Fishwheels of the Columbia by Frederick K. Cramer

A Splendid Read

A superb collection of rare, historic photographs and many maps illustrate the only complete history of this picturesque era on the Columbia, when the great fishwheels scooped up vast quantities of the migrating salmon. Told here also is the battle for river transportation on the north and south banks and the development of Cascade Locks and The Dalles-Celilo Canal. 8 1/2 x 11. Charts and line drawings. 128 pages.

My Personal Review:
I write Columbia Gorge hiking and history books for a living and this is one of the prized books on my bookshelf of over 50 Columbia Gorge history books. This book is about far more than just the 1880-1934 fishwheel industry on the Columbia. Its about the era when the Columbia ran unchecked...when the Columbia was often a roiling beast challenging in the utmost those pioneers who struggled in the attempt to wrest a living from its tumultous shores.
This book details the 50-year era on the Columbia like no other history book I own. Ive read it over and over, learning more subtlties of Gorge history each time.
If youre interested in Columbia Gorge history at all, then you wont regret this purchase. It is chock-full of photographs of both the Cascades fishwheels and also those between The Dalles and Celilo Falls. Hurry and buy one for yourself before I earn enough money to buy up every copy I can get my hands on!!
Scott Cook, author of Curious Gorge.

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