

SNAKE RIVER RECOVERY REGION

Presentation to the SRFB
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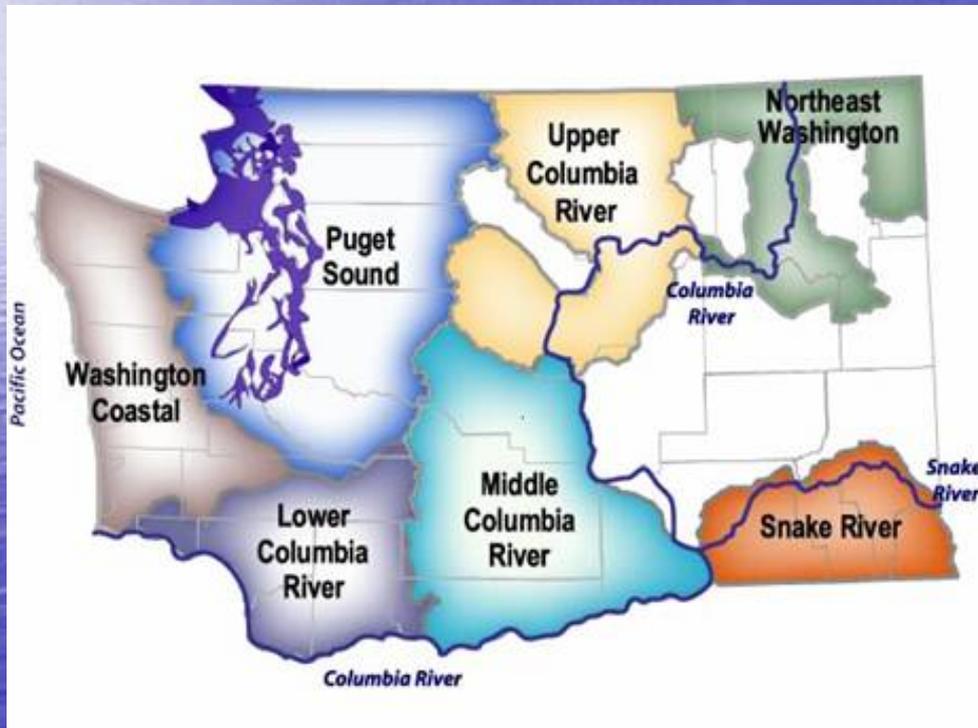
WHERE WE STARTED WHERE WE ARE, WHERE WE ARE GOING & OH YES, THE CHALLENGES



"If you think developing the plan is hard wait until you get into implementation", Jeff Breckel, 2005



WHERE WE STARTED STATE OF WASHINGTON APPROACH



WHERE WE ARE



- Plan covers Snake River & Mid C ESUs and was completed in 2005, three years after Board organized and began developing the Plan in 2002.
- Voluntary Board, composed of County Commissioners, CTUIR, and Landowners and At-Large, combines with a regional technical team, meeting monthly – for six years and going!
- Walla Walla Community College is the administrative agent for the Board; governed by an inter-local agreement between the counties and CTUIR (Tribes)

WHERE WE ARE

- Regional Technical Team, comprised of state, federal and Tribal representatives provides science and technical guidance to Board on plan revisions, 3-year work plan, information updates, artificial production strategies, and review of lead entity project list
- Board is the Lead Entity but relies on a Lead Entity Committee comprised of landowners and technical representatives to conduct the project evaluation and co-leads to conduct sponsor outreach and development
- Board contracts with the watershed planning units to assist, advise, coordinate and manage a common 3-year work plan

WHERE WE ARE GOING

Finalize DPS/ESU plans with Oregon and Idaho

Capitalize on accomplishments: with continued community support salmon runs and the ecosystem are improving

Coordinate myriad implementation partners through use of a common three year work plan

Coordinate monitoring and adaptively manage the plan

Report accomplishments

Continue to represent regional priorities to HSRG, FCRPS BiOp, USACOE, CSF, Fish and Wildlife Program, et al

SNAKE RIVER FISH POPULATIONS

Snake River Fall Chinook

Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook

Snake River Steelhead

Middle Columbia Steelhead

Bull Trout

Sockeye (not included in Plan)



TECHNICAL OVERVIEW



- NOAA convened the Interior Columbia Technical Review Team (ICTRT) to use best-available science to assess status of steelhead populations
- ICTRT modeled historic habitat and assessed status of each population and established recovery criteria
- ICTRT offered recovery scenarios at the MPG scale

RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

		Spatial Structure / Diversity Risk			
		V. Low	Low	Mod.	High
Abundance / Productivity Risk	V. Low				
	Low				
	Mod.				
	High				

Walla Walla

Touchet

The Bar is Set: Biological and Physical Criteria set by NOAA (VSP and Threats)

De-listing Scenarios (MPG) Provided by NOAA

Biological and Physical Assessments conducted (EDT)

Conservative/Realistic 15-Year Objectives Established

Strategies Developed to meet the Objectives

Actions in the Near Term (3-year work plan), mid-term (5-year) and long-term identified and committed to support the strategies

ACTIONS: All-H Approach

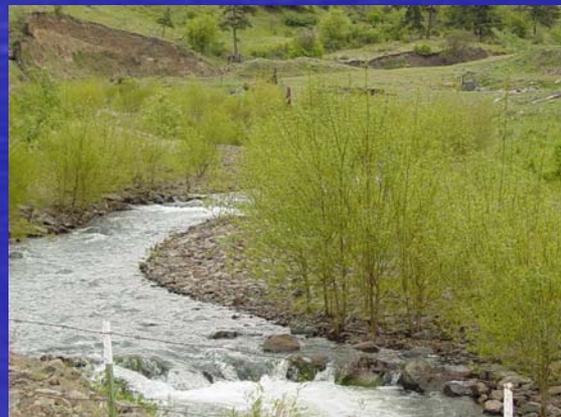


- Habitat: See 3-year implementation schedule for suite of habitat actions and assessments + RME
- Hydropower – Hatchery – Harvest: Identify recommendations to be considered in other processes but over-arching recommendations are:
 - Hatchery: Combination of integrated and segregated programs to achieve de-listing while maintaining recreational fisheries; minimize hatchery fish on spawning grounds
 - Harvest: No recreational/commercial harvest of natural ESA salmondis; liberalize harvest of non-native piscivorous fishes

ANALYSIS

- Objectives were modeled to predict outcome, i.e., if we meet our objectives what response will we see
- Models predict recovery (Viability) for 4 of 10 populations within 15-years assuming static out-of-basin conditions

Asotin Creek: Before (1997) and After (2002)



MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

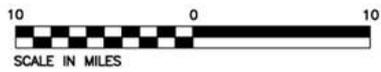
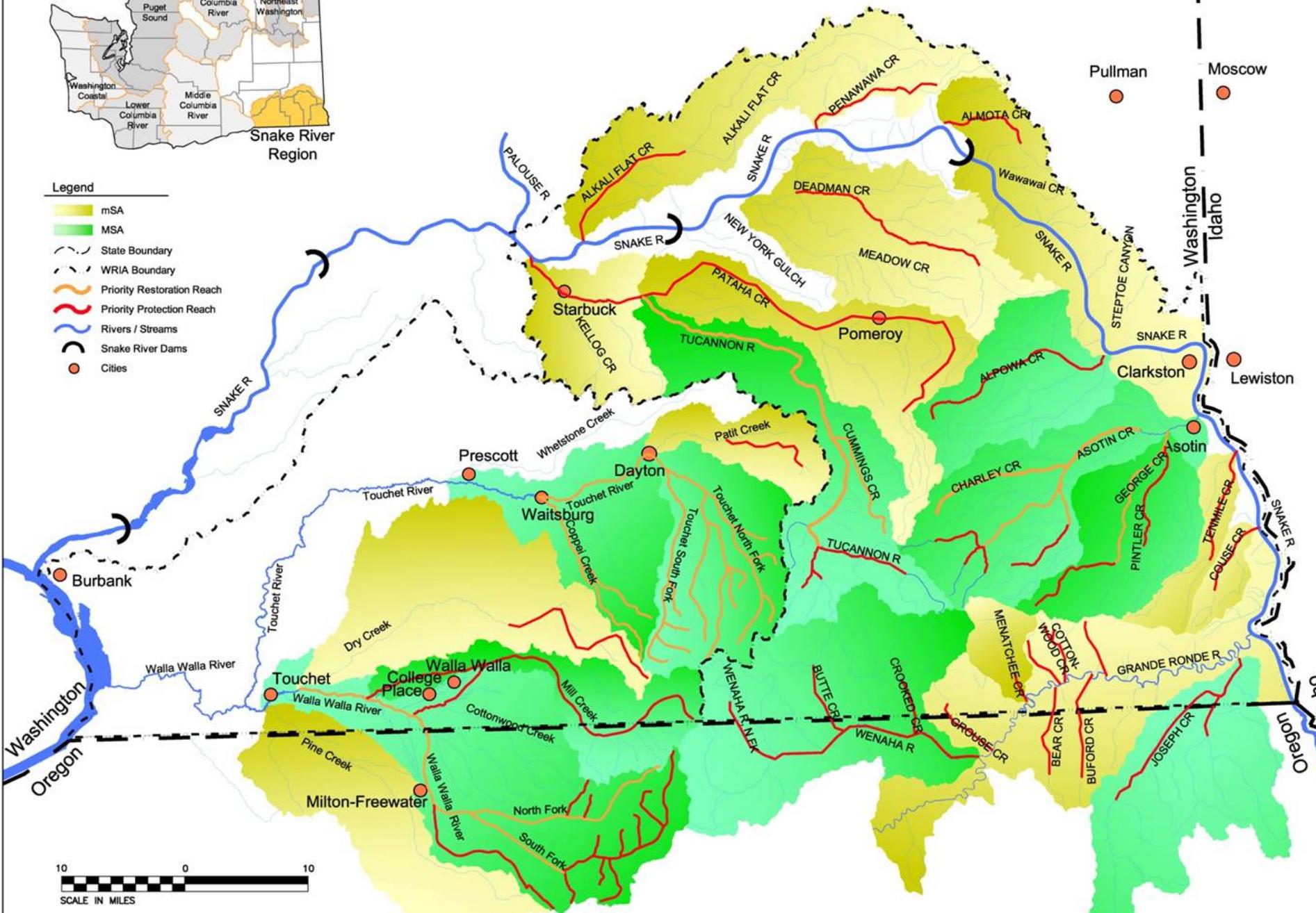
At the Landscape Level, Priority **Areas** were Informed by NOAA ICTRT Intrinsic Potential Assessment

At the Reach Level, Priority **Areas** were Informed by Ecosystem Assessment (EDT)

At the Site Level, Priority **Actions** were Recommended by RTT and Approved by SRSRB



Snake River Region Priority Reaches



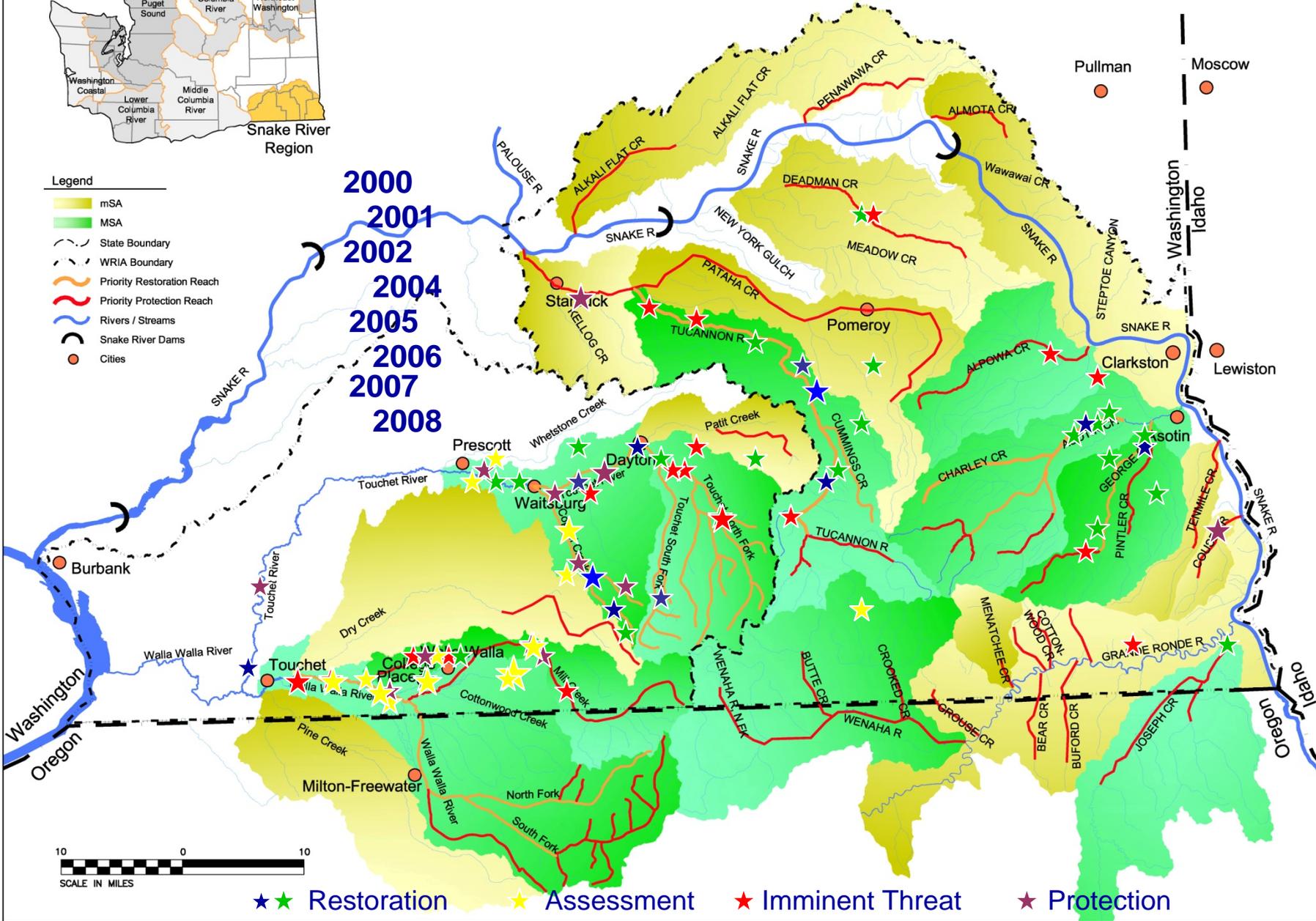
Snake River Region Priority Reaches



Legend

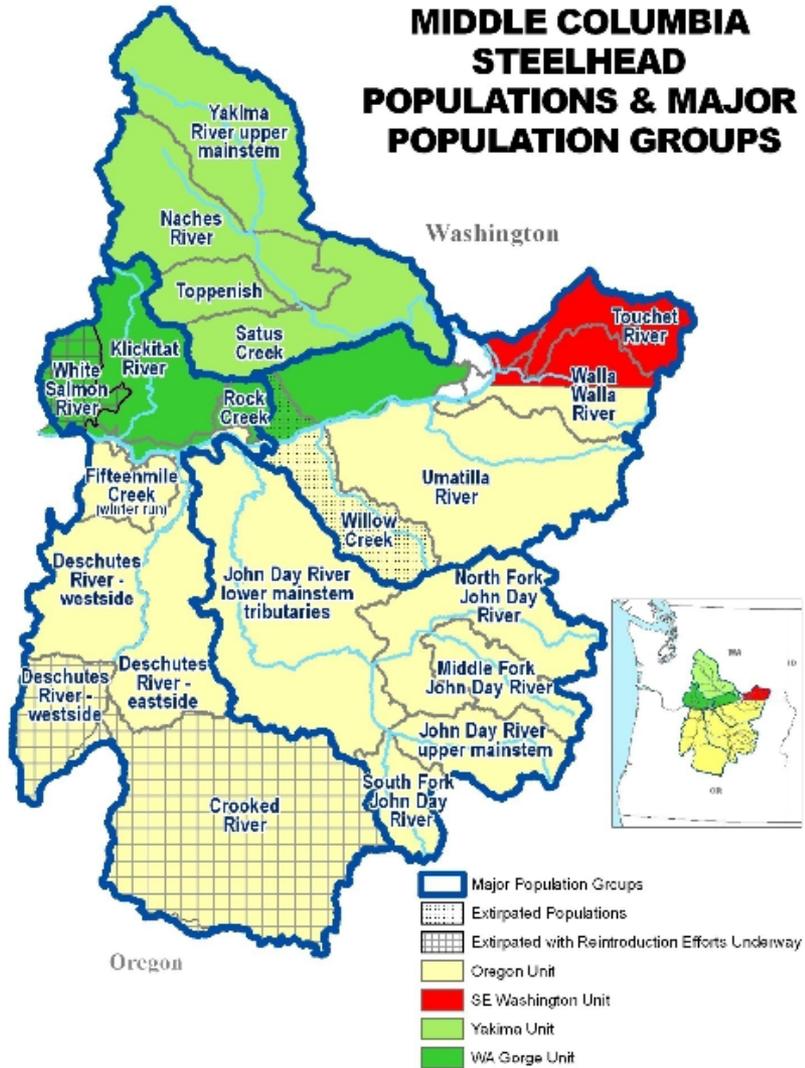
- mSA
- MSA
- State Boundary
- WRIA Boundary
- Priority Restoration Reach
- Priority Protection Reach
- Rivers / Streams
- Snake River Dams
- Cities

2000
2001
2002
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008



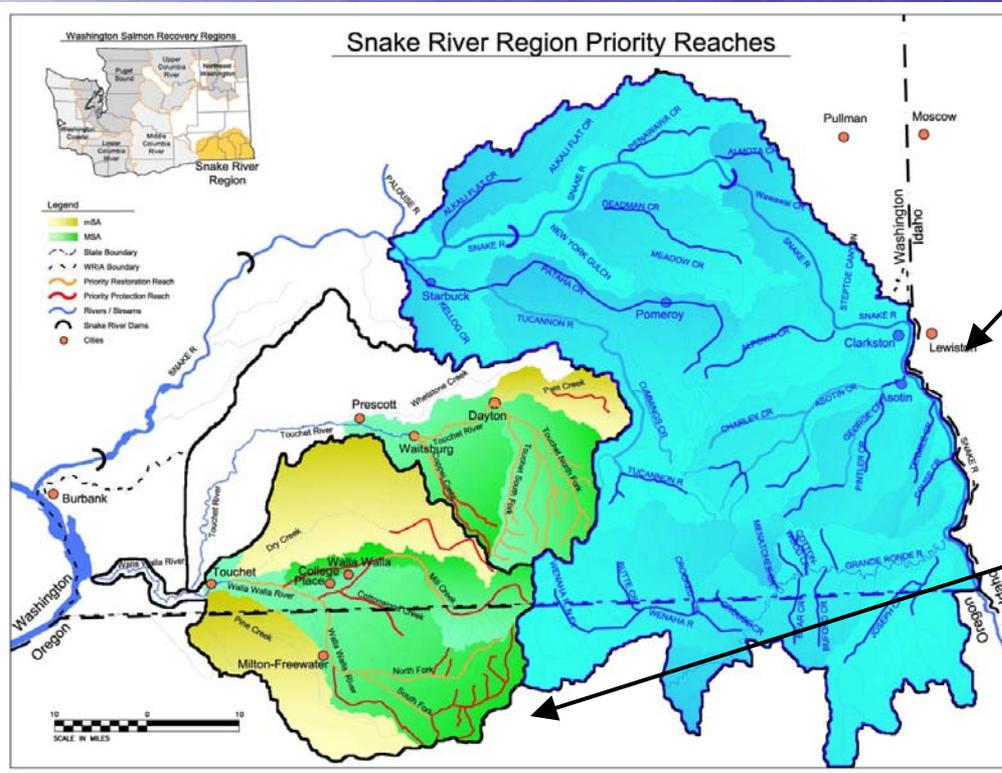
★ ★ Restoration ★ Assessment ★ Imminent Threat ★ Protection

MIDDLE COLUMBIA STEELHEAD POPULATIONS & MAJOR POPULATION GROUPS



CHALLENGES DPS's

CHALLENGES MULTIPLE POLITICAL BOUNDARIES



Idaho

Oregon



CHALLENGES FROM WITHIN

Reporting – multiple implementing partners store/manage project data and distribute reports differently; HWS is encouraging

Coordination – large geographic area, myriad project sponsors, various funding sources provides a challenge and an opportunity that we are addressing by singing from the same sheet of music (3 year work plan)

Sponsor Capacity/Workload – processes are onerous making it difficult for a sponsor to work on more than one project per year

CHALLENGES FROM BEYOND

Commitments – partner (agency) commitments are tied to their program funding/agency priorities but their continued technical participation is critical

Funding – dedicated funding is critical for continuity and predictability of the program; integrating programs is strategic and desired locally but funding disincentives exist

Coordination – multiple policy forums/funding programs with unique but complementary missions result in duplication/redundancy and confusion

Monitoring – legacy programs and lingering direction combined with inadequate funding leave region in limbo

SUCCESSSES



Plan Completed in 2005 and now integrating with Oregon and Idaho at the ESU scale

Funding – SRFB and emerging partners have committed to supporting regional organizations; LE program is vital

Monitoring – actively participating in Washington Monitoring Forum and guiding/narrowing regional monitoring framework

Reporting – Use of habitat work schedule buy-in from partners

SUCCESSSES

Coordination – NWPCC, Action Agencies, USACOE, SRFB, RFEG, CSF, Planning Units et al are “more or less” agreeing to work from 3 year work plan

Project permitting – GSRO through the Limit 8 relieves sponsors from federal permits

Integration – Lead Entity and Board are fully integrated and coordinate very closely with watershed planning units

Integration – a single lead entity list spanning three WRIA's





Coppie
Creek
Riparian
Easement



Whiskey
Creek
Barrier



Mill
Creek
Barrier

CLOSING THOUGHTS

- I never imagined it possible – local governments, tribal organizations, landowners, environmentalists, state agencies and the federal government not only saying they would sit down and develop management plans for ESA listed salmon but to actually do so and then follow through by committing their time and energy to guide implementation and adaptively manage the plan is certainly newsworthy
- For information contact Steve Martin, 509-382-4115 or steve@snakeriverboard.org



IS IT WORTH IT ?

- Is all this stress, over-time, travel, debate & anxiety worth it?

YES:

- If not now then when and if not us then who?
- While at times challenging, this is working.

My Board and I thank each and every person in this room and behind the scenes making the vision a reality. It is now time to go to Ocean Shores and dig some clams!





Questions - Comments

9 26 '99