

**Article #:** 57

**Title:** Willingness to Pay for Non Angler Recreation at the Lower Snake River Reservoirs

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**Journal:** Journal of Leisure Research, vol. 37

**Date:** 2005

**Pages:** 178-194(11/13/08 KB)M

**Abstract:**

The study applied the travel cost method to estimate demand for non-angler recreation at the impounded Snake River in eastern Washington. Certain recreational activities would be reduced or eliminated and new activities would be added if the dams were breached to protect endangered salmon and steelhead.

Three-fourths of those giving top rating to sight seeing and other also gave top rating to camping, however sight seeing could not be estimated because few persons were included in the sample. The result was an high estimate of total non-angler benefits without breaching the dam of nearly \$7.2 million per year.

Subtraction of the current recreation benefits from the benefits with breaching the dam yielded at least \$185.5 to \$303.5 million of annual non-angling recreation benefits with breaching. The large increase in site value with breaching suggests that white water non-angling recreation sites are scarce relative to demand than flat water sites in the Pacific Northwest.