

# Press Releases: Modernizing the Columbia River Treaty Regime

Media Note  
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The United States and Canada will begin negotiations to modernize the landmark Columbia River Treaty regime in early 2018. Certain provisions of the Treaty—a model of transboundary natural resource cooperation since 1964—are set to expire in 2024.

The Columbia River's drainage basin is roughly the size of France and includes parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, and British Columbia. The Treaty's flood risk and hydropower operations provide substantial benefits to millions of people on both sides of the border. The Treaty has also facilitated additional benefits such as supporting the river's ecosystem, irrigation, municipal water use, industrial use, navigation, and recreation.

For further information, please email [WHAPress@state.gov](mailto:WHAPress@state.gov).

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