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**"Electricity Costs and Salmon: Finding the Balance"
Press Statement regarding HR 4857 Testimony**

Northwest RiverPartners:

- Is committed to:
 - preserving multiple uses of the Columbia and Snake Rivers for the region's businesses and families;
 - while promoting efficient, cost-effective salmon and steelhead protection and recovery.
- Wants to shine a light on the tremendous economic advantages provided by the Columbia and Snake Rivers, and the quality of life they afford – aspects that are often taken for granted.
- Supports a comprehensive 4-"H" approach to solving the salmon recovery issues that include habitat, harvest and hatcheries along with hydropower.
- Is working hard to bring people together to reach reasonable, timely and workable solutions for listed salmon and steelhead.
- Is a member of a "Regional Coalition" that includes the states of Washington, Montana and upriver tribes: the Spokanes, Colvilles and Kootenai Tribe of Idaho. This Coalition is committed to Biological Opinion based in sound science to best benefit listed stocks, uses science to resolve key uncertainties, and maintains the viability of the hydrosystem.

Support HR 4857 – Valuable Information:

- The costs of salmon and steelhead recovery are great, and the stakes for the fish and the economy are high.
- Electric utilities and their customers care about the Northwest's salmon and should be informed about the contribution they are making to salmon protection and recovery.
- Better informed customers will translate into more scrutiny over the nearly 25 percent of their electric bill they spend for salmon recovery and lead to better decisions and investments in salmon efforts.

Northwest RiverPartners is a non-profit association that represents a broad coalition of river users in the Pacific Northwest including agricultural interests, utilities, industries, and ports. Our 100-plus members are dramatically affected by current efforts in the region to recover listed endangered salmon and steelhead, through power rates and changes to river operations.