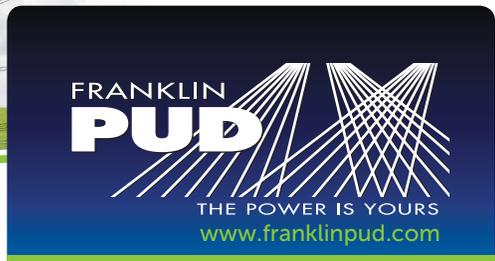


Hotline



Issue: Jan - Feb 2019

Be Prepared in Case of an Outage this Winter

Even though your power stays on 99.99% of the time, extreme winter weather has the potential to knock out power for a prolonged period of time. When preparing for an outage a little bit of planning can go a long way. Here are some tips to help you be ready in case of an outage this winter.

- Install surge protectors for your high end and sensitive electronic equipment.
- Know where to find your utility shut off switches (electricity, water, propane) and how to properly turn them off.
- If you have an electric garage door opener, learn how to open your garage without electricity.
- Have an outage/emergency preparedness box at your home or office. We've compiled a list of important things to include.

Outage preparedness box

- drinking water, canned/non-perishable food, baby food, pet food
- blankets, pillows, clothes
- basic toiletries and first aid supplies
- flashlights and extra batteries
- battery operated clock and radio

It's also a good idea to keep your prescriptions filled, keep cash and credit cards on hand and know where any needed important documents are located. We also ask that you be a good neighbor and check on those around you. Share information with people who may not have access to phones or radios.

Power outages can be reported by calling our 24 hour outage reporting line at 509-542-5300. Detailed information and updates on outages are posted on www.franklinpud.com and Franklin PUD's Twitter page.

Working for You

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Dam Removal Doesn't Equal Safe Future for Orcas



Late last fall, the image of an orca mother carrying her dead calf in Puget Sound was a visceral and heartbreaking reminder of the plight of these iconic animals. It's also a reminder that if we hope to save the orcas, we need to focus on science-based actions that we can take now. Emotion and passion are understandable but unhelpful – unless they translate into clear-thinking and measures that will benefit the orcas as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, some groups are taking advantage of the passion swirling around the whales' plight to push their own spill and Snake River dam removal agendas, which won't help the animals now or later:

Spilled water at the federal dams can make for levels of total dissolved gas that can put young salmon in jeopardy. Some groups seek higher spill levels that would violate water quality standards explicitly established to protect salmon and other aquatic species. Why? Because historically these higher levels of spill on an aggregated basis can increase the dams' overall operating costs – and increasing those costs is a strategy some special interests want to use as they pursue the concept of dam removal.

Snake River dam removal doesn't equal a safe future for the orcas. There simply is no scientific basis for such claims. NOAA Fisheries scientists have been clear as recently as August 24, 2018 in the Clearing Up article that three factors are equally responsible for the orcas' decline – prey availability, toxic contaminants, and noise and vessel traffic. Moreover, Snake River Chinook are not the only or most important part of the whales' diet, according to NOAA.

Yet anti-dam groups continue to present Snake dam removal as a silver bullet that will save the salmon and the orcas. It is both a false promise and a powerful fundraising tool.

There is no doubt that in the beginning the dams caused salmon declines, but the operators of the dams have spent billions of dollars to improve the safety for salmon, and it is not certain that dams now cause higher mortality than would arise in a free-flowing river. The problem is that a complex species and river management issue had been reduced to a simple symbolic battle—a battle invoking a choice between evil dams and the certain loss of an iconic species.

It has become clear that salmon conservation is being used as a “means to an end” (dam removal) as opposed to an “end” of its own.

Salmon face myriad obstacles to survival in the rivers and ocean throughout their complex life cycle. Unfortunately, there is no silver bullet for restoring them or the orcas – not dam removal, not added spill. Anti-dam groups that continue to oversimplify one of the Northwest's toughest challenges do a huge disservice to the public, the science and the species.

Nelson Re-elected as District 3 Commissioner



Congratulations to Stu Nelson, who was re-elected to his seat as Franklin PUD Commissioner, District 3. His new term begins January 2019 and runs through December 2024.

Southern Resident Orca Recommendations Released by Governor's Task Force



On Friday, November 16, Washington Governor Inslee's Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force released its recommendations on actions to benefit orca whales. The 36 recommended actions addressed reductions of toxins in the Puget Sound, limiting vessel traffic in orca feeding areas and increasing orca food sources. While the report did not recommend breaching the Lower Snake River dams, it did recommend Washington, Idaho, and Oregon convene a stakeholder process to discuss breaching or removal of these projects. Additionally, the recommendations proposed increasing spill levels to 125% of total dissolved gases, and re-establishing salmon runs above Grand Coulee Dam.

January 14th marks the beginning of the 2019 legislative session. With 36 recommendations on the table, many that need funding, we'll be watching the Governor's budget closely.

You May See Our Meter Readers in Your Yard

Franklin PUD Meter Readers read around 30,000 meters each month

We want to remind you that Franklin PUD customers must allow our meter readers to read, install and maintain equipment on your premises. You may see them in your yard - they're hard to miss in their bright colors and Franklin PUD logo clothing.



Commissioner's Corner

Rely on the Facts, Check These Resources



Roger Wright
2019 President

Our customers, our owners, really are the most important thing about Franklin PUD. Our mission is to provide you cost based, reliable electricity to your homes and businesses. Part of our mission is to also provide you the best information about what it takes to provide your power. One of those very important and sensitive issues is the Snake River dams.

In order for our customers to understand the issue, we want to make sure you have the latest information. It never ceases to amaze me how much information is either not reported, not reported correctly, or is totally taken out of context to appease someone's agenda. As an example, the Governor's Orca Task Force charged with developing recommendations to aid the recovery of the Southern Resident Killer Whales that reside in the Puget Sound waters.

The experts at NOAA Fisheries just published a new fact sheet that specifically points the salmon abundance problem areas on the U.S. West Coast as well as the bright spots. This can be found at: https://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/protected_species/marine_mammals/killer_whales/srkw-salmon-sources-factsheet.pdf. In this NOAA publication, you will note that the Columbia and Snake rivers today produce most of the wild and hatchery Chinook salmon on the West Coast. Meanwhile, Puget

Sound Chinook salmon stocks are not showing improvement.

Although the Orca Task Force did not recommend taking out the Snake River dams, it did establish a stakeholder process to begin discussion of potential breaching or removal of the lower Snake River dams for the benefit of Southern Resident orcas. Additionally, the recommendations proposed increasing spill levels at the dams and reestablishing salmon runs above Grand Coulee Dam. Increasing the spill levels has been shown to actually harm fish.

In addition to the NOAA fact sheet, BPA put out a fact sheet that talks about Ice Harbor dam and how critical it is to providing power and voltage to the Tri-Cities. This 2016 fact sheet can be found at: <https://www.bpa.gov/news/pubs/Pages/FactSheets.aspx> (scroll down to 2016 Fact Sheets). We also have both of these fact sheets available to you on our website under News & Events.

In addition to keeping the lights on and rates affordable, public utilities take their commitment to fish and wildlife restoration very seriously. In fact, it's the public utilities' customers who have and continue to pay for the massive investments being made in restoring endangered salmon and other species in the NW. We fully support investments that are based in sound science because that will help ensure that the species (and customers) are getting the best benefits from those dollars. Our work is cut out for us over the next several years defending our renewable, carbon-free, power-you-can-count-on all the time, dams.



You will be receiving a Customer Service survey with your January bill. The survey will also be available online for those customers not receiving paper bills. Your opinion is important to us so please take the time to fill out this short survey.

Brost Receives WPUDA Lifetime Achievement Award

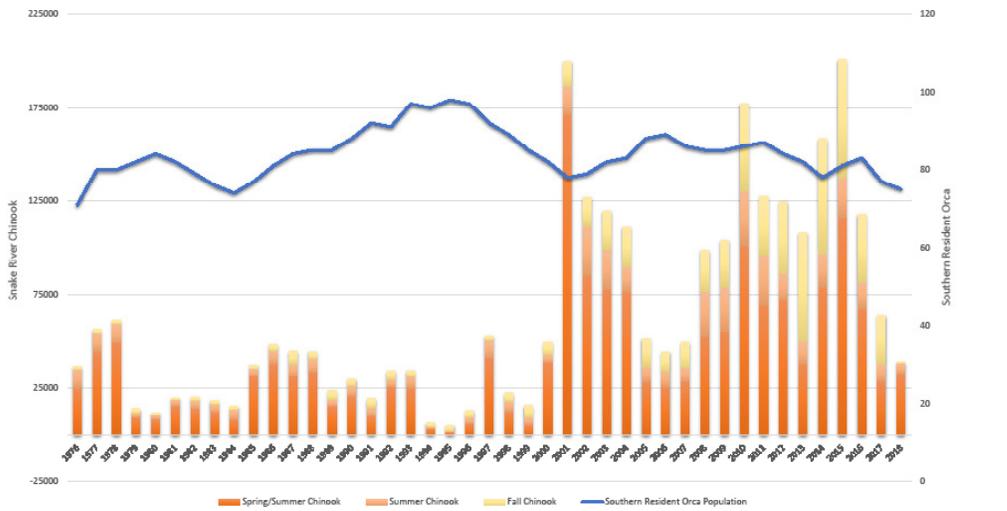
Retired Franklin PUD General Manager Ed Brost was awarded the Washington PUD Association Lifetime Achievement Award at its Annual Conference on December 9th. The award is the highest honor of the Washington PUD Association and recognizes the commitment of an outstanding individual to the philosophy and purpose of public power and to the Washington PUD Association.

Brost served more than 30 years in the industry starting his career in 1984 at the Bonneville Power Administration and retiring from Franklin PUD in 2015. Congratulations Ed!

Representative Nealey Honored

Representative Terry Nealey received the Washington Public Utility District Association's 2018 Legislative Champion Award. The award honors a member from the Washington State Legislature for their commitment to PUD's. "You have been a strong advocate for public power in the legislature. Your support of hydropower, the protection of the Snake River dams, and for your sensible approach to energy policy makes you worthy and deserving of this award," stated George Caan, WPUDA Executive Director. As Nealey goes into retirement, he will be missed in the PUD community.

Snake River Chinook and Southern Resident Orca Populations 1976-2018



Orca data courtesy of the Center for Whale Research
Salmon data courtesy of University of Washington Columbia Basin Research



Franklin PUD offers Generation Green, a "green power" program to give our customers an opportunity to purchase renewable energy generated from qualified alternative energy resources. This program, which provides a **voluntary option** to customers, is mandated

by the State of Washington through RCW 19.29A.090.

The amount you pay is above and beyond what you already pay for renewable energy already included in Franklin PUD rates.

For more information on this program, go to our website at www.franklinpud.com/index.php/energy-efficiency/generation-green/.

Fuel Mix Disclosure

Generation Type % of Total Generation

COAL	-
HYDRO	85%
NATURAL GAS	5%
NUCLEAR	8%
OTHER	2%

TOTAL 100%

Source: Washington State Department of Commerce
OTHER may include, but not limited to: Biomass generation; geothermal generation; landfill gas generation; oil generation; solar generation; waste incineration; or wind generation.

