

HYDROPOWER

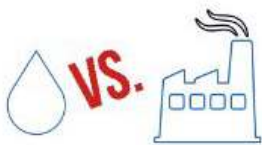
Dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers provide clean, renewable, climate-friendly electricity for the Northwest.

Northwest dams provide nearly 60 percent of the region's electricity under normal rain and snow conditions. Almost two-thirds of that output comes from federal hydroelectric projects on the Columbia and Snake Rivers, according to information from Northwest River Partners.

Because of clean renewable power, the Northwest's energy "carbon footprint" is half of that of other parts of the country.



LOWER SNAKE RIVER HYDROPOWER: BY THE NUMBERS



It would take:

2 nuclear, or

3 coal, or

6 gas-fired power plants

to replace the average annual power produced by the four Lower Snake River Dams.

\$274-372 MILLION

Annual amount the Bonneville Power Administration estimates it would cost to replace the Lower Snake River dams' capacity and energy while maintaining system reliability with natural gas.

2.0 TO 2.6 MILLION METRIC TONS

BPA estimates CO₂ admissions would increase by at least this much each year without the Lower Snake River Dams.

Given the difficulty of reducing CO₂ emissions, discarding existing CO₂-free power sources has to be considered counterproductive. —NW Power and Conservation Council.

1,000 MW

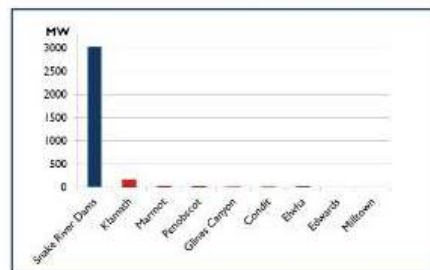
The Lower Snake River Dams produce over 1,000 megawatts of carbon-free, renewable energy annually.



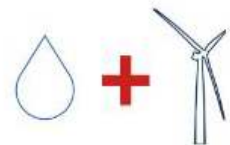
Enough to power a city like Seattle!

3,000 MW

Snake River Dams are able to provide even more energy at a moment's notice. This peak power helps us deal with power emergencies, as hydropower can come on line swiftly, unlike other energy sources. The Lower Snake River Dams play an important role in keeping our power system reliable. These dams produce significantly more energy than others where removal is/was advocated.

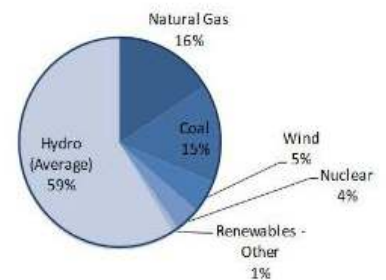


NOT ALL DAMS ARE CREATED EQUAL



Hydropower currently makes up about **90%** of the Northwest's renewable energy.

Also, hydropower is used to balance the ups and downs of wind and solar energy. A system with as much clean energy as possible requires hydropower, wind and solar working together.



The 2013 breakdown of resources for Northwest utilities demonstrates the role hydropower plays in our region and the need to add to our clean energy sources, not subtract from them.

Graphs, information courtesy of Northwest River Partners
For more, www.nwriverpartners.org; www.snakeriverdams.com

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