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New report, website consolidate information on Columbia River Basin's fish and wildlife

PORTLAND, Ore. – Finding information about the status of fish and wildlife populations in the Columbia River Basin has just become easier with the release of a new report and website developed by state, federal and tribal fish and wildlife resource managers from throughout the Northwest.

Drawing from these and other sources, *The Status of Fish and Wildlife Resources in the Columbia River Basin* profiles the status and trends of fish and wildlife, habitat conditions and efforts to improve fish and wildlife populations throughout the Columbia River Basin.

Information provided in the annual report is supported by a website (www.cbfwa.org/sotr) that allows users to view data at a finer scale, subbasin by subbasin, from the Columbia River estuary to the upper Snake River. The web-based format is intended to be dynamic. Additional data will be incorporated on-line as it becomes available.

Users can quickly identify what fish and wildlife populations are the focus of restoration efforts in an area, how they and their habitat are doing, and what actions are being taken to improve those populations.

The project is an on-going effort coordinated by the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority (CBFWA), with collaboration from numerous tribal, state and federal agencies.

Funding was provided by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) as part of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program that helps mitigate impacts to fish and wildlife caused by the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System.

The report was developed in collaboration with BPA and the Council to provide an easy-to-read guidebook on the annual status and results of mitigation efforts in the Columbia River Basin.

The CBFWA, which developed the report, was chartered in 1987 to coordinate ongoing efforts to protect and enhance the fish and wildlife resources of the Columbia River Basin. Members of the CBFWA include the Burns Paiute Tribe, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Kootenai

Tribe of Idaho, Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, National Marine Fisheries Service, Nez Perce Tribe, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall, Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of Duck Valley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Information about CBFWA is available at www.cbfwa.org.

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For more information or to schedule an interview with Brian Lipscomb, Executive Director of the Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority, please contact Terri Lindau at 503-229-0191.