

ABSTRACT 13

BATTELLE-NORTHWEST'S ECOLOGY PROGRAM

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The Hanford Reservation, comprising some 600 square miles, is gradually reverting to its native state since its establishment some 20 years ago. The Columbia River, one of America's major streams, relatively free of industrial pollution, traverses the reservation. The combination of these natural assets provides unequalled opportunities for terrestrial and freshwater ecological research based on the characteristics of the steppe desert and the Columbia River.

A total of five scientists and three technicians are currently engaged in the following ecological studies:

1. Alaskan food chains
2. Limnology of the Columbia River
3. Terrestrial ecology of the Hanford desert
4. Population dynamics of the Columbia River waterfowl
5. The ecology of the Rattlesnake Springs Reserve (800 acres)
6. Biometrics of natural populations

Work in these areas will be briefly reviewed, emphasizing their potential contributions to an expanded ecological program.