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Michael Powelson is The Nature Conservancy's Director of Agency Relations for the Western United States, a position he has held for the last four years. In the five years prior to that he was the Director of Agency Relations for the Conservancy's Pacific North America Region and the Northwest Division. His focus is primarily working on federal issues of regional and national significance, working with federal agencies, the Administration and Congress. Prior to that he spent eight years as a Fish and Wildlife Policy Analyst for the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and the Oregon Governor's Natural Resources Office. Michael is a native Oregonian and currently resides in Portland, OR.