

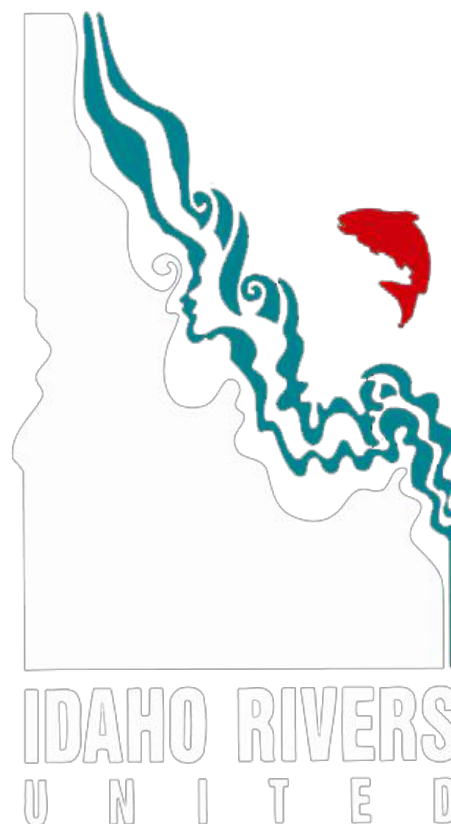


THE ENERGY ACTIVIST *UPDATE*

August 2, 2016

Member spotlight: **Idaho Rivers United**

Idaho Rivers United, a Coalition member for the past 14 years, advocates for protecting and restoring Idaho rivers. IRU defends at-risk fish populations, supports minimum stream flows that reduce dams' harm to Idaho's rivers.



Date founded: 1990

Member rep: Kevin Lewis

Website: idahorivers.org

**NW Energy Coalition and
OSEIA present:**

**[Fall 2016 NW Clean &
Affordable Energy](#)**

Lower Snake River dams

IRU argues that the four lower Snake River dams in Washington state are more of a threat to Idaho wild salmon survival than habitat destruction or overfishing.

In an Idaho Statesman [oped](#), IRU executive director Kevin Lewis explains that Idaho's rivers once abounded with wild salmon and steelhead. The fish bring valuable nutrients -- the building blocks of aquatic life in Idaho's rivers -- from the

ocean to the inland Northwest, making the rivers national treasures.

In the 1950s, 1.5 million chinook returned to Idaho each year; today a mere 20,000 make it home.

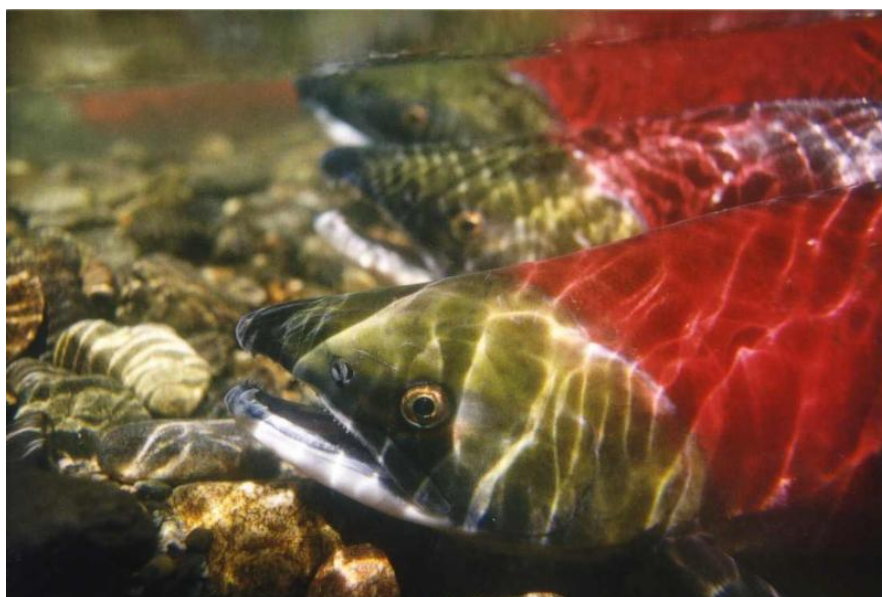
Federal court ruling

In May 2016, a federal court ruled that the federal government's plan for wild salmon recovery is inadequate to avoid extinction. The judge ordered an environmental impact statement (EIS) on recovery options, with the scoping process (which sets the questions to be addressed) beginning in late 2016.

IRU will be deeply involved in the EIS process.

Join Idaho Rivers United

Support IRU's work to keep Idaho's rivers clean, flowing and full of fish by [becoming a member today!](#)



[Conference](#)

**November 17
Portland, Ore.**



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Contact

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