United for the benefit of all

Legislative Council on River Governance

Butte, Montana
Tuesday, August 21, 2018
Upper Columbia United Tribes

- Coeur d’Alene Tribe (ID):
  2,188 Members | 335,500 acres

- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (WA):
  9,353 Members | 1.4 million acres

- Kalispel Tribe of Indians (WA):
  409 Members | 4,700 acres

- Kootenai Tribe of Idaho:
  145 Members | 2,200 acres

- Spokane Tribe of Indians (WA):
  2,621 Members | 156,000 acres
UCUT Mission Statement

To Unite the Upper Columbia River Tribes for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Treaty / Executive Order Rights, Sovereignty, Culture, Fish, Water, Wildlife, Habitat and other interests and issues of common concern in our respective territories through a structured process of cooperation and coordination for the benefit of all people.
Hydropower Impacts to Fish and Wildlife
“Everyone got an equal share so that the fish would not think humans were being stingy or selfish and so refuse to return. The fate and well being of the future depended on how people treated the fish.”

-- *Mourning Dove*
Grand Coulee Dam
Chief Joseph Dam
Reintroduction: Phase 1 - Determine Viability

- Habitat Assessments (Spokane Tribe)
- Risk and Donor Stock Assessments (Colville Tribes)
- Reintroduction Strategies (All Tribes)
- High Head Dam Fish Passage Facility Options (NPCC)
- Life Cycle Modeling (UCUT)
- Alternative Fish Passage Facility Configurations
- Key Uncertainties
- Cost and Financing Considerations
- **Recommendations** – Provide the NPCC with a Phase 1 report for consideration of subsequent work to advance fish passage/reintroduction process to Phase 2
The UCUT continue to collaborate with:

• Other Tribes (15 Columbia Basin Tribes)

• First Nations (Okanagan Nation Alliance, Knutaxa Nation Council, Secwepemc Nation)

• Federal agencies (BPA, USGS, BOR, BIA, NOAA)

• State, County and City governments; and stakeholders
A Future Grand Coulee Dam
Whooshh – Salmon Cannon

Cle Elum Salmon Cannon (3 min)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=41&v=uCxNC5cJuOo
The UCUT partnered with other Tribes and Non-government Organizations to:

Conduct a natural capital evaluation of Columbia River Basin Ecosystem-Based Function for modernization of the Columbia River Treaty.

Provides a basis for an equitable comparison of economic Costs and Benefits.
Natural Capital is worth $198.9B per year.

Improving Ecosystem Function by 10% would add $19B per year to the Natural Capital of the Basin.
Brewster, Washington  

Population: 2,400

➢ Angler days increased from 0 in early 2000’s to 16,500 in 2014

➢ “… literally an incredible boom” for Brewster

➢ Half of anglers from out-of-state or western Washington

➢ Anglers have an economic multiplier impacts

➢ The city RV park expanding from 34 to 54 sites

➢ New retirement and vacation homes / world-class golf course
Other UCUT Efforts

Kootenai Tribe of Idaho – World’s only Burbot Hatchery; Kootenai River Ecosystem Restoration; Sturgeon Recovery.

Colville Tribes – Large Wildlife Mitigation projects; Invasive Fish Removal (Walleye and Northern Pike); Sturgeon Protection

Spokane Tribe – Invasive Fish Management and Removal; Fresh Water Mussels; Spokane River Water Quality.
Coeur d’Alene Tribe – Cutthroat Trout restoration; Toxics Contamination cleanup; Kokanee and Bald Eagle protection (Aviary).

Kalispel Tribe – Wildlife Mitigation projects; Invasive Fish Removal (Northern Pike, Brook Trout); Cutthroat Recovery and Passage efforts.
Climate Change

Current and Future Impacts to Fish and the Environment
➢ Getting access to cooler waters will be crucial
➢ Addressing legacy pollution
➢ Water Temperature, Water Quality & Quantity
➢ Forestry Impacts
➢ Drought
➢ First Food Impacts; Protecting our “Four Chiefs”
Salmon Ceremony