



Columbia River Policy Advisory Group Themes from Member Interviews



**Columbia River Policy
Advisory Group (CRPAG)
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Interview Themes - Purpose of CR-PAG



- **Formal Purpose** – Advise Office of Columbia River (OCR) on water policy and issues
- **Informal Purpose** – Provide channel for productive conversation for OCR and basin community
- **Observations:**
 - Early efforts focused on discussion and decisions around initial \$200 million investment. PAG dialogue helped members learn about the perspectives, needs, and values from other parts of the basin. It was a good process.
 - Recently PAG has been more informational, keeping members informed about progress of projects and other basin issues. We have been missing the two-way dialogue and may have lost some group cohesion.

Interview Themes - Most Valued by Members



- Hearing updates and emerging issues from OCR
- Informational presentations are useful
- Dialogue with other PAG members – important to understand each other
- Tone of dialogue is respectful.
- Diverse participation; sense that participation has decreased
- For agencies – opportunity to participate and better support the basin community

Interview Themes - Ideas for Improvements



- Hear about OCR's vision and priorities, and opportunity to have dialogue around these topics
- Lookahead from OCR – emerging issues, topics, and legislation
- Clear purpose for discussions – what is expected of PAG and how will advisement be used
- Increased member-to-member engagement in meetings to cultivate understanding about each other, trust, and group cohesion
- More balance - basin wide – for topics
- Consider PAG role in big issues – help to integrate related efforts?
Bridge to bigger and more comprehensive solutions?