

BPA NEWS

BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION
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Pikeminnow season opens Tuesday, May 1 Catch northern pikeminnow and get paid

PORTLAND, Ore. – Help save young salmon and steelhead and make money too!

Tuesday, May 1, marks the beginning of this year's Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery in the Columbia and Snake rivers.

State fish and wildlife biologists have specially tagged and released up to 1,000 or more northern pikeminnow into the Columbia and Snake rivers, each worth \$500. The program also pays registered anglers \$5 to \$8 per fish, nine inches or longer. The more fish an angler catches, the more each pikeminnow is worth. Last year the top fisherman in the program earned more than \$83,000 in just five-months of fishing.

Northern pikeminnow are voracious eaters, consuming millions of young salmon and steelhead each year. Since 1990, anglers paid through the program, have removed more than 4.8 million pikeminnow from the Columbia and Snake rivers. The program has reduced predation from pikeminnow on young salmon and steelhead by approximately 40 percent since it began.

The 2018 Pikeminnow Sport Reward Fishery begins Tuesday, May 1, and is scheduled to run through Sept 30, 2018.

Northern pikeminnow experts say the best place to fish early in the season maybe near The Dalles. That registration station also showed the highest number of catches last season (44,607 fish).

The program is administered by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration.

For more information about the program call 800-858-9015 or visit www.pikeminnow.org



About BPA

The Bonneville Power Administration, headquartered in Portland, Oregon, is a nonprofit federal power marketer that sells wholesale electricity from 31 federal dams and one nuclear plant to 142 Northwest electric utilities, serving millions of consumers and businesses in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, western Montana and parts of California, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming. BPA delivers power via more than 15,000 circuit miles of lines and 260 substations to 511 transmission customers. In all, BPA markets about a third of the electricity consumed in the Northwest and operates three-quarters of the region's high-voltage transmission grid. BPA also funds one of the largest fish and wildlife programs in the world, and, with its partners, pursues cost-effective energy savings and operational solutions that help maintain affordable, reliable and carbon-free electric power for the Northwest. www.bpa.gov

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