Killer Whales, Salmon, Taxes & LSR Dams



Art by Ariel Omega Young

Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) At Risk of Extinction

Decrease in salmon

Increase in mortality

➢ J, K & L pods need ~1500 salmon a day



Haro Strait

Photo Betsey Thoennes

J-Pod J-34

April 10th 2016

April 28th 2016





Photo Susan Berta



James Island, Sidney Channel

Photo Mark Malleson



Runs < 3% of historic 10-16 million salmon</p>

> \$900M & 15 years failed fish recovery



Solution Is Breaching 4 Dams

➢ Breaching is quick & far cheaper

Dam removal is costly and unnecessary





You Can Help If You Care About...





- 🖻 ≽ Salmon



Your taxes and power bill

JOES > Economic opportunities

Lower Snake River Slack Water















Reasons For Breaching

Dams are driving species to extinction

\$800M - \$1B failed efforts for salmon passage

Climate change poses new challenges

Dams could violate U.S. Treaties



River transportation in long-term decline, farmers shifting to rail

Hydropower already replaced

Corps Walla Walla District understated cost of keeping the dams by \$161M per year



Dams cost millions in lost economic benefits

Increased recreation will provide 2,350 – 4,100 jobs

The Corps can no longer afford non-productive infrastructure

Why The Universal Belief That Dam Breaching Is Too Costly?



Ice Harbor Dam

Photo USACE Walla Walla District







US Army Corps of Engineers® Northwestern Division

RECORD OF DECISION

Lower Snake River Juvenile Salmon Migration Feasibility Study

September 2002



2002 EIS

> Feasibility of breaching to restore salmon runs

7 Years & \$33 Million

Dam maintenance underestimated

Cost of breaching overestimated

> Remains the operable EIS for the dams



2002 EIS Keep vs Breach



Figure 3.8-1. Comparison of Annual Implementation Costs Reference: Lower Snake Feasibility Report / Environmental Impact Statement

2002 Corrected + Future Costs



Reference: Cost Report, July 2014, Jim Waddell

2002 Corrected Annual Costs



Reference: Cost Report, July 2014, Jim Waddell



Supplementing 2002 EIS

- Cost errors revealed & corrected
- Breaching dams
 - Most Reasonable and Prudent Alternative
 - Frees up millions of dollars
 - Increases economic benefits



Benefit Cost Ratios



Wild Salmon Survival



"Figure 4.1. SARs from smolts at uppermost Snake River dam to Columbia River returns (including jacks) for wild Snake River spring/summer Chinook, 1964-2013. ... The NPCC (2014) 2%-6% objective for listed wild populations is shown for reference; SAR for 2013 is complete through 2-salt returns only."

Reference: Fish Passage Center 2015 CSS Annual Report

Hatchery Fish Survival



Figure 9. Weighted SARLGR-to-LGR for Dworshak NFH spring Chinook (1997–2013) and Clearwater-B hatchery steelhead (2008–2012). Migration year 2013 is incomplete for yearling Chinook, with Age 2-salt adult returns through 9/14/2015. http://www.fpc.org/hatchery/dworshakhatchery2015.pdf

Reference: Fish Passage Center: 2015 Dworshak National Fish Hatchery Report



Columbia/Snake River chinook are represented by the blue band Reference: Jane Cogan & Center for Whale Research EARTH ECONOMICS



Reference: Mojica, J., Cousins, K., Briceno, T., 2016. National Economic Analysis of the Four Lower Snake River Dams: A Review of the 2002 Lower Snake Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement. Economic Appendix (I). Earth Economics, Tacoma, WA.



Recreation

\$ \$290 - \$501 Million

JOBS 2,350 - 4,100

Jet boaters & skiers, rafters, kayakers, canoeists, swimmers, picnickers, campers, hikers, mountain bikers, hunters & anglers



White Salmon Before and After Condit Dam

Photo Ben Knight

The spending associated with recreation along a free-flowing LSR will generate substantial economic activity throughout the region, with the greatest economic activity occurring in the first four years.



Opposition

NOAA West Coast

> BPA

- Corps Northwest Division
- Lower Snake Ports, e.g. Port of Lewiston
- PNWA, NW RiverPartners



Local & Regional Politics

> Leaders have been misinformed since 2002

Political Mission Impossible: keeping salmon and the four lower Snake River dams

Lack of political will

> Lack of community insistence to breach dams *now*

Likely Last Call for Snake River Wild Salmon



Susitna River Wild Salmon

Photo Matt Stoecker

Why So Urgent?



- Snake wild salmon runs will be lost in 1-3 years, with hatcheries not far behind
- Obama can act before government change-over





Biological, technical, economic and financial data support dam breaching



US Army Corps of Engineers.



EIS provides authority to breach and funding mechanisms in place: freed up money can be re-applied to Columbia River dams



Congressional action not necessary

Opportunity to Leave Lasting Legacy



Barack Obama President of the United States



Jo-Ellen Darcy Assistant Secretary of the Army Civil Works



➢ Over 50 affected tribes



Leaders should seek corrected information

Public must demand action

There Is Hope



Elwha River basin roaring back to health

> Klammath River dam removal project announced

Update on LSR Dams & Federal Agencies

> Far more gain by breaching: salmon, jobs, reliable power



What Legacy Will We Leave?

A Free Flowing Snake River with Salmon for Life

or

Extinctions for Salmon and SRKWs

"You can always count on Americans to do the right thing – after they've tried everything else!" Winston Churchill

Like the Free Flowing Elwha Below Snake River Will Recover If We Let It



Elwha River

Photo Ben Knight

Killer Whales, Salmon, Taxes & LSR Dams



Art by Ariel Omega Young

END

Supporting information follows...

After Breaching Lower Granite Dam will look something like this...



Summary - Economic Effects

Adalative Average Annual Costs - \$Millions)

Lower Snelke River Feasibility Study

USER AREA	MAX TRANSPORT	SYSTEM Impendenter	DAM Arfaring
GOST			
Power	4		1\$271)
Navigation	_	2. 2	(\$24)
brigation	3 4 3	3 	(\$15)
Implementation	-	(\$6)	(\$49)
S/T Costs	22	(\$6)	(\$359)
BENEFITS			10000,
Comm. Fishing	-		\$2
Avoided Costs		-	\$29
Implementation	\$4	-	42.5
Recreation	\$2	\$2	\$82
Power	\$8	\$8	ç5r
S/T Benefits	\$14	\$10	\$113

Note: Numbers reflect change from current condition (base case).

FROM CORPS 1999-2000 INFORMATION BRIEFINGS

3

Lowar Snake River Feasibility Study Summary - Economic Effects

(Belative Average Annual Costs - \$Millions)

	USEB AREA	MAX TRANSPORT	SYSTEM Improvement	DAM Breachtng
	GOST			and the second
	Power		2 <u>1</u> 2	(\$271) 7
	Navigation	<u>_</u>	-	(\$24) (\$2)
12	brigation	-	-	(\$15) (\$8)
	Implementation	-	(\$6)	(\$49) (# 39)
	S/T Costs	-	(\$6)	(\$359) (4 320)
	BENEFITS			
	Comm. Fishing	. 8		\$2 2
	Avoided Costs	2	_	\$29 4 217
	Implementation	\$4	-	-
	Recreation	\$2	\$2	\$82 4 172
	Power	\$8	\$8	
	S/T Benefits	\$14	\$10	\$113 \$ 389
	NET EGONOMIC EFFECT	\$114	- \$4	(\$7/2001)
	Note: Numbers reflect change fi	rom current co	ndition (base cas	64 MILL AVRG. AND
SOF	I JAN 205 A DI	FFERENCE	OF \$ 315 1	AILLION 31

Jowar Snelks River Feedbillity Study Summary - Economic Effects

(Delativo Average Annual Costs - SMIHons)

USER AREA	WAX TRANSPORT	SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT	DAM RATE BRIACHING
GOST		dein ar an in second	
Power	2	-	(\$271) ?
Navigation	2	-	(\$24) (\$2)
Irrigation	-	-	(\$45) (\$8)
Implementation	-	(\$6)	(\$49) (450)
S/T Costs	2	(\$6)	(\$350) (4331)
BENEFITS		8888 -C	
Comm. Fishing	1	<u>.</u>	\$2 7
Avoided Costs	1		\$29 \$313
Implementation	\$4	2 <u>2</u>	
Recreation	\$2	\$2	\$82 \$ 172
Power	\$8	\$8	
S/T Benefits	\$14	\$10	\$113 \$ 489
NET ECONOMIC EFFECT	\$14	\$4	1922. 19

Note: Numbers reflect change from current condition (base case). BENE

S

Navigation / Transport

Overall, freight volumes passing through the Ice Harbor locks (the lowest on the Snake River) have declined 20 percent since the 2002 study. Barges on LSR reservoirs are used to transport wood chips, wheat and barley, pulses (e.g., garbanzo beans), and rapeseed (canola). Commodity producers can choose shipping via rail or road. Since 2008, in large part a pipeline has moved petroleum to a refinery in Salt Lake City. Container-on-barge shipping down the Columbia effectively ended after container ships abandoned the Port of Portland in 2015.

Table 3: Tonnage by Commodity Group (000 tons)

Commodity	1987-96	1992-97	2010-14	Percent change 1987-96 to 2010-14	Percent change 1992-97 to 2010-14	
Wood chips	550.5	634.0	236.0	-57%	-63%	
Grain	3,051.4	3,038.0	2,800.0*	-8%	-8%	
Petroleum	116.4	120.0	15.8	-86%	-87%	
Total	3,718.3	3,792.0	3,051.8	-18%	-20%	

Reference: Mojica, J., Cousins, K., Briceno, T., 2016. National Economic Analysis of the Four Lower Snake River Dams: A Review of the 2002 Lower Snake Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement. Economic Appendix (I). Earth Economics, Tacoma, WA.

Water Supply

WATER SUPPLY

Approximately 34,000 acres of irrigated farmland use the reservoirs produced by the Lower Snake River dams for water supply. Should the dams be breached, these farms would either need to drill wells to reach the aquifers or modify their water withdrawal systems. The water supply values do not reflect the value of the water that is supplied, but the modification costs that would be incurred if the dams were to be breached. Because of this, there are no costs or benefits associated in the "with dams" scenario.

WITH DAMS

Although the Snake River reservoirs provide irrigation to approximately 37,000 acres of farmland, the costs versus benefits have not been calculated as the 2002 FR/EIS assessed this as a net change over the existing with dam condition.

BREACH DAMS

There have been no additional studies conducted on the cost of not having a reservoir for irrigation, and therefore the point estimate used in the analysis is the \$15.4 million (\$22.5 million in 2015 dollars) estimate from the 2002 FR/EIS. However, review to date indicates that the pumping capacity used to calculate these increased pumping costs is significantly overstated. The FR/EIS shows that the increased pumping costs would yield 1 foot of water across 37,000 acres every 19 days. The FR/EIS also assumes that the land would no longer be used for crop production, as opposed to switching to crops that demand less water, e.g., wheat or wine grapes.

USACE 2002 Lower Snake River Juvenile Salmon Migration Feasibility Report / Environmental Impact Statement, Appendix I: Economics, Table 3.4-16 (pp I3-147), available at: www.usace.army.mil/Library/2002LSRStudy.aspx

Reference: Mojica, J., Cousins, K., Briceno, T., 2016. National Economic Analysis of the Four Lower Snake River Dams: A Review of the 2002 Lower Snake Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement. Economic Appendix (I). Earth Economics, Tacoma, WA.

Recreational Expenditures & Jobs Without Dams

The spending associated with recreation along a free-flowing LSR will generate substantial economic activity throughout the region, with the greatest economic activity occurring in the first four years.

\triangleright	Jet Boating, Jet Skiing	\triangleright	Developed Camping
	Raft / Kayak / Canoe	\triangleright	Hike and Mountain Bike
	Swimming	\triangleright	Hunting
	Picnic / Primitive Camping	\triangleright	Angling

Table 5. Expected expenditures as a result of recreation from a free-flowing Lower Snake River (Values in millions, 2015 USD)

Year	Total	Asotin	Columbia	Franklin	Garfield	Walla Walla	Whitman
Year 1	\$501.1	\$120.4	\$23.6	\$141.8	\$30.1	\$50.5	\$134.7
Year 5	\$291.6	\$74.5	\$13.1	\$77.4	\$19.5	\$28.8	\$78.1
Year 10	\$347.9	\$86.8	\$16.0	\$94.7	\$22.4	\$34.7	\$93.4
Year 20	\$373.1	\$92.4	\$17.2	\$102.5	\$23.7	\$37.3	\$100.2

TABLE 7. JOBS SUPPORTED BY RECREATION EXPENDITURES

	Total	Asotin	Columbia	Franklin	Garfield	Walla Walla	Whitman
Year 1	4161	1104	181	1177	219	529	951
Year 5	2380	663	99	640	135	294	526
Year 10	2876	788	121	785	157	357	640
Year 20	3098	843	131	849	168	385	691

Reference: Mojica, J., Briceno, T., 2016. Regional Economic Analysis of the Four Lower Snake River Dams: A Review of the 2002 Lower Snake Feasibility Report/Environmental Impact Statement. Economic Appendix (I). Earth Economics, Tacoma, WA.



The 4 Dams Need to Be Breached Now But How?

- Reevaluate Corps 2002 Report
- Value Engineer Breach Plan
- Update the EIS
- Update the Cost and Economics

- Develop Financial Strategy
- Inform ALL of new & corrected information
- Develop Breach Execution Plans
- Encourage Obama to leave a lasting legacy before it's too late