

A map of the Pacific Northwest region of the United States, showing the border with Canada to the north. The map includes major cities like Seattle, Spokane, Portland, and Richland. The Columbia River is shown flowing between Washington and Oregon. A scale bar indicates 50 km and 50 miles. An inset globe shows the location of the Pacific Northwest within North America. A black box with a white arrow points to the Hanford nuclear site, located near Richland, Washington. The map also shows major highways (5, 82, 84, 90) and the state boundaries of Washington (Wash.) and Oregon (ORE.).

Source: ESRI, TeleAtlas  
Graphic: Los Angeles Times © 2013 MCT

Hanford's tanks hold some 53 million gallons of highly radioactive waste — enough to fill dozens of Olympic-size swimming pools — and many of those tanks are known

"None of these tanks would be acceptable for use today. They are all beyond their design life. None of them should be in service," he said. "And yet, they're holding two-thirds of the nation's high-level nuclear waste."



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