

## UNIT 3: ELEMENTARY -- UNITED STATES HISTORY

### LEGACY FOR US TODAY: ELWHA

#### SHOULD THE DAMS ON THE ELWHA BE REMOVED? A CLASSROOM DEBATE (Freeing the Elwha: Lesson 7)

#### Instructional Support Materials:

[\*Should the Dams on the Elwha be Removed? A Classroom Debate \(Lesson 7\)\*](#)  
[\*American Field Guide\*](#)  
[\*Environmental Decision Making Model\*](#)

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#### Lesson Overview:

For this lesson, we direct you to The American Field Guide at:  
[http://www.pbs.org/americanfieldguide/teachers/salmon/salmon\\_unit.html](http://www.pbs.org/americanfieldguide/teachers/salmon/salmon_unit.html). They have built a fantastic lesson plan for the debate over the removal of the dams on the Elwha River.

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#### Time:

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#### Guiding Question:

Dams have been useful to human populations in providing water and energy for development of wilderness areas. Should dams that have outlived their use be removed in order to enhance the sustainability of natural and human communities?

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