

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



## Subobjective: Columbia River

EPA failed to meet one of its commitment for the Columbia River subobjective and was only able to report partial results for a second measure in FY 2013 (Figure 91). It should be noted that the failure to meet one of the commitments is due to a very minor change (1 acre) in the cumulative end of year results.

Figure 91: Columbia River Subobjective Five-Year Trend



FY 2013 ACS Code	Abbreviated Measure Description	Results and Commitment Status							Appendix Page Number (D-0)/ Figure Number
		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	
<b>Subobjective 2.2.12 Restore and Protect the Columbia River Basin</b>									
CR-SP53	Number acres Columbia River contaminated sediments cleaned up (cumulative)		0	20	63	79	79		D-58
CR-SP54	Percent reduction Columbia River contaminants in water & fish				92%	95%	99%		D-58

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More than 1,200 miles long, the Columbia River spans portions of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Utah, and Montana, as well as a substantial portion of British Columbia. The 260,000-square-mile Columbia River Basin includes ecosystems that are home to a variety of biologically significant plants and animals and supports industries vital to the Pacific Northwest, including sport and commercial fisheries, agriculture, transportation, recreation, and electrical power generation.

## FY 2013 Performance Highlights and Management Challenges

There was a total of 80 acres clean up of known contaminated sediments at the end of FY 2013, however, 1 acre was subtracted for Bradford Island at Bonneville Dam. Bradford Island was reported cleaned up in 2007 by U.S. Army Corp of Engineers , however, sampling in 2012 showed that the clean-up had failed.

Over the past few years, EPA has measured the reduction in contaminants of concern in the water column and fish in the Columbia River. Originally, the Agency selected five sites in the Columbia River basin to monitor, but because of limited resources, the program was only able to monitor at the West Prong Little Walla Walla River site (South of Stateline Road, Oregon) in FY 2012. At this site, there was a 95% decrease in the average and maximum detection levels between 2006 (baseline year) and 2011 for Chlorphyrifos and 100% reduction in azinphos-methyl. No data is available for the other sites.