

## Hydropower: A Renewable Resource Like No Other

Plain and simple the Pacific Northwest's hydroelectric system is a clean, reliable, low-cost and renewable energy resource.

As a member of Northwest RiverPartners (NWRP) (*Insert your organization*) is part of an informational effort called **Green Dams, Blue Skies**, which spotlights the benefits of Northwest rivers. That includes renewable power generation — along with transportation, irrigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat.

Specifically this initiative seeks to build understanding of hydro's benefits and its critical importance to the region's economic health, by informing federal and local legislators, regional decision makers, businesses and citizens.

"Northwest fish runs are strong and hydro continues to play an essential role in providing our region clean, renewable and affordable electricity," NWRP Executive Director Terry Flores said. "It keeps our carbon footprint at half that of the rest of the country. But, we never want to take a good thing for granted and it's vital that we continue promote the unique benefits and value of our hydropower resource."

An independent poll of Washington, Oregon and Idaho voters shows that citizens overwhelmingly understand and appreciate the value of the region's dams. Poll respondents named hydropower, which supplies 60 percent of the region's electricity, as the region's most practical source of energy.

NW citizens understand that wind power is a less reliable than hydro, since it only generates electricity when the wind is blowing. "Hydroelectricity is a natural partner for our growing wind industry, because it can be used to fill in when the wind isn't blowing," Flores said.

NWRP is calling on individuals, businesses and organizations to support its efforts. To join and access materials you can use, go online go to [www.nwriverpartners.org](http://www.nwriverpartners.org) and click on the Green Dams, Blue Skies logo.