



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review

To Columbia River Basin Floodplain and Emergency Managers:

You are cordially invited to participate in an informational session regarding the Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 (Treaty) Review Program and the ongoing flood risk assessment being conducted in support of that program.

1:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday, June 29, 2011

In Person: Hotel Fifty - 50 Southwest Morrison Street, Portland OR 97204

Web-Based Meeting (see instructions below)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Flood Risk Assessment

U.S. Treaty Flood Control operations are principally the responsibility of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). In 2009, the Corps initiated a comprehensive Flood Risk Assessment for the Columbia River basin in support of the Treaty Review. The Flood Risk Assessment consists of the initial technical work needed to support the Treaty Review in relation to Flood Risk Management. The Flood Risk Assessment focuses on the collection of data and the development of tools to evaluate Flood Risk under the existing and future conditions and potential Treaty Review alternatives.

Information Session Purpose:

This information session will cover the following topics:

1. History of the Treaty;
2. Risk-Based Approach to Flood Management – The 10,000 feet level
3. Overview of the Corps Flood Risk Assessment.
 - Updated LiDAR and floodplain inventory data
 - Levee inventory and condition assessment
 - Updated reservoir and river modeling
 - Updated floodplain economic inventory

The Corps will also be available to answer questions regarding any of the above topics.

What is the Columbia River Treaty?

The Treaty was signed by the United States and Canada and was implemented in 1964. The Treaty doubled water storage capacity on the Columbia River system with construction of three large storage projects in Canada (Duncan, Arrow and Mica) and Libby Dam in the United States. The Treaty also allowed for coordinated operations between the U.S. and Canada, resulting in billions of dollars of flood damage reduction and power benefits to both nations.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review

Why the Columbia River Treaty 2014/2024 Review?

Although the Treaty has no expiration date, beginning in 2024 and thereafter, either country has the option to terminate with 10 years' notice. This is why 2014 is such an important date. While the Treaty has had significant benefits to both nations, the cost to the United States to continue the Treaty is an estimated annually to be between \$250 to \$350 million dollars in lost power benefits. Through the Canadian Entitlement, the U.S. agreed to provide Canada with one half of the downstream power benefits each year. In addition, the 60 years of assured flood storage in Canada expires in 2024. Instead of a coordinated and managed plan to regulate both Canadian and U.S. dams for flood risk management, after 2024 the Treaty calls for a shift to an operation under which the U.S. calls upon Canada for assistance. Looking out to 2024 and beyond, it is not certain that the benefits of continuing the Treaty will exceed the costs and risks. Given the importance of these issues, the U.S. has embarked on a multi-year effort to understand the implications of these changes and evaluate what is in the best interest of the U.S. for the future of the Treaty.

Where can I find more information?

For more information, call Matt Rea, Treaty Review Program Manager for the Corps, at 503-808-4750 or Bill Abadie, Treaty Review Flood Risk Assessment Project Manager at 503-808-4732.

An overview of the Treaty and Phase 1 and Supplemental reports can be viewed on our Web site at <http://www.crt2014-2024review.gov/>.

Web-Based Meeting Participation:

To participate in the Web-based sessions, you must login to view the materials and call in to hear the discussion. Prior to your first Web-based meeting you must download and install "meeting manager" software by going to <https://www.webmeeting.att.com> and clicking on the "downloads" button along the left side of the screen. This can take less than a minute, but we ask that you login early to allow for any system delays. Once the download is complete, you may login to the meeting using the information below.

Toll-free phone bridge information:

Number: 877-336-1828 Access code: 8468386

Web Meeting login information:

Web site: <https://www.webmeeting.att.com>

Meeting number: 877-336-1828 Code: 8468386