



March 3, 2026

Comment submitted via email: David Gruen@deq.oregon.gov

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232

Dear Mr. Gruen,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Water Quality Management Plan for the Columbia and Lower Snake Rivers Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). As you know, Northwest RiverPartners is represented on the Local Advisory Committee by Ray Walton.

Northwest RiverPartners (NWRP) represents 100 not-for-profit, community-owned electric utilities in Oregon and other states that depend on federal and non-federal hydropower facilities on the Columbia-Snake River System. NWRP also represents farmers, labor unions, private businesses, ports, and users of clean, reliable river transportation and navigation.

Like the State of Oregon and our colleagues on the Local Advisory Committee, we care about our region's iconic salmon and other fish and wildlife that depend on healthy rivers. Our members have contributed billions of dollars to mitigate the impacts of the hydropower system, and we are making significant progress.

NW RiverPartners believes that there are significant issues with the TMDL and its implementation. Knowing we will have further opportunities to comment as members of the Local Advisory Group and in the public comment periods, we will reserve substantive comments at this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Clark Mather", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Clark Mather
Executive Director
Northwest RiverPartners