

THE LANDS AND WATERS OF SALMON NATION

A region defined by natural boundaries.

Each drop of rain is a starting point for seeing the shape of our region in a new light. Raindrops build streams, and streams are nudged this way and that by the contours of the land. Separating one stream network from the next are hill and mountain crests, the backbones of the landscape. When we trace those ridgelines around the streams, our maps reveal a jigsaw pattern of drainage areas: watersheds. Piecing those watersheds together into a coherent whole, we arrive at a larger geography defined by the life and culture it supports: our bioregion, Salmon Nation.

All along the Pacific Coast of North America from the California redwoods north to the Arctic Ocean, any summertime stream that carries more than a couple of garden hoses' worth of water is probably home to at least one species of salmon. The first people of this region were wealthy thanks to the salmon. More recently, scientists surveying the

importance of this fish to our flora and fauna have declared it a keystone of regional health.

But beyond salmon, we are bound together in this region by other issues, by water, by power and trade. We face common problems, share common interests and look to each other with a common history. Salmon Nation is a place where the economy is not in conflict with the ecological health of the land. It is a place where we not only live, but thrive.

Welcome home.

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PACIFIC OCEAN

■ Historic inland distribution of Pacific salmon and steelhead
— Major rivers and inlets