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**NEWS RELEASE:**  
***BPA's northern pikeminnow program saves salmon***

Bonneville Power Administration

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**PORTLAND, Ore.** -- One of the dangers young salmon face on their migration down the Columbia River has lessened. Thanks to BPA's Northern Pikeminnow Sport Reward season, anglers were able to take over 107,000 of the salmon-eating northern pikeminnow out of the Columbia and Snake rivers.

"We are extremely encouraged by the results of this program over the past eight years," said John Skidmore of BPA's fish and wildlife office. "Over one-million predatory northern pikeminnow have been removed from the Snake and Columbia rivers since 1990. As a result of these removals, researchers have estimated a 38 percent reduction in juvenile salmon losses to northern pikeminnow for 1999."

Larry Shimp of The Dalles, Ore. won \$5,000 in the prize drawing from vouchers turned in during the season. The top angler this year was Earl Miller of Camas, Wash. Miller earned over \$15,000 during the 1998 season that began May 4 and was extended until Oct. 11.

BPA offered a \$3 to \$5 reward for every northern pikeminnow 11 inches or longer returned to a registration station. Next year BPA plans to boost the reward to \$4 to \$6 per fish. "We want more anglers to come out next spring and help us save salmon."

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