmental Protection, Climate Action, and Energy was signed in 2010 by the Premier of British Columbia and the Governor of Montana. The MOU provides a framework for collaboration on environmental protection, climate action, and renewable energy. Signatories will work with US and Canada Federal, State, and Provincial governments, Ktunaxa Nation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, as well leaders from business, environmental advocates, and scientists.

In terms of environmental protection it is a commitment to work together to remove mining, oil and gas, and coal development in the Flathead River Basin; cooperate on fish & wildlife management; collaborate on any projects with cross-border significance that could possibly degrade land or water resources; share information proactively; and collaborate in responding to emergencies. In terms of climate action it is an agreement to facilitate adaptation to climate change, promote a wood building culture, measure progress in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In regards to renewable energy the two governments are working together to pursue cooperative clean and renewable transboundary gas policies, harmonized definitions of low impact renewable resources, support the West Renewable Energy Zones (WREZ) Project, encourage a “conversation first” utility framework, leverage energy efficiency through building codes, and enable clean transportation solutions.

More information:

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/spd/docs/Montana_ENVIRONMENTAL_COOP_ARRANGEMENT.pdf

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/igrs/attachments/en/MTEnvCoop.pdf>

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23. Montana – Alberta St. Mary and Milk Rivers Water Management Initiative

Keywords: *Transboundary River Management, Ecosystem Functioning*

Summary: The Boundary Waters Treaty formally governs these waters, however, in 2006 the IJC suggested that Alberta and Montana begin high-level discussions regarding the use and management of their shared waters as these rivers were heavily oversubscribed by a variety of users on both sides and suffering from inadequate infrastructure investment and rapid degradation. As a result, a joint Terms of Reference was signed in 2008 by Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer and Premier Ed Stelmach of Alberta, authorizing this transboundary water management plan. The objectives of the initiative include improved access for Alberta and Montana to the shared waters of the St. Mary and Milk Rivers; enhanced decision-making processes that link water management with the needs of water users in both jurisdictions; and reliable water supply access for Alberta irrigators and other water users within the Milk River Basin. There are a wide variety of

water uses within the St. Mary and Milk River basins, however, this initiative focuses on irrigation and environmental in-stream flows.

The initiative's working group consists of six members from each jurisdiction including irrigators, city council members, department of natural resources employees and tribal representatives. Additional participants include technical support staff from the IJC, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Canadian federal departments, and others, as well as stakeholder groups from around the basin. Their initial recommendations for future action to meet the initiative goals were delivered to the Premier and the Governor in 2010 and work continues on refining and funding these initial recommendations.

More information: <http://esrd.alberta.ca/water/programs-and-services/river-management-frameworks/montana-alberta-st-mary-and-milk-rivers-water-management-initiative/documents/StMaryMilkRiversInitiative-Terms-2008.pdf>

Contact Information:

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24. British Columbia – Idaho Environmental Cooperation Arrangement

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Province of British Columbia and the State of Idaho established the British Columbia/Idaho Environmental Cooperation Initiative in 2003 to identify, coordinate and promote mutual efforts to ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of our shared environment for the benefit of current and future generations. Both governments recognize that environmental concerns and impacts respect neither geographical nor political boundaries, and that there is significant benefit in cooperation and collaboration on mutual environmental interests.

More information:

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/spd/docs/Idaho_ENVIRO_COOP_ARNGMNT.pdf
http://www.deq.idaho.gov/media/562986-all_bc_idaho_2004_285_286_287.pdf

Contact Information: Idaho DEQ State Office: (208) 373-0502

25. Oil Spill Memorandum of Cooperation (Pacific States and British Oil Spill Task Force – 2001)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Toxics*

Summary: The Pacific States/British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force was authorized by a Memorandum of Cooperation signed in 1989 by the Governors of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and California and the Premier of British Columbia, following two oil spill

incidents: the tank barge Nestucca spilled oil on the coasts of Washington and British Columbia in 1988; and, three months later, the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska. In 2001 a revised Memorandum of Cooperation was written to include the State of Hawaii and a focus on spill preparedness and prevention needs. The continuing focus of the Task Force is on fostering regulatory consistency, sharing information and resources, and coordinating development and implementation of new policies and programs to reduce the risk of marine oil spills.

The Task Force Members are senior executives from the environmental agencies with oil spill regulatory authority in the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California and Hawaii and the Province of British Columbia. Oil spill program managers from each member agency comprise the Task Force's Coordinating Committee, which oversees activities and projects as authorized by the Members when they adopt a Five Year Strategic Plan and Annual Work Plans. The Coordinating Committee convenes four times a year. The Task Force Members hold their Annual Meetings each summer, rotating locations among member jurisdictions. The Task Force Executive Coordinator staffs the Task Force and provides liaison with stakeholders (industry, agencies, NGOs), arranges and facilitates meetings, develops comments and other documents, and coordinates project implementation.

More information: <http://oilspilltaskforce.org>

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26. Pacific Northwest Environmental Directors

Keywords: *Ecosystem Functions*

Summary: This group is made up of environmental directors from Washington, British Columbia, Oregon, Idaho, Alaska, Yukon and Alberta and the administrators of EPA R10, and Environment Canada Pacific & Yukon Region. It has been facilitated by Ross & Associates with two or three informal meetings a year.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

Contact Information:

EPA Region 10, Seattle Office

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27. Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER)

- i. Energy & Environment
- ii. Water Policy Working Group
- iii. Invasive Species

Keywords: *Transboundary River Governance, Energy, Invasive Species*

Summary: Based on a proposal created by the Pacific NW Legislative Leadership Forum in 1988, The Pacific Northwest Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory public/private non-profit created in 1991 by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Washington, and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. Canada's Yukon Territory, Saskatchewan and Northwest Territories joined later. PNWER is made up of all state and provincial legislators. The governors and premiers were added to the PNWER governance structure in 1993.

Their mission is to increase the economic well-being and quality of life for all citizens of the region, while maintaining and enhancing our natural environment. PNWER facilitates working groups consisting of public and private leaders to address specific issues impacting the regional economy: Agriculture, Arctic Caucus, Cross Border Livestock Health, Border Issues, Security & Disaster Resilience, Energy I (Transmission), Energy II (Renewable Energy), Environment, Health Care Innovation, Invasive Species, Sustainable Development, Telecom, Trade and Economic Development, Transportation, Tourism, Water Policy, and Workforce Development.

Through its Water Policy Working Group, PNWER is beginning a dialogue to address important regional water issues such as the renegotiation of the Columbia River Basin Treaty and the effects of climate change on water management. This particular working group is under the leadership of Senator Jim Honeyford of Washington State, David Hill of the Centres and Institutes and Research Advocacy (CIRA) University of Lethbridge, and Felicia Muncaster from PNWER.

More information:

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

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28. High Ross Treaty

- i. Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Energy, Transboundary River Governance*

Summary: The High Ross Treaty was signed by the U.S. and Canada based on an Agreement between the City of Seattle and British Columbia, resolving their dispute over the Ross Dam. In the Treaty, Seattle agreed not to raise the height of the Ross Dam (which would flood sensitive ecological areas in BC) for 80 years in exchange for the ability to purchase power at rates equivalent to that which they would have achieved had the dam been raised as planned. As part of the Treaty, the Skagit Environmental

Endowment Commission was established in order to promote recreation opportunities and preserve the fish and wildlife habitat of the Upper Skagit Watershed until the Treaty expires in 2065.

More information: <http://skagiteec.org/about/high-ross-treaty>

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29. Columbia Basin Rapid Response Plan

i. The 100th Meridian Initiative

Keywords: *Invasive Species*

Summary: In 2009, British Columbia signed on as a partner in the Columbia Basin Rapid Response Plan, a 100th Meridian Initiative objective, along with Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. The system provides early detection, rapid response and notification about zebra and quagga mussels.

The 100th Meridian Initiative is a cooperative effort between local, state, provincial, regional and federal agencies to prevent the westward spread of zebra/quagga mussels and other aquatic nuisance species in North America. The Columbia River Basin Team is comprised of 100th Meridian Initiative partners primarily in Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, and British Columbia. In 2011 a response plan was signed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission; the states of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington; and the Canadian province of British Columbia.

More information: http://100thmeridian.org/Columbia_RBT.asp

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REGIONAL

30. Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative (GNLCC)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Great Northern Landscape Conservation Cooperative (GNLCC) partnership is network of U.S. federal, Canadian provincial and federal, Tribal Nations, state, academic, and conservation organizations working to create and move towards a collective vision for the landscape that is science-based and community oriented by funding partner projects across the region. It is one of 22 LCCs established by the U.S. Department of the Interior and it is their job is to provide the context and make the case for why landscape-level conservation and coordination is important. Everyone within the Great Northern Landscape, a binational area that covers over 300 million acres from the Yukon down to northern Wyoming, is a potential partner to the GNLCC. The GNLCC is governed by a Steering Committee, which sets the vision, goals and priorities and an Advisory Team, which works with the GNLCC Coordinators to develop foundational information and provide recommendations to the Steering Committee. The Science Community develops and provides specific science needs and four Partner Forums help set priorities for or support on-the-ground landscape conservation.

The GNLCC is a transboundary organization, but given that is a U.S. Fish and Wildlife project there is more U.S. participation historically. However, GNLCC is currently supporting the Transboundary Flathead River Basin Coordination effort which stems from the 2010 MOU signed by British Columbia and Montana (see #18). Alberta is also actively participating in many of the GNLCC initiatives.

More information: <http://greatnorthernlcc.org/>

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31. North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: Like the GNLCC, the Northern Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative (NPLCC) is a collaboration between state, provincial, federal, Tribal / First Nations, academic, and environmental representatives working to achieve a collective landscape vision for the Pacific coastal region extending from northern California up to southern Alaska. The NPLCC promotes development, coordination, and dissemination of science to inform landscape level conservation and sustainable resource management in the face of a changing climate and related environmental stressors. The NPLCC is governed by a Steering Committee (SC) with a core staff that reports to the SC and implements both the SC strategic plan and the day-to-day operations of the LCC. The SC establishes and

supervises standing Subcommittees and other ad hoc groups as necessary to help execute its responsibilities.

One of their most successful initiatives at this time is their Conservation Planning Atlas which is a large landscape data set that includes data from both U.S. and Canadian scientists. In order to create this transboundary information exchange they held a series of data translation workshops in order to convert all the data into one standardized format that could be used by scientists and policy makers on both sides of the border. The dataset is hosted on their servers and is accessible to everyone.

More information: <http://northpacificlcc.org/>

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32. The Crown of the Continent Conservation Initiative (CCCI)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The 18 million acre region where Montana, British Columbia and Alberta converge is known as the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem. The Crown of the Continent Conservation Initiative (CCCI) was created to advance a long-term conservation vision for the whole of the Crown ecosystem that will sustain the Crown's rich biodiversity, interconnected wildlands, cold, clean waters, diverse and critical habitats, and landscape connectivity, while supporting sustainable and vibrant regional communities.

The CCCI is governed by a Steering Committee of conservation groups, land trusts and academic institutions. It has a Science Advisory Committee that helps focus on key priorities in the face of a changing climate. CCCI is administered by the Yellowstone to Yukon Conservation Initiative, but remains an independent collaborative. In the interest of focusing vital resources where they are needed the most – on the ground, with the grassroots organizations doing conservation work – CCCI only retains one staff person, and a few contractors to serve its partners working around the Crown.

More information: <http://www.crownconservation.net/>

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33. Crown Managers Partnership

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Invasive Species*

Summary: The Crown Managers Partnership seeks to demonstrate leadership in addressing the environmental management challenges in the Crown of the Continent Ecosystem region by adopting transboundary collaborative approaches to environmental management. The voluntary partnership seeks to build common awareness of Crown interests and issues, shape relationships, and identify collaborative and complementary tasks that the various participating jurisdictions can pursue. The CMP is led by an Interagency Steering Committee (Steering Committee), which includes representatives from aboriginal agencies; Federal, Provincial and State agencies; the Universities of Calgary and Montana; and the Secretariat. Their water work currently focuses on controlling aquatic invasive species, such as quagga and zebra mussels, but also includes addressing overall water quality in the Crown of the Continent region. The CMP holds an annual conference – the theme for their March, 2015 conference held in Lethbridge, Alberta was *People, Climate and Terrestrial Invasive Species: Taking Collective Action in the Crown of the Continent*.

More information: <http://crownmanagers.org/>

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34. Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Roundtable on the Crown of the Continent is a network that has been connecting people and organizations within the Crown on topics of community, culture, and conservation for seven years now. The Roundtable has observed and recognized that the future of the Crown is shaped by over 100 government agencies, non-government organizations, and place-based partnerships. The Crown's activities center around their Adaptive Management Initiative to promote climate adaptation strategies, and the ongoing facilitation of communication and dialogue which they do so through forums, workshops, policy dialogues, newsletters and conferences that all provide an opportunity to exchange ideas, build relationships, and explore opportunities to work together.

The Roundtable is not an official commission authorized by any government agency, nor is it any single group of people; however it is currently co-convened and staffed by the Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and the Sonoran Institute with a core leadership team of members representing stakeholders from both the U.S. and Canada to provide input and advice on the activities of the Roundtable.

More information: <http://www.crownroundtable.org/index.html>

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35. Puget Sound Partnership

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Puget Sound Partnership, created in 2007, coordinates the regional effort to cleanup Puget Sound. The Partnership is the backbone organization connecting citizens, governments, tribes, scientists and businesses together to set priorities, implement a regional recovery plan, and ensure accountability for results. The Partnership is also the Regional Recovery Organization for the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region as of January 2008. The Partnership was one of the original programs in Congress's 1987 National Estuary Program (NEP) which was established to protect estuaries of national significance that are threatened by degradation caused by human activity. Puget Sound was given priority status in the 1987 amendments to the Clean Water Act. As it stands the Partnership is strictly an organization that operates within the U.S.

More information: <http://www.psp.wa.gov/aboutthepartnership.php>

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36. Lake Roosevelt Forum

Keyword: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Lake Roosevelt Forum is a clearinghouse for dialogue about Lake Roosevelt and the upper Columbia River. Their mission is to establish a dialogue based on trust and respect of all views that seek common ways to protect and preserve the quality of environment and enhance the quality of life as they relate to the lake and economies of the region. Since the only regulatory authority over the Columbia River belongs to federal agencies, they provide a place for the local communities, tribes, and governments to have their voice heard and contribute to the management of the reservoir and river.

Lake Roosevelt resulted from the finalizing of Grand Coulee Dam in 1942 when the waters rose more than 400 feet to support development of the Bureau of Reclamation's Columbia Basin Project. Grand Coulee Dam blocked the return of salmon from the Pacific, and the free flowing upper Columbia River became regulated. In addition,

upstream mining, milling, smelting and pulp operations resulted in toxins, e.g.—lead, zinc and mercury, being embedded in Lake Roosevelt's sediment.

Two Native American tribes, federal agencies, state agencies and four counties have specific interests in the management of the lake. Individually and collectively, they seek to meet a diverse set of environmental, economic and cultural needs. However, their Lake Roosevelt Conference, which happens every 18 months, brings people together from all over the region including Canada. In addition the Forum has been coordinating with local provincial government groups in British Columbia for three to four years now and they are in the process of deciding how to move forward on cross-border activities.

More information: <http://www.lrf.org/>

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37. Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan (UKEEP)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Plan helps protect and enhance fish, wildlife and habitats in and around Koocanusa Reservoir and its tributaries in the Kootenay River system. It is operated jointly by the Columbia Basin Trust and the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP); the FWCP is a partnership between BC Hydro, the Province of British Columbia, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, First Nations and local communities with a mission to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats that are affected by the creation and operation of BC Hydro generation facilities in the Coastal, Columbia, and Peace Regions of British Columbia. The UKEEP funds many large projects annually aimed at restoring lakes, streams, dry/upland areas, wetlands, and protecting endangered or threatened species within the Kootenay River system.

More information: <http://www.cbt.org/initiatives/environmental/?UKEEP>

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38. Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP)

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Program (PNAMP) provides a forum where entities can collaborate voluntarily around aquatic monitoring topics of interest. Their main goal is to improve effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of monitoring programs in the Pacific Northwest to ultimately improve management decision making, in particular anadromous species abundance, distribution, and habitat. The partner-based steering committee endorses participant working groups and teams which in turn map out the forum's activities. The coordinating staff, employed by United States Geological Survey (USGS), serves to enhance and support PNAMP collaboration on topics of importance.

Their main concerns at the moment are trying to get agreement across jurisdictions on a short list of high-level environmental indicators, coordinating monitoring efforts and a data collection, and making those monitoring results and data accessible to the public. They recently built a functional, free, online tool set for monitoring practitioners to be able to document their protocols, methods, and sites. Although their work is conceptually transboundary at the moment they have no initiatives where they are working with Canada. In the past they have had conversations with counterparts in British Columbia but nothing came of it.

More information: <http://www.pnamp.org/>

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39. The Upper Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative (UCWSRI)

Keywords: *Salmon Restoration and Fish Passage*

Summary: The Upper Columbia White Sturgeon Recovery Initiative began in 2000 with an agreement signed by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, BC Environment, BC Fisheries and BC Hydro. The Initiative has a technical working group with members from federal, state and provincial government agencies from both Canada and the US, as well as Canadian First Nations and US Tribes, and industrial stakeholders and environmental groups in the Upper Columbia region. The goal of the Initiative's Recovery Plan is to restore white sturgeon natural recruitment to a level that sustains a population that can provide beneficial uses. They are doing this by diagnosing and reversing natural recruitment failure, preventing further declines in the population, and implementing conservation aquaculture to restore population demographics and preserve genetic diversity. Once abundant, the white sturgeon has suffered a serious decline in numbers, in Canada it is listed under the Species at Risk Act (SARA) but in the US it is not listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act, in fact it has no federal designation at all.

More information: <http://uppercolumbiasturgeon.org/>

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40. Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) (formally the Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee CKIPC)

Keywords: *Invasive Species*

Summary: The Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society (CKISS) is a non-profit society with a network of partners collaborating to control and manage invasive species in the Central Kootenay region on behalf of their stakeholders and the public. It was formed in 2005 by a group of residents and company/agency representatives in the geographic area of the Regional District of the Central Kootenay and Areas A & B of the Regional District of the Kootenay Boundary who were interested in promoting collaborative approaches to invasive species management. The Society includes representatives from non--profit societies, utility companies, government agencies, and regional companies. Although the initiative is based out of the Central Kootenay region, invasive species do not adhere to any boundaries and therefore the management of them must be transboundary. CKISS currently works with Washington Forest Service, the 100th Meridian Initiative, Idaho Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Agriculture, Government of Alberta, and all of the state counties below the Central Kootenay region.

More information: <http://ckiss.ca/>

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41. North Cascades Institute Grizzly Bear Restoration Plan

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: Since 1986 North Cascades Institute has inspired closer relationships with nature through direct experiences in the natural world. Their mission is to conserve and restore Northwest environments through education. One of their initiatives is to support active restoration of grizzly bears to the Greater North Cascades Ecosystem, a contiguous wildlands that spans across the US/Canada international border. In the US the majority of this ecosystem is under public management as the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan, and Wenatchee National Forests, and the Glacier Peak, Pasayten, Mount Baker, Chelan-Sawtooth, Boulder River, Noisy-Diobsud, Alpine Lakes, and Henry M. Jackson Wilderness Areas. In Canada much of this ecosystem is part of Manning and Cathedral

Provincial Parks, the Skagit and Cascade Recreation Areas, and Provincial (Crown) Forests. The institute includes the National Park Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and various partner agencies that have come together to restore this major key stone species.

More information: <http://ncascades.org/discover/north-cascades-ecosystem/grizzly-bear-restoration-plan>

Contact Information:

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42. Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society (SMSS)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Salmo Watershed Streamkeepers Society is a charitable, non-profit organization that collaborates on transboundary water issues related to the Salmo River. SWSS promotes awareness of threatened fish and wildlife in the Salmo Watershed, produces scientific studies, monitors water resources, is involved in wetland and river habitat restoration, provides educational material to the public, and advocates for environment and natural systems conservation. The Salmo River Watershed is located in an interior-rainforest in the West Kootenay region of British Columbia, Canada. The Salmo River itself is mainly on the Canadian side but a portion of it dips into Washington; it also connects to the Columbia River Basin.

More information: <http://www.streamkeepers.bc.ca/>

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43. Milk River Watershed Council Canada (MRWCC) / Milk River Watershed Alliance (MRWA)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Milk River Watershed Council Canada (MRWCC) is an independent organization that is a broad partnership of interested and informed people living and working in the Milk River Watershed who provides leadership in watershed management and planning. As a transboundary watershed in southern Alberta, they aim to foster good relationships with their neighbours in the province of Saskatchewan and the state of Montana for the continued co-management of the Milk River waters. Their mandate is to engage governments, stakeholders, other partnerships, and the public in watershed assessment and watershed management planning, considering existing land and resource management planning processes and decision-making authorities. The MRWCC supports the goals of Alberta's Water for Life Strategy in the Milk River Watershed which is: safe, secure drinking water supplies; reliable water supplies for a sustainable economy; and healthy aquatic ecosystems. The MRWCC is made up of 19 Directors. Directors are elected for a two-year term by the membership.

The Milk River Watershed Alliance (MRWA) is a grass roots organization working together to preserve, protect, and enhance natural resources within the Milk River watershed while maintaining the quality of life. The MRWA is a group of basin residents, Conservation Districts, Natural Resource Managers, Tribes, and municipalities working together and covers the four counties of Blaine, Hill, Phillips, and Valley. The MRWA meets quarterly to take care of watershed issues at a local level.

More Information: <http://www.mrwcc.ca/>

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44. The Universities Consortium on Columbia River Governance (UCCRG)

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: In 2008, faculty from the public universities in the Columbia River Basin created the Universities Consortium on Columbia River Governance to offer a nonpartisan platform to facilitate an informed, inclusive, international dialogue among key decision-makers and other interested people and organizations. Currently it includes faculty members from the University of British Columbia, The University of Montana, The University of Idaho, Oregon State University, and Washington State University. The UCCRG acts as a tool to connect university research, with the help of students, to the needs and interests of actors within the Columbia River Basin. Specifically it provides

decision-relevant information through convening an annual symposium for transboundary-centered conversations on governance of the Columbia River and its resources as well as the Columbia River Treaty. The annual symposiums facilitate an informed, inclusive, international dialogue among key decision makers and interested citizens and organization of the Columbia Basin; they are unofficial meetings separate from any formal review of the Columbia River Treaty where the atmosphere is safe and non-judgmental in order for communication to be freely exchanged and relationships built. The most recent symposium (the 4th) was in the fall of 2012 in Flathead Lake in Polson, Montana where over 150 people participated, including leaders from First Nations and tribes in the International Columbia River Basin. The focus of the symposium was to explore the interests, rights, and roles of tribes and First Nations in the Basin.

More information:

<http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/index.html>

http://www.columbiarivergovernance.org/A_Shared_Responsibility_2015_FINAL.pdf

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45. The Columbia Basin Trust

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Fish Passage & Habitat, Invasive Species*

Summary: The Columbia Basin Trust was created in 1995 to support efforts by basin residents to create social, economic and environmental well-being in the Canadian portion of the Columbia River Basin. The Trust is mandated under the Columbia Basin Trust Act and receives funding from the province of British Columbia, BC Hydro, and others to pursue its own programs and to fund projects in the basin related to community environmental management. The Trust engages with stakeholders throughout the basin in ongoing dialogue about how to best work together to create a healthy environment for all basin residents. The Trust is also committed to developing sustainable economic futures for basin communities, providing grants and loans to local businesses and organizations in need of funding to expand or renovate their operations. The Trust's water work is centered around three (3) primary objectives: 1) Strengthening the basin's research & monitoring capabilities; 2) Enhancing the capacity of basin residents to contribute to water & watershed management decisions affecting local water resources; and 3) Supporting water conservation and source protection efforts to assure availability for human & ecological needs. They have been involved in several transboundary Columbia projects including the 2014 *Learning from Our Past to Shape Our Future* stakeholder conference in Spokane, WA, resident kokanee and burbot (lingcod) co-monitoring with the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Game, and through their co-financing of the Upper Kootenay Ecosystem Enhancement Program (#37).

More information

<http://www.cbt.org/>

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46. Northwest Power & Conservation Council

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function, Fish Passage & Habitat, Invasive Species*

Summary: The mission of the Northwest Power & Conservation Council is to ensure, with public participation, an affordable and reliable energy system while enhancing fish and wildlife in the Columbia River basin. The council has two politically-appointed council members from each of the four basin states (WA, OR, MT, ID) as well as a full staff working on programs related to power planning and fish & wildlife. The council was mandated under the 1980 Northwest Power Act to prepare a plan to protect, mitigate, and enhance Columbia basin fish & wildlife that have been affected by the construction and operation of hydroelectric dams, while at the same time assuring the Pacific Northwest with economical and reliable electric power supply. The Council's Fish & Wildlife Committee meets monthly to address issues of concern including water temperature, fish passage, and invasive species; these meetings are free and open to the public. The Council also partners with state and tribal governments, as well as universities and other stakeholder groups to fund restoration and invasive prevention activities throughout the U.S. portion of the basin. They co-hosted the 2014 *Learning from Our Past to Shape Our Future* international stakeholder conference with the Columbia Basin Trust, and are currently exploring the expansion of their transboundary role in the basin.

More information

www.nwcouncil.org

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47. Upper Columbia River Project

Keywords: *Toxics mitigation, ecosystem function*

Summary: The Upper Columbia River Project funds remediation efforts in the Lake Roosevelt reach of the Columbia River basin stemming from mining operations upstream near Trail, B.C. Teck American, Inc., the American subsidiary of Teck Resources, Ltd., which operates the Trail, B.C. smelter, created this project in partnership with the U.S. EPA in 2006 in order to sample and monitor soil and water quality above Grand Coulee dam and to lead remediation efforts. Other project partners include: Spokane Tribe of Indians, Colville Confederated Tribes, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington Department of Ecology, BC Ministry of the Environment, and Natural Resources Canada.

More Information

www.ucr-rifs.com

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48. Canadian Okanagan Basin Technical Working Group (COBTWG)

Keywords: *Fish Passage and Habitat*

Summary: The COBTWG is a working group made up of members of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the B.C. Ministry of the Environment, and the Okanagan Nation Alliance (ONA) fisheries program. The group addresses the management of salmon and resident fish stocks within the Canadian portion of the Okanagan basin. They also conduct habitat restoration activities in the reach and, since 2003, have overseen the experimental reintroduction of sockeye salmon to Skaha Lake. The COBTWG works with its U.S. counterparts on an ad-hoc basis through the Bilateral Okanagan Technical Working Group (BOTWG), which meets periodically to discuss fisheries issues within the transboundary basin. Past U.S. participants have included the Colville Confederated Tribes, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and various public utility districts. These meetings give the agencies the opportunity to discuss technical issues and identify areas for collaboration related to salmon stocks, habitat restoration, and other aquatic initiatives.

More Information

Fisheries and Oceans Canada: www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Okanagan Nation Alliance: www.sylix.org

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49. Columbia River Treaty Conservation Caucus

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Columbia River Treaty Conservation Caucus is a network of conservation organizations including the Center For Environmental Law & Policy, Save Our Wild Salmon, The Pacific Rivers Council, and others, advocating for an updated Columbia River Treaty. In coordination with the 15 Columbia basin Tribes, the Caucus is advocating for the following treaty revisions:

1. Making the restoration and management of the Columbia River ecosystem a co-equal treaty goal along with power production and flood control
2. Taking concrete steps to address the Treaty's injustices to the Columbia basin's native people, salmon, and the broader ecosystem
3. Providing a framework to help people on both sides of the international border respond to the unprecedented impacts climate change is causing to our waters and ecosystems.

This organization was founded in 2013 and has advocated its position in Washington, D.C. and throughout the Pacific Northwest. In 2016, they also joined more than 40 other conservation, commercial and recreational fishing, and faith communities in signing a letter to the BC Premier, the Canadian Foreign Affairs Minister, and the U.S. Secretary of State requesting that the CRT be updated to better reflect current water management values. The letter can be found here:

www.wildsalmon.org/images/stories/PDFs/Fact_Sheets/CRT.US.CA.Ltr.final.us.pdf

More Information

www.celp.org

www.wildsalmon.org

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50. Columbia River Treaty Roundtable

Keywords: *Ecosystem Function*

Summary: The Roundtable was created to promote Columbia River community by working together and connecting across the international boundary. Participants include citizens, business, and other organizations in the United State and Canada who support “modernizing” the Columbia River Treaty by adding ecosystem function as a 3rd Treaty Purpose and by engaging around equitable flood risk management for communities basin-wide. The Roundtable’s first meeting was held in Nelson, BC in November 2013 and it continues to play a coordinating and networking role. They also advocate on behalf of the basin tribes and First Nations who have suffered disproportionately in terms of loss of tribal fisheries function and the flooding of large portions of their homelands behind the river’s many hydrodams.

More Information

Center for Environmental Law & Policy: www.celp.org/Columbia-river-treaty-round-table/

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