

Talking Points

Simple messages about the opportunity and urgent need to remove Snake River dams

- Scientists agree that dam removal is necessary to prevent the extinction of salmon in the Snake River, the largest tributary of the Columbia.
- Restoring healthy runs of salmon in the Columbia River basin is key to avoiding extinction of Southern Resident orcas.
- Salmon are at the heart of many Northwest Tribes' cultures, diets, and economies. Tribes are already suffering from declining salmon runs. The Snake River dams interfere with America's promises to allow Tribes to catch salmon forever.
- Dams make the Columbia and Snake rivers too hot for salmon. Without these dams, the water would be cool enough for salmon to migrate safely through the Lower Snake River. Dam removal is necessary for salmon to survive and recover in the face of climate change.
- Snake River dams don't make "green" or "renewable" energy—there's nothing green or renewable about extinction. We can replace the energy and other services these four dams provide. But we can't replace salmon, orcas, or a river.
- We can remove the dams and provide Northwest communities with actual clean energy from new wind, solar, battery storage, efficiency, smart grid technologies, and other sources—and modernize our power grid in the process.
- Northwest leaders and the Biden Administration must act NOW, before the end of this year. We have a short window of political opportunity, and our iconic salmon are on the verge of extinction.
- The science is clear: salmon and orcas are running out of time. We can remove Snake River dams now, or Northwest politicians can add extinction to their political legacies.

For additional information, please contact Community Organizer Kate Murphy at **(541)399-5666** or **kate@columbiariverkeeper.org**.

To protect and restore the water quality of the Columbia River and all life connected to it, from the headwaters to the Pacific Ocean.