

## Vision Statement

The Hanford Reach National Monument is a biologically diverse landscape, embracing a remarkable natural and historic legacy. The Hanford Reach, the last free-flowing non-tidal stretch of the Columbia River, is the ribbon that weaves shrub-steppe and riverine communities together, defining an irreplaceable landscape—a place to discover the richness of life, to reflect upon history, and to experience nature in solitude.

The Monument's diversity of plants and wildlife are critical to the biological integrity of the Columbia Basin. The unique combination of an expansive and increasingly rare shrub-steppe ecosystem, the free-flowing river, and the last major salmon spawning grounds in the Columbia River create a diverse and precious mosaic of habitats. The Monument is a refuge for a multitude of species, many new to science.

The Monument is a natural gathering place to learn, to experience and celebrate cultures, where stories are protected and passed on. Its history of immigrant settlement and the dawning of the atomic era is acknowledged, as well as its continuing physical and spiritual sustenance of the Native Americans who have used the area and those who came later.

The Monument is a testimonial to the past and the sacrifices of our ancestors. The Monument is also a vision into the future where visitors, neighbors and partners are valued and respected; where natural and historic resources are protected; and where all may come to experience the Monument and its magnificent resources.

## Goals

The Monument's goals were developed through the cooperation and assistance of many people, agencies, tribes and organizations, and reflect the basis for a management plan that will benefit everyone while protecting the Monument's resources. Development of the management plan—and the implementation of these goals—will honor valid existing rights and comply with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service policies and procedures; the Hanford Reach National Monument Proclamation; and applicable laws.

- 1) Conserve and restore the plants, animals and shrub-steppe and other upland habitats native to the Columbia Basin.
- 2) Conserve and restore the communities of fish and other aquatic and riparian-dependent plant and animal species native to the Hanford Reach National Monument.
- 3) Enhance Monument resources by establishing and maintaining connectivity with neighboring habitats.
- 4) Protect the distinctive geological and paleontological resources of the Monument.
- 5) Protect and acknowledge the Native American, settler, atomic and Cold War histories of the Monument to ensure present and future generations recognize the significance of the area's past.
- 6) Provide a rich variety of educational and interpretive opportunities for visitors to gain an appreciation, knowledge and understanding of the Monument, compatible with resource protection.
- 7) Provide access and opportunities for high-quality recreation compatible with resource protection.
- 8) Protect the natural visual character and promote the opportunity to experience solitude on the Monument.
- 9) Honor treaty rights in accordance with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Native American policy.
- 10) Foster, support and respect cooperative partnerships that preserve valid existing rights while protecting the purposes of the Monument. Recognize and cooperate with tribal, state and local governments and federal agencies in the discharge of statutory responsibilities. Enhance relationships and partnerships with community organizations and neighbors furthering management goals.
- 11) Facilitate research compatible with resource protection, emphasizing research that contributes to management goals of the Monument.
- 12) Establish and maintain a cooperative fire management program that protects facilities, resources and neighbors and fulfills natural resource management objectives.
- 13) Provide infrastructure, operations and maintenance capabilities that are in harmony with Monument purposes.