

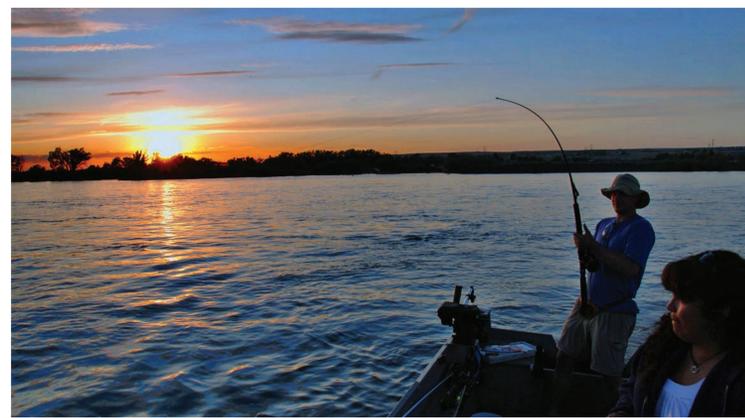


# Recreation



- ▶ The Federal project reservoirs and lands along the Columbia and Snake rivers provide opportunities for many water and land based activities.
- ▶ Public waterbodies used for boating, swimming, fishing, water-skiing and windsurfing are directly dependent upon the availability of public access to launch points and shorelines.
- ▶ Public waterbodies also provide an “aesthetic complement” to many land-based recreation activities such as camping, trail riding, hiking, wildlife viewing and nature photography.

Northwest residents enjoy recreational opportunities at projects throughout the Columbia River Basin. Recreation was not specifically identified as a major project use when most of the dams were authorized, but was recognized as an important public resource during later legislation. A diverse range of recreational opportunities and facilities are located on and near our reservoirs.



- ▶ Federal projects have high visitation at the dams and fish ladders, camping facilities, beaches and boat ramps.
- ▶ While recreation occurs throughout the year, the highest visitor numbers are seen during the summer and early fall. Seasonal variations in water levels can have local impacts on the type of recreational opportunities available as well as the quality of the recreational experience. For instance, while low water levels may limit boat launching, variations in downstream river flows that aid in fish mitigation often benefit local fishing.
- ▶ The Corps and Reclamation cooperate with other Federal and non-federal governmental agencies to enhance and maintain recreational opportunities. These partnerships provide a local presence and ensure that recreational facilities are well maintained and remain open to the public.

