

September 18, 1935

Board of Directors
Portland Chamber of Commerce
Portland, Oregon

Subject: Report of the Bonneville Dam Fishways Committee

Gentlemen:

Pursuant to motion passed at the Members' Forum of the Portland Chamber of Commerce on March 25, 1935, your committee appointed to report to you regarding fishway facilities at Bonneville Dam begs to report as follows:

At the outset, the committee, consisting of gentlemen having but very little knowledge regarding their subject, considered it necessary to study the matter from every angle. Consequently, the work and study of the committee entered into several phases, as follows:

1. THE HABITS AND LIFE OF SALMON

In studying this subject we were particularly fortunate to have as a member of our committee the nationally famed naturalist, Mr. William L. Finley, who prepared a brief but very thorough paper on the life and habits of the Columbia River salmon.

2. THE HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE SALMON INDUSTRY
IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER

Again, the committee was fortunate in having as a member an authority on the subject. In this case Mr. David Eccles of Commonwealth, Inc. and a business statistician of note, prepared a very thorough brief on this subject which was distributed to all of the committee members.

3. STUDY OF THE BONNEVILLE DAM AND THE FISHWAYS FACILITIES
PROVIDED IN EXISTING PLANTS

The committee spent considerable time in the company of the United States Army Engineers studying the model of the Bonneville Dam at the engineers' moorings at Linnton. The engineers were most courteous and helpful in explaining the workings of the model and in assisting the committee in understanding the river conditions during its various high, average and low water flows.

In this connection we wish especially to acknowledge the courtesies of Mr. C. I. Grimm, Chief Engineer of the War Department, Second Portland District, and of Mr. Peterson of the same department.

The committee's work then took them through a series of meetings with a number of authorities on the subject of fishways and among them we should list the following gentlemen who have met with our committee:

The Honorable John C. Veatch, Chairman, Fish Commission, State of Oregon
Mr. M. T. Foy, Secretary and Master Fish Warden of the Fish Commission
of the State of Oregon
Mr. Hugh C. Mitchell, Director of the Department of Fish Culture, Fish
Commission of the State of Oregon
Mr. Harlan B. Holmes, Associate Aquatic Biologist, U. S. Bureau of
Fisheries

Mr. Henry Blood, Engineer employed by the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries
Mr. Milo Bell of the Washington State Fish Commission

To all of these gentlemen the committee wishes to acknowledge with sincere thanks the great amount of time and information given by them to your committee.

At the outset, it was apparent to your committee that the differences in opinions existing between various groups of authorities as to the adequacy or inadequacy of fishways at Bonneville concern three principle items, as follows:

1. Additional fish gathering chambers below the spillway dam.
2. The need for a set of locks at the south end of the spillway dam.
3. So-called extended entrances to the fingerling by-passes in the north channel above the spillway dam.

We are happy to report that since your committee has been at work Item No. 2 has been eliminated from consideration because the plans for Bonneville have been extended to include the set of locks at the south end of the spillway dam.

Your committee has spent a great deal of time in studying the questions developed in connection with items No. 1 and No. 3 above mentioned and has obtained both written and verbal information on the subjects from the Oregon State Game Commission, the Oregon State Fish Commission, the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries, the U. S. Army Engineers, the Astoria Chamber of Commerce, the State of Washington Department of Fisheries and the State of Washington Department of Game.

We have learned that the appropriations for the fishway facilities at Bonneville have gradually increased from an original estimate of \$800,000 to a present authorized expenditure for construction of fishways of not to exceed \$3,500,000.

Conclusion

Your committee is unanimously agreed upon the following conclusion and asks that you accept this as our report:

We feel that the present fishway facilities at Bonneville Dam as now provided in the plans of the United States Army Engineers are everything that can be reasonably expected, and if a high degree of intelligent, sympathetic supervision is given to the operation of the fishways and the dam itself, it is reasonable to expect that the great majority of both upstream and downstream migrants will be safely passed around the dam.

Only time will tell if it will eventually be advisable to install additional gathering chambers below the spillway dam and extended entrances to the fingerling by-passes above the dam. We feel we are not justified in asking for these increased facilities at the present time until it is definitely known that the fishways as planned are inadequate to perform satisfactorily.

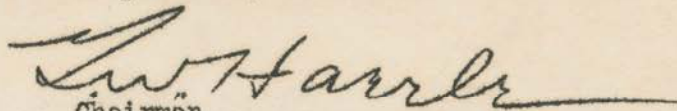
Our committee especially wishes to acknowledge the very kind assistance and co-operation of Colonel Thomas M. Robins, Division Engineer of the North Pacific Division of the War Department, who has extended

to us every courtesy, given freely of his time and of information contained in his files.

We are also especially appreciative of the information, courtesy and time given to our committee by Mr. Harlan B. Holmes of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, who has been most patient, painstaking and thorough in his presentation of valuable information to our committee.

Your Chairman would also like to take this opportunity of thanking each and every member of our committee for their splendid and faithful performance of the committee work.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "L. W. Harlan", written in a cursive style.

Chairman
Bonneville Dam Fishways Committee

GWH MG