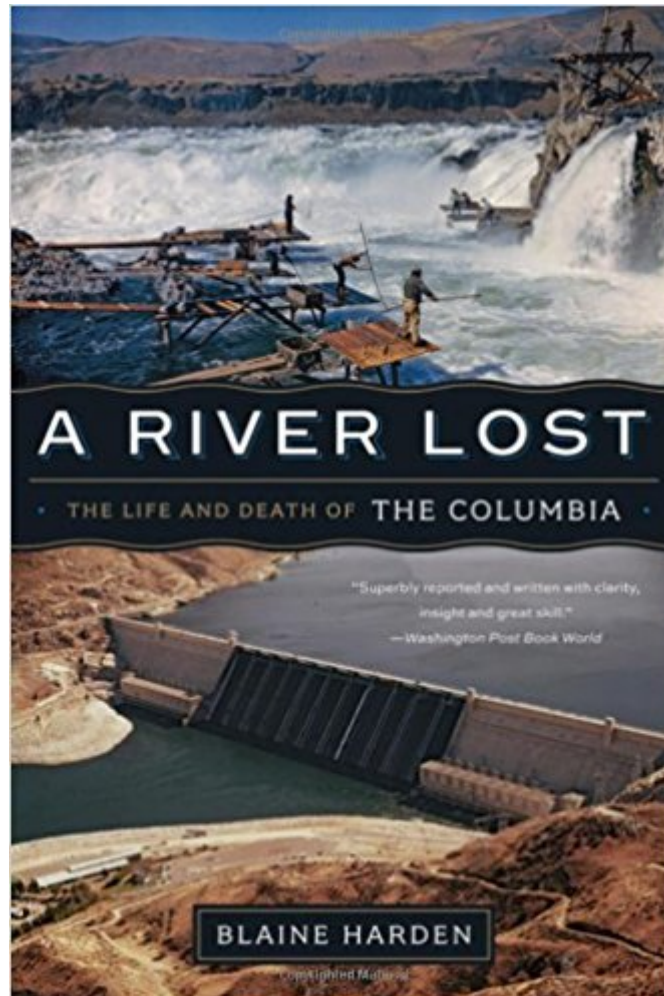


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# A River Lost: The Life And Death Of The Columbia (Revised And Updated)



## Synopsis

"Superbly reported and written with clarity, insight, and great skill." —*Washington Post Book World* After two decades, Washington Post journalist Blaine Harden returned to his small-town birthplace in the Pacific Northwest to follow the rise and fall of the West's most thoroughly conquered river. To explore the Columbia River and befriend those who collaborated in its destruction, he traveled on a monstrous freight barge sailing west from Idaho to the Grand Coulee Dam, the site of the river's harnessing for the sake of jobs, electricity, and irrigation. *A River Lost* is a searing personal narrative of rediscovery joined with a narrative of exploitation: of Native Americans, of endangered salmon, of nuclear waste, and of a once-wild river. Updated throughout, this edition features a new foreword and afterword. 7 maps

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A hard-nosed, clear-eyed, tough-minded dispatch on the sort of contentious subject that is almost always distorted by ideology or obscured by a fog of sentiment . . . A precise and brave book." —Hal Espen, *New York Times Book Review*

Blaine Harden, an award-winning journalist, is a contributor to *The Economist* and a former foreign correspondent for the *Washington Post*. He lives in Seattle, Washington.

Wonderful history of the Columbia and Snake Rivers and what has occurred due to the dams. I would recommend this book, especially to anyone living in the northwest.

A horror story of government incompetence special interests, crooked politicians, and bureaucracy run amok.

This was required reading for my PNW History class. I expected it to be a boring factual book, but I was pleasantly surprised. It is a great book if you want to know the truth about the dams on the Columbia and the deceptions of our government. What an eye opener for me. Anyone interested in why and how they are there should read this book.

A fabulous review of all the historic and modern day players on the Columbia River. This book shows the complexity of aquatic resource management and the impacts of short-sited development. A great read for anyone interested in the Columbia River basin or regional environmental planning.

A great reporter and writer tells the story of how one of America's greatest wild rivers was transformed into a series of puddles. I am very grateful to Mr. Harden for rescuing this story from obscurity. We tend to accept the dams on the Columbia as part of the natural landscape --- and they aren't.

A prodigious and perceptive writer who has fun and pathos at the same time with greatness and tragedy of one of the worlds great structures.

In depth history of the Columbia basin project and the building of the dams on the river. Extensive analysis of the ecological impact of the changed river system. The authors deep understanding and professional journalists eye make for a great read.

It was a good read for someone like myself who grew up along the river. At times it strays further into emotion and opinion rather than fact. But it's mostly accurate.

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