Meeting the Energy and Water Needs of the Snake/Columbia River Basin in the 21st Century

A Science and Technology Summit

Join us to help shape the future of water and energy resources at The Energy-Water Nexus: Meeting the Energy and Water Needs of the Snake/Columbia River Basin in the 21st Century. The Summit will be held in Boise at the Red Lion Downtowner Hotel from June 25-27, 2007.

Why a Summit?
The Snake/Columbia River system is the Pacific Northwest’s primary water system, providing water for power, irrigation, transport, recreation, wildlife and many other uses. From their sources in British Columbia and Yellowstone National Park to the Pacific Ocean, this river system sustains the region’s industry, agriculture, ecosystems, and continuing population growth. Many rivers within this system are fully appropriated and many aquifers are heavily pumped, yet new demands continue to increase, threatening both present and future uses. Likewise, clean, inexpensive, dependable energy is essential to maintaining our economy and our quality of life. Electricity from hydropower and thermal electric sources heat and light our homes and provide energy for business and industry, and various fuels power our basic and commercial transportation systems. Energy affects nearly every aspect of our lives and yet many of our traditional energy sources have been depleted or are being stretched to their limits. Energy and water are inextricably linked and vital to our quality of life in the Columbia River basin. Inexpensive energy is dependent on our water resources and is the key to our high quality of life. Part of that energy is expended in pumping and treating water and wastewater. As both these critical resources are produced, transported, used and/or consumed, they impact our other natural resources. Considering that the projected demand for both energy and water is expected to grow substantially in the Pacific Northwest over the next 25 years, the magnitude of the challenge facing us - to manage the energy and water nexus - is enormous.

The Energy-Water Nexus:

The Energy-Water Nexus is the interplay between energy and water systems. Energy affects nearly every aspect of our lives and yet many of our traditional energy sources have been depleted or are being stretched to their limits. Energy and water are inextricably linked and vital to our quality of life in the Columbia River basin. Inexpensive energy is dependent on our water resources and is the key to our high quality of life. Part of that energy is expended in pumping and treating water and wastewater. As both these critical resources are produced, transported, used and/or consumed, they impact our other natural resources. Considering that the projected demand for both energy and water is expected to grow substantially in the Pacific Northwest over the next 25 years, the magnitude of the challenge facing us - to manage the energy and water nexus - is enormous.

Summit Objective
The purpose of this Summit is to identify and explore the science, technology, infrastructure, and policies that need to be developed and implemented to meet future energy and water demands in the Snake and Columbia River basins. The outcome of this Summit will be a web-published document describing those needs and potential approaches.

The results of this Summit will be utilized to: 1. develop a technical strategy for developing cost-effective science and technology to predict, measure, monitor, purify, conserve, and store water, and to maximize power generation, storage and efficiency in the region; 2. evaluate methods and technologies for reducing the impacts of energy and water development and use on the environment; 3. focus science in the support of policy; and 4. improve the development and use of science-based policies.

Summit Agenda & Speakers

June 25
Evening welcome reception and mixer

June 26
Invited presentations include:

- The Past, Present and Future of the Snake/Columbia River Basin
  Speaker: John Harrison (Northwest Power and Conservation Council)

- Major Environmental Challenges Facing the Snake/Columbia Basin
  Speakers: Mary Lou Soscia (EPA Region 10), Mike Scott (PNNL), John Ferguson (NOAA NW Fisheries Science Center)
Summit Agenda & Speakers

Continued

- Policy and Planning Issues
  Speakers: John Freemuth (Boise State University), Rich Rigby (U.S. Bureau of Reclamation), Tim Newton (Columbia Basin Trust), Gerry O'Keefe (WA Department of Ecology)

- Major Technical Challenges Facing the Snake/Columbia Basin
  Speakers: Andy Ford (Washington State University), Mike Hightower (Sandia National Lab) Kelvin Ketchum (BC Hydro)

- State-of-the-Science in Energy & Water
  Speakers: Richard Palmer (University of Washington), John Fazio (Northwest Power and Conservation Council), Joel Hamilton (University of Idaho), Thomas Feeley (National Energy Technology Lab)

  Lunch Speaker: Mark Limbaugh, Assistant Secretary, Department of Interior (invited)

June 27

Facilitated breakout sessions to identify future challenges and initiate the building of a research agenda

Lunch Speaker: Rocky Barker (Idaho Statesman)

Registration & Contact Information

Conference Hotel:
Red Lion Hotel Boise Downtowner
1800 Fairview Avenue
Boise, ID 83702
Tel: 208-344-7691
Fax: 208-336-3652
boisedowntownersales@redlion.com

To register and for more information on the conference, please check out the conference web site: http://www.iwrri.uidaho.edu/default.aspx?pid=99479

If you have additional needs or questions, please contact:
Jerry Sehlke
Idaho National Laboratory
(208) 526-7362
gse@inel.gov

Gary Johnson
Idaho Water Resources Research Institute
(208) 282-7985
johnson@if.uidaho.edu

Organized by:

Center for Advanced Energy Studies
Columbia Basin Trust
Idaho National Laboratory
Idaho Water Resources Research Institute
Institute for Water and Watersheds - Oregon State University
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
State of Washington Water Research Center

Energy - Water Nexus

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