

PR 18 12

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Photo/Video/Interview Opportunity

**Pikeminnow season returns with kick-off event, May 1**

**Portland Ore.**- Anglers of all experience levels are needed for the Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery Program. The 2012 season starts Tuesday, May 1 and runs through Sept. 30, 2012. Reporters are invited to the kick-off event to capture footage/photos of the pikeminnow, anglers and workshops on how to catch the fish. Staff and participants will be on hand to interview.

Anglers earn \$4 to \$8 for northern pikeminnow nine inches and larger caught in the lower Columbia and Snake rivers. The more pikeminnow an angler catches, the more the fish are worth. As an added incentive, specially tagged fish are worth \$500.

Northern pikeminnow are voracious eaters, consuming millions of young salmon and steelhead each year. Research shows reducing pikeminnow numbers helps protect salmon and steelhead populations.

BPA's sport-reward program has helped reduce predation on salmon and steelhead over the past 20 years by managing pikeminnow populations. Once harvested, pikeminnow don't go to waste. They are used in liquid organic fertilizer for agriculture and fish meal for poultry and dairy cattle feed.

**What:** Tour the registration station and interview staff from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Bonneville Power Administration. Expert pikeminnow anglers, biologists and new participants will also be on-hand. Visuals include a close-up view of pikeminnow in an aquarium, workshops on how to reel them in, and the registration process.

**When:** Tuesday, May 1, from 10 a.m. to noon

**Where:** M. James Gleason Boat Ramp located at NE 43rd Ave. and Marine Drive. Take exit 307 off of I-5, head east on N.E. Marine Drive. The boat ramp is across from Portland International Airport at 15475 Ferry Road.

For more information about the program call visit [www.pikeminnow.org](http://www.pikeminnow.org) or call 800-858-9015.

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*BPA is a nonprofit federal agency that markets renewable hydropower from federal Columbia River dams, operates three-quarters of high-voltage transmission lines in the Northwest and funds one of the largest wildlife protection and restoration programs in the world. BPA and its partners have also saved enough electricity through energy efficiency projects to power four large American cities. For more information, contact us at 503-230-5131 or visit our website at [www.bpa.gov](http://www.bpa.gov).*

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