

Judge Redden Ruling  
July 2005

The extra water for the spills came from the excess water in Idaho and from the dams on the lower Snake River. The water termed excess was more water than needed for irrigation not excess water that dams could not hold. Nobody knows what will happen in future years or if they will be forced to use irrigation water for the Salmon.

Here are some figures if the dams go or stay.

If dams are breached shipping costs for grain will increase 28%, irrigators loss of land in Washington alone would be 31,000 acres at a cost of 14 million a year. Electric mills would go up at least 12%; long term jobs a loss of 1500. Economic impact 300 million annually for a 100 years not much for a 400 billion economy. Silt from the dams at least three years before clear water runs at a loss of fish undetermined.

If the dams stay reservoirs water for irrigation unknown irrigation may take 1million acre-feet of water drying up 643,000-3.2 million acres in Idaho alone costing 45-210 million dollars a year. Electric bills could go up with the loss of water Idaho power customers could go up \$70 a month. Shipping will need to dredge the river at Lewiston and the mouth of the Columbia this is being done now.

How does this affect rockhounds? This affects the economy, the cost of electricity, bread, gas, sugar, and farm subsidies. It will affect access the time of year we can use public lands. With the drying up of lands fire will increase taking away access.

Having the Judicial Branch making the rules we lose our Republic and a way of life we have had 200 for years. Apathy will not keep our way of life we need to be involved, write or call our congressmen to keep our freedom and way of life.

The ocean temperature dropping 4 degrees caused the record runs of Salmon. El Nino currants are back raising the temperature of the ocean.

The warming of the climate is predicted to bring more moisture to the Northwest not in winter snow but in rain. This will give grasses more time to grow changing fire patterns.

Sweetwater, Wyoming has a new opal find in about a three square mile area. This is fire opal. It should be exciting to see new material come on line.

A new website for research was requested by congressmen [www.openers.com](http://www.openers.com). This site gives a chance to see reports given to congressman. This gives us a chance to be ahead of the action not trying to catch up. At this time there is over 8,000 reports on the site. It seems to be easy to navigate through.

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