

# 1 Description

- The dams are an important part of the history of the Northwest and of Oregon.
- The dams produced huge amounts of electricity and made water readily available.
- Farmers were distributed land to use, and provided with subsidized water.
  - These small farms were not successful.
  - Successful ones wanted to grow.
  - Less successful ones could not grow, or afford new and more efficient tools.
  - Small farmers began to disappear, despite the initial plans to support them.
- The dams also drew industries.
  - The main industry drawn was aluminum smelting.
  - The aluminum smelting produced a lot of pollution.
  - These industry mills have begun to move away.
- The dams destroyed many homes of the native Americans, without any compensation.
- The dams also wreaked native fish habitats.
- These last two have not changed over time.

# 2 Questions

- What were the benefits and the costs of the dams when they were first being constructed?
- What are the benefits of the costs of the dams in current times?
- Do the benefits still outweigh the costs of the dams?

### 3 Voices

- Corporations
- Native Americans
- Environmentalists
- Employees
- Small farmers
- Corporate farms
- Dam Organizers/Planners

### 4 Results

I found that:

- I found that when the dams were first constructed, they were extremely beneficial, and help develop the region in several ways.
- I also found that as time has passed, the value of the dams has dropped, and they have become less useful in the past few years.
- I think that the utility of the dams has lost some of its importance, and so they no longer are more beneficial than they cost.
- So some of the dams could be removed, while still maintaining much of the utility from remaining dams.