

Name _____



VIRTUAL WORLD COLUMBIA RIVER

In this activity you will be learning about the Columbia River and how it has been transformed.

1. Go to the following website:

http://www.nationalgeographic.com/earthpulse/columbia/index_flash.html

2. Observe on the map how large the Columbia watershed is:

a. What states and provinces (Canada) are part of the watershed?

3. Click on the “Full Version” and begin clicking on the icons to find answers to the questions below.

Columbia River Virtual Tour Questions:

1. Describe the life cycle of a typical Pacific Salmon?

2. List three obstacles that Pacific Salmon face due to humans?

a.

b.

c.

3. How many salmon ply the Columbia River today, how many salmon did in the 1800's?

4. What three species of fish flourish due to the dams?

5. List three reasons why these species are more successful?

a.

b.

c.

6. What species of bird has flourished due to the dams, how does this bird not help the Pacific Salmon?

7. Describe what fishing was like in the 1800's, how is it different now, why?

8. The Columbia River's largest dam Grand Coulee irrigates how many acres of farmland, how?

9. The once free-flowing Columbia is now largely a series of reservoirs due to water control. List three pros of controlling water flow on the Columbia:

Pros:

a.

b.

c.

Cons:

a.

b.

c.

d.

10. With water levels tamed by damming, barges can navigate far upstream, list three pros and 1 con:

Pros:

a.

b.

c.

Con

a.

11. As water surges through the massive turbines of a Columbia River dam, electricity is created and salmon often are injured, list three pros and 4 cons to this issue:

Pros:

a.

b.

c.

Cons:

a.

b.

c.

d.