

**Talking Points for Testifying before the
Northwest Power & Conservation Council**

Plan on speaking only 2-3 minutes.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF SIMPLY

My name is _____. I live in _____. I'm a ratepayer here to speak for salmon.

Tell the Council one thing more about yourself – especially why salmon are important to you.

MOST IMPORTANT MESSAGES TO INCLUDE IN YOUR COMMENTS:

Use your own words. You can also mix up the order or stick closely to these points.

1. The goal of this plan must be to restore 5 million salmon. State and tribal fisheries managers have recommended key ways to achieve this goal. All of their recommendations should be given deference – as the law requires.
2. Restoring abundant fish populations is critical for the recovery of the Southern Resident killer whale population.
3. Salmon and steelhead need extra water “spilled” over dams to help them migrate. Keep high levels of “spill” all the way through August 31st – don't cut it off too soon on August 15th. The juvenile salmon and steelhead that migrate later in August are important for genetic diversity – they need this water too.
4. Include breaching the four lower Snake River Dams as an action for fish that must be considered and analyzed in the next Power Plan. Removing these four dams -- and replacing their hydropower with clean, renewable energy -- will have the single largest impact for rebuilding salmon runs. This must be analyzed.
5. Hold the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) accountable for reaching the goals you set. They must meet their obligations to protect fisheries, plus honor treaties with Tribal Nations. Adopt a 2035 timeframe -- and hold BPA accountable to milestones to achieve the 5 million salmon goal.

CONCLUDE BY TELLING THE COUNCIL AGAIN WHY THIS REALLY MATTERS TO YOU.

THEN THANK THEM FOR LISTENING