The Columbia River is the lifeblood of the Pacific Northwest



the U.S. in water volume behind the Mississippi River. HOME TO hydropower dams that produce of the U.S.'s total hydropower generation.

FLOWS PAST

high-population centers such as the Tri-Cities, Wash. and Portland, Ore.

WATERSHED

covers an area of more than **260,000** square miles, reaching parts of states and British Columbia, Canada.

GATEWAY FOR agricultural shipping. In 2016, **449** of U.S. wheat exports traveled down the Columbia River.

HOSTS MANY

fish species **13** including **designated** threatened or endangered species.

Protecting the river and public is the most important mission at the Hanford Vit Plant