



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Federal joint statement on salmon plan ruling**

We're encouraged by the Court's basic conclusion that the biological opinion should remain in place through the end of 2013, that it is providing "adequate protection for listed species" and that we should tighten up on the habitat program beginning in 2014. We are of course disappointed that the Court has not agreed with all of our arguments in this long-standing litigation, but the Court specifically recognizes that the unprecedented level of regional collaboration over the past few years has provided beneficial measures that help protection for listed species. We'll continue our efforts to provide protection for salmon and steelhead in the Basin and work toward their recovery. The federal agencies will evaluate their options on whether to appeal at a later date.

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