

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

- The Northwest Power and Conservation Council was created by the Northwest Power Act of 1980 and approved by the states of Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.
- The Governor of each of the four states appoints two members to serve on the Council.
- The Council is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration, the federal agency that markets the electricity generated at federal dams in the Columbia Basin. There are offices in each state as well as a central office located in Portland, Oregon.
- The Council has three principal mandates:
 - Develop a 20-year electric power plan that will guarantee adequate and reliable energy at the lowest economic and environmental cost to the Northwest. Energy conservation, renewable resources, such as wind power, solar, geothermal and biomass, and high-efficiency resources, such as those that use heat from manufacturing processes to also generate electricity, are listed in the Power Act as priorities.
 - Develop a fish and wildlife program to protect and rebuild populations affected by hydropower development in the Columbia River Basin.
 - Conduct an extensive program to educate and involve the public in the Council's decision-making processes.
- The plans and policies the Council develops and approves are implemented by numerous agencies including Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.
- State, tribal and local governments work closely with the Council as it develops its power and fish and wildlife plans, and these entities also implement measures in those plans. The power plan and fish and wildlife program are updated at least every five years.
- For more information about the Council please visit www.nwccouncil.org.