

## **EPA Columbia River Cold Water Refuges Project**

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**Abstract:** The EPA is developing a Cold Water Refuges Plan for the Lower Columbia River. The plan will identify the cold water refuges currently available for use by migrating salmon and steelhead; assess the sufficiency of the refuges for current and future populations; and identify strategies to restore, enhance, and protect refuges for the future. The EPA is developing the plan, scheduled to be completed in 2018, to meet the reasonable and prudent alternative prescribed by NOAA Fisheries in the 2015 Biological Opinion on EPA's approval of Oregon's Columbia River temperature water quality standards.