

# 2025-2026 Amendment Process Update

February Council Meeting

Portland, Oregon

Council staff



# Overview of Fish and Wildlife Program Amendment steps



# Staff and Member tasks when recommendation period closes

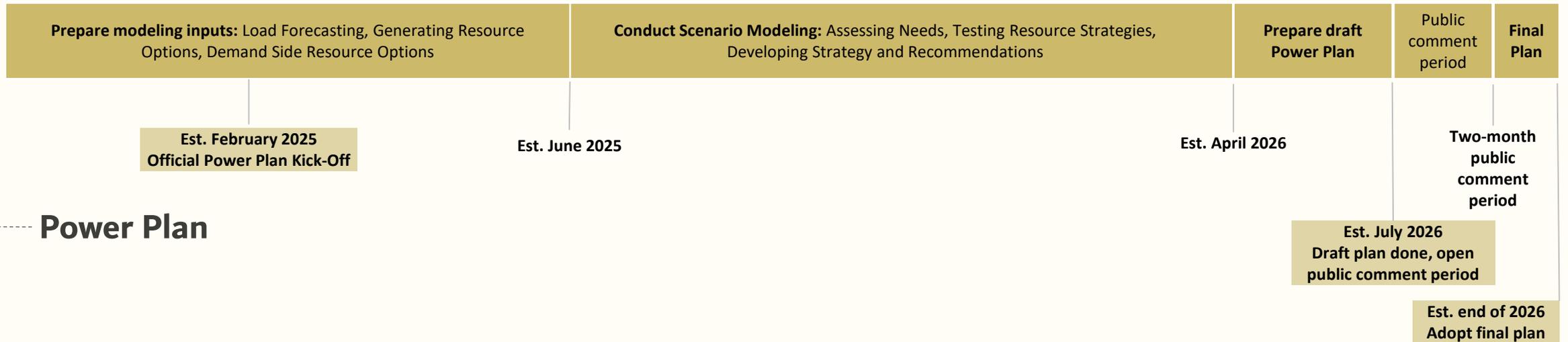
- Post recommendations, request public comment on the *recommendations*.
- Share link with members: [read recommendations](#)
- Staff typically develops summaries of the *recommendations*, identifies issues.
- Hold work sessions to review the summaries, discuss the issues.
- Once *comments* are in, post and share with members. Incorporate into summaries and discuss issues, develop options for amendment.
- Draft amendments for amending the Program

Month	Council meeting agenda items
February 11-12 (Portland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program briefing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Strategies and issues – Part Three</li> <li>– Orientation to amendment webpage, process update</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
March 11-12 (Portland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program briefing (topics flexible) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Adaptive management</li> <li>– Subbasin Plans</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
April 8-9 (Portland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program briefing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Implementation provisions</li> <li>– Appendices</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Recommendation period closes April 17*</li> <li>• Immediately release for public comment, 30-day public comment period</li> <li>• Begin reading recommendations</li> </ul>
May 13-14 (Pasco)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All day amendment work sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Will need multiple days: Extra work session likely May 28 (Webinar)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Comment period closes May 30*</li> </ul>
June 10-11 (Missoula)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All day amendment work sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Will need multiple days</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
July 15-16 (Portland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All day amendment work sessions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Will need multiple days, Extra work session likely July 29 (Webinar)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

# Fish and Wildlife Amendments



# Power Plan



# Upcoming important dates (planned)

- **April 17, 2025** – Close of **recommendation** period
- **April 18, 2025** – Open public comment on the recommendations
- **May 30, 2025** – Close of comment period



**Columbia River  
Basin Fish and  
Wildlife Program**

# **Review amendment web page: how to submit a recommendation**

# Submit a recommendation: Council home page (nwcouncil.org)

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

CONTACT

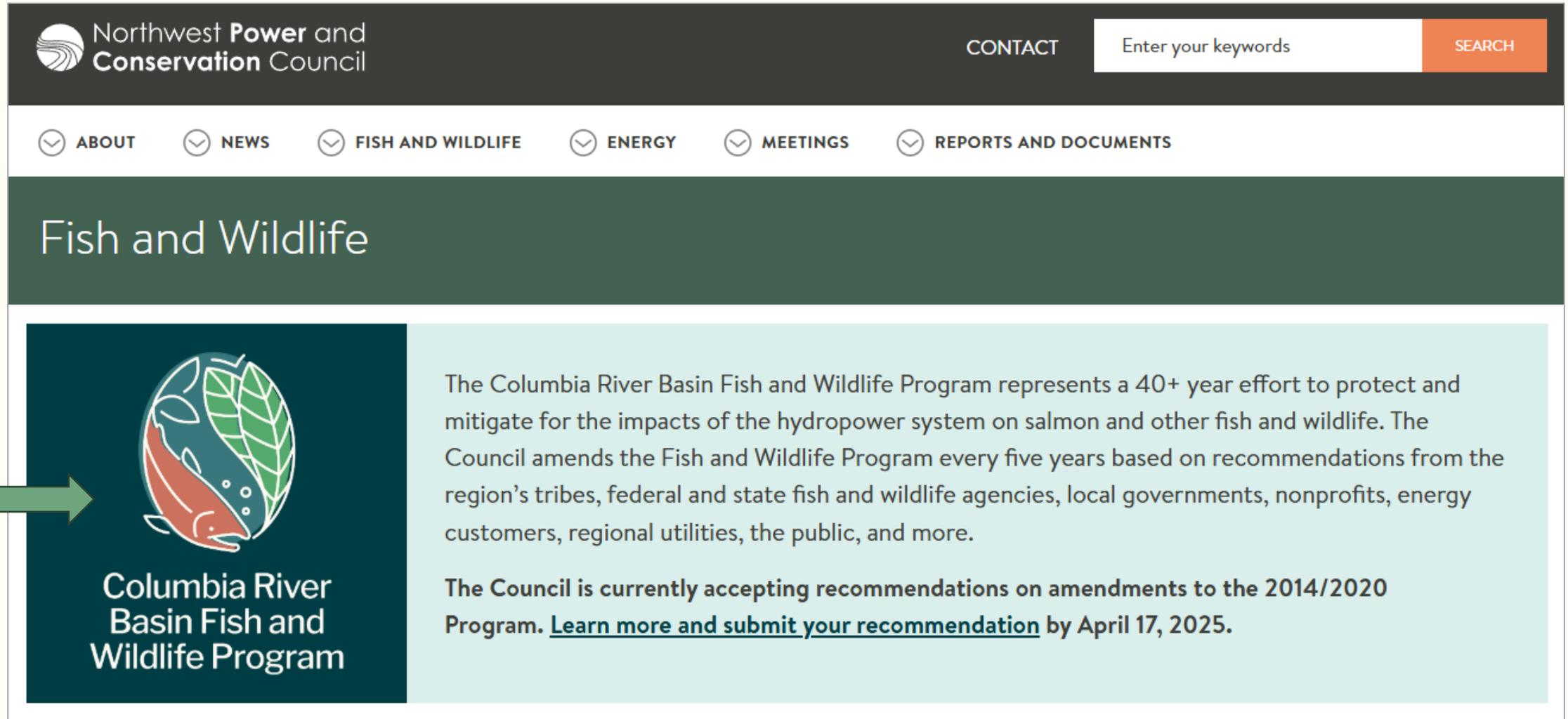
ABOUT NEWS FISH AND WILDLIFE ENERGY MEETINGS REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

See next Council Meeting  
February 11 - 12, 2025 in Portland › [See all meetings ›](#)

  We want to hear from you! Help shape the future of the Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. Submit a [recommendation](#) by April 17, 2025.

Established to inform and advance a regional vision for power and fish &

# Submit a recommendation: F&W home page (nwcouncil.org/fish-and-wildlife)



Northwest Power and Conservation Council

CONTACT

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## Fish and Wildlife



**Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program**

The Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program represents a 40+ year effort to protect and mitigate for the impacts of the hydropower system on salmon and other fish and wildlife. The Council amends the Fish and Wildlife Program every five years based on recommendations from the region's tribes, federal and state fish and wildlife agencies, local governments, nonprofits, energy customers, regional utilities, the public, and more.

The Council is currently accepting recommendations on amendments to the 2014/2020 Program. [Learn more and submit your recommendation](#) by April 17, 2025.

# Submit a recommendation: Amendments page



## Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program

The Council invites recommendations for amendments to its Fish and Wildlife Program.

### About the amendment process

The Council amends its Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program every five years based largely on recommendations from the federal and state fish and wildlife agencies and the region's Indian tribes. Other federal and state agencies, the Bonneville utility customers and other regional utilities, other river users, local governments, and the general public may also submit program amendment recommendations that the Council must consider.

The current version of the Program is the [2014 Program](#) with a [2020 Addendum](#), plus more than 50 separate [subbasin plans](#).

Read the Council's full [letter to the region](#) for more background and topics to consider.

### Important dates

- **January 17:** Solicitation for recommendations (read the Council's full [letter to the region](#))
- **April 17:** Close of recommendation period, open comment period

### Make a recommendation

Recommendations for Program amendments are being accepted through **April 17, 2025**. If specific sections are being commented on, please reference those sections by name, page number or URL. Recommendations will be collected and published here soon after the deadline for submission.

[SUBMIT A RECOMMENDATION](#) ←

### More resources

<a href="#">2014 Program</a>	<b>Categorical Assessments:</b>
<a href="#">2020 Addendum</a>	Hydrosystem

Easy to find at [nwcouncil.org/amend](https://nwcouncil.org/amend) which we've promoted in social media and Spotlight campaigns

# Amendments page “More resources” area

## More resources

### [2014 Program](#)

### [2020 Addendum](#)

### Retrospective

- [Full version](#)
- [2 pager](#)
- August 2022 [presentation](#)
- September 2022 [presentation](#)

### Goals and Objectives

- December 2024 [presentation & video](#)
- [Documentation](#)

### [Program Tracker](#)

### [ISAB 2024 F&W Program Review](#)

### Categorical Assessments:

#### Hydrosystem

- September 2024 [presentation & video](#)
- October 2023 [presentation & video](#)
- [Documentation](#)

#### Artificial Production

- October 2024 [presentation & video](#)
- [Documentation](#)
- [Hatcheries and AP resources](#)

#### Habitat

- November 2024 [presentation & video](#)
- Documentation:
  - [Habitat protection](#)
  - [Wildlife mitigation](#)
  - [Non-native and invasive species](#)
  - [Predator management](#)
  - [Habitat restoration](#)

# Submit a recommendation: User side

1. Web users directed to [nwcouncil.org/amend](http://nwcouncil.org/amend), “Submit a recommendation” area at the right.
2. Provide email, organization, and text comment or attach a file. Can reference specific Program topics, or provide a general recommendation.
3. When submitted, user receives an email confirmation that their recommendation has been received.
4. They’ll also be contacted when all recommendations are made public (shortly after April 17 deadline).

# Online form

Recommendations for Program amendments are being accepted through **April 17, 2025**. If specific sections are being commented on, please reference those sections by name, page number or URL. Recommendations will be collected and published at the Amendments home page soon after the deadline for submission.

You can provide a recommendation as formatted text below, or upload a Word, PDF or Zip file.

After submitting your recommendation, you'll get an email confirmation that your recommendation was received, then we'll follow up when all recommendations are made publicly available.

Recommendation (or upload a file below)

Rich text editor toolbar with icons for undo, redo, bold, italic, bulleted list, numbered list, link, unlink, table, and other formatting options.

The Council's program is a key step in restoring fish and wildlife populations, but here are some areas that we feel could further improve their success in some key watersheds.

body p

For longer text, upload a Word, PDF or Zip file (if multiple files needed).

No file chosen

### Quick links (open in new tab):

- [2025-26 F&W Program Amendments home page](#)
- [2014 Program](#)
- [2020 Addendum](#)

# Email confirmation to user

Your recommendation on the Council's Fish and Wildlife Program was received  Inbox x

**media@nwcouncil.org** Mon, Jan 27, 11:00 AM (2 hours ago)  

to me ▾

Thank you for your recommendation, you will receive further emails as the amendments process continues. See <https://www.nwcouncil.org/amend> for more information.

# Submit a recommendation: Council staff side

1. Staff review, organize, and prepare recommendations received.
2. When a new recommendation is received, staff assign (for internal organization):
  - a. Category (federal, state, tribe, environmental group, utility, individual, etc.)
  - b. One or more tags (generally match Program topics/themes)
  - c. Administrative notes (optional)
3. At the close of the recommendation period, an administrative record ID is assigned to each recommendation. All recommendations will then be published at [nwcouncil.org/amend](http://nwcouncil.org/amend) (next slide shows example from 2018).

# Making recommendations available to public

Sample from the 2018/2020 amendments process when all recommendations are made public and searchable by individual or organization.

## 2018 recommendations and comments on the 2014 F&W Program

Recommendations were received through December 13, 2018.

Comments on recommendations were received through February 8, 2019.

Click any recommendation to view it and its associated comments.

[< Return to Amendments home page](#)

Filter for

### STATE FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCIES, OTHER STATE AND STATE-SUPPORTED AGENCIES

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

1 comment

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

2 comments

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

2 comments

Idaho Office of Species Conservation