



## The future of Northwest hydropower needs your help!

It's time for members of Flathead Electric Co-op (FEC) to take action to help protect our access to carbon-free, affordable, reliable hydropower. Please take a moment to read this important update and educate yourself on how the removal of productive hydropower dams, like the four lower Snake River dams in Eastern Washington, would significantly impact the ratepayers of Flathead Electric Co-op. Reach out to Montana's Congressional delegation and urge our leadership to consider bipartisan solutions that make sense for our energy future. Thank you for taking an active role in keeping your electric rates as low as possible.



**Mark Johnson,**  
Flathead Electric  
Cooperative  
General Manager

### A message from our friends at Northwest River Partners

The worsening climate crisis has led to dire warnings, including the recent Code Red for humanity from the United Nations and a joint health alert on global warming from over 200 medical journals worldwide.

These warnings make it absolutely clear that hydropower's carbon-free attributes are tremendously important to the health of our planet and its people.

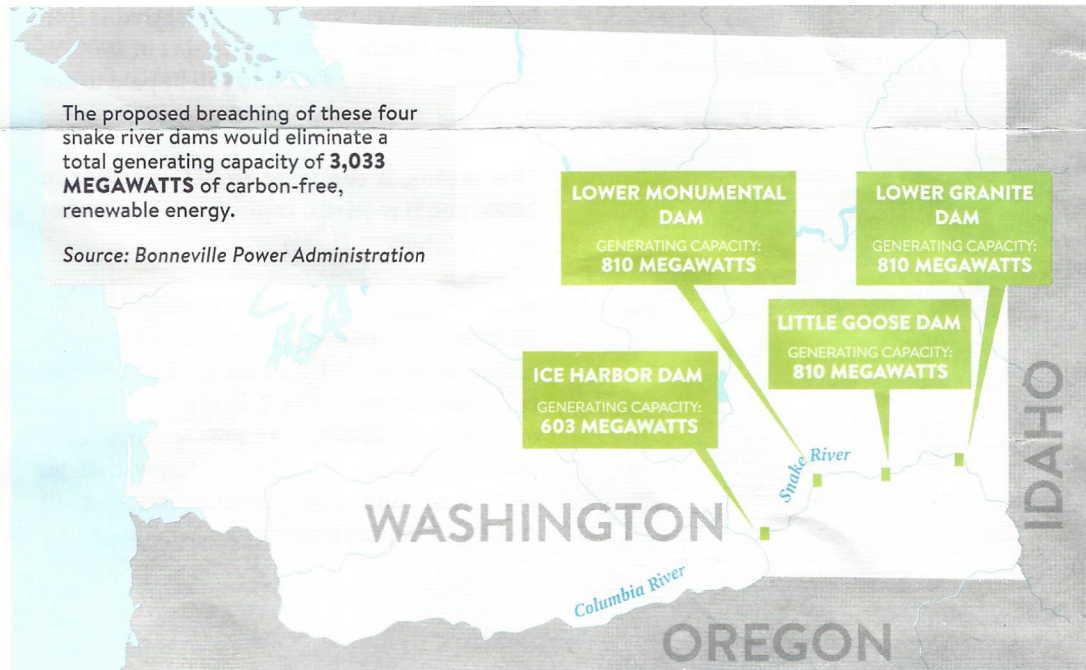
Unfortunately, despite its importance, the future of Northwest hydropower is in real jeopardy. Some well-known groups have loudly called for the removal of productive hydropower dams, like the four lower Snake River dams in Eastern Washington, claiming it's the only way to help salmon.

We respectfully disagree with these claims. **Perhaps the most important thing we can do for salmon is to fight climate change,** which poses the single greatest threat to their survival.

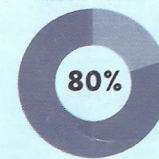
Meanwhile, fully 35% of our region's electric generation is still fossil-fueled, and we are in a race against time to replace it with clean alternatives.

Adding to the challenge, we'll need to add even more clean energy to power electric vehicles and to heat buildings that are eliminating natural gas.

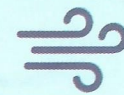
In this context, calls to remove productive hydropower dams just don't make sense. ⚡



### Dam Facts:



We're happy to report that almost all of our energy mix is carbon-free. 80% of that carbon-free electricity comes directly from hydroelectric dams.



Solar and wind are growing, but they require backup because their output fluctuates minute-to-minute. Hydroelectric dams help balance the fluctuations of solar and wind.

### Want to stay informed on issues impacting your Co-op?

We invite you to join our **Grassroots Action Team** so, if needed, you can help us contact legislators who make the decisions about critical issues impacting Flathead Electric Cooperative and other electric cooperatives in our state, region and nation.

