



Snake River Recovery Region

Regional Presentation to the SRFB
December 2008

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Lead Entity Coordinator

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board is a partnership of diverse interests committed to developing local solutions for salmon recovery





Washington State Conservation Commission
We help protect, conserve and enhance natural resources



Walla Walla Watershed Planning



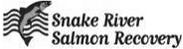
THE OFFICIAL WEB SITE OF THE NEZ PERCE TRIBE
www.nezperce.org
Lapwai, Idaho



Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council
WATER QUALITY • WILDLIFE • FISHERIES • FORESTS • SOILS



Northwest Power and Conservation Council

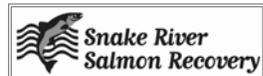


Snake River Salmon Recovery

- **STATEWIDE REFLECTION**
- **SNAKE RIVER OVERVIEW**



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



STATEWIDE REFLECTION

1980's Spotted owl listed – devastating communities

1990's Salmon listed= anxiety, fear and frustration

Steve's personal reflection

1998 Lead Entity Program created

1999 Statewide Strategy released – different approach

1998 - Regional Boards organized to implement Statewide

2003 Strategy to Recover Salmon

Today Partnerships have replaced anxiety, fear and frustration

SNAKE RIVER PLAN AND ORGANIZATION



- Recovery plan completed in 2005 after 3 years
- Voluntary Board: County Commissioners, CTUIR, citizens
- Regional technical team
- Board is also the Lead Entity
- Governed by inter-local agreement
- Partnership support
- Walla Walla Community College is fiscal agent

WHERE THE SNAKE IS GOING

- Finalize DPS/ESU plans with Oregon and Idaho
- Capitalize on accomplishments
- Coordinate implementation partners through use of a shared three year work plan
- Coordinate monitoring and adaptively manage the plan
- Report accomplishments
- Broker/leverage partner agreements to implement the Plan

SNAKE RIVER FISH POPULATIONS

Snake River Fall Chinook

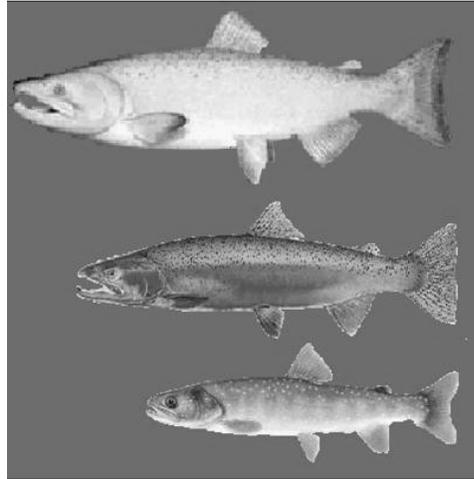
Snake River Spring/Summer
Chinook

Snake River Steelhead

Middle Columbia Steelhead

Bull Trout

Sockeye (not included in Plan)



RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

- The bar is set and it is understood
 - VSP = biological criteria (A/P and SS/D)
 - Threats = activities that cause limiting factor(s)
 - De-listing = Scenarios (MPG) provided by NOAA
- Path forward is established
 - Achievable/Realistic 15-Year objectives established
 - Strategies developed to meet objectives
 - Actions set to meet objectives

RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

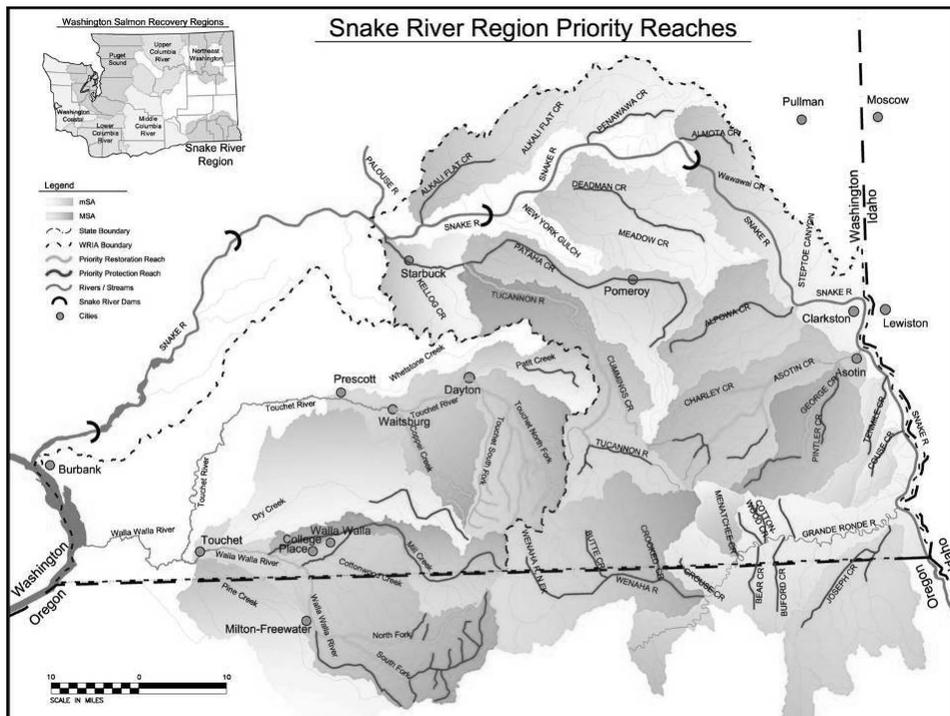
Spatial Structure / Diversity Risk					
		V. Low	Low	Mod.	High
Abundance/ Productivity Risk	V. Low	Umatilla			
	Low				
	Mod.			Walla Walla	
	High			Touchet	

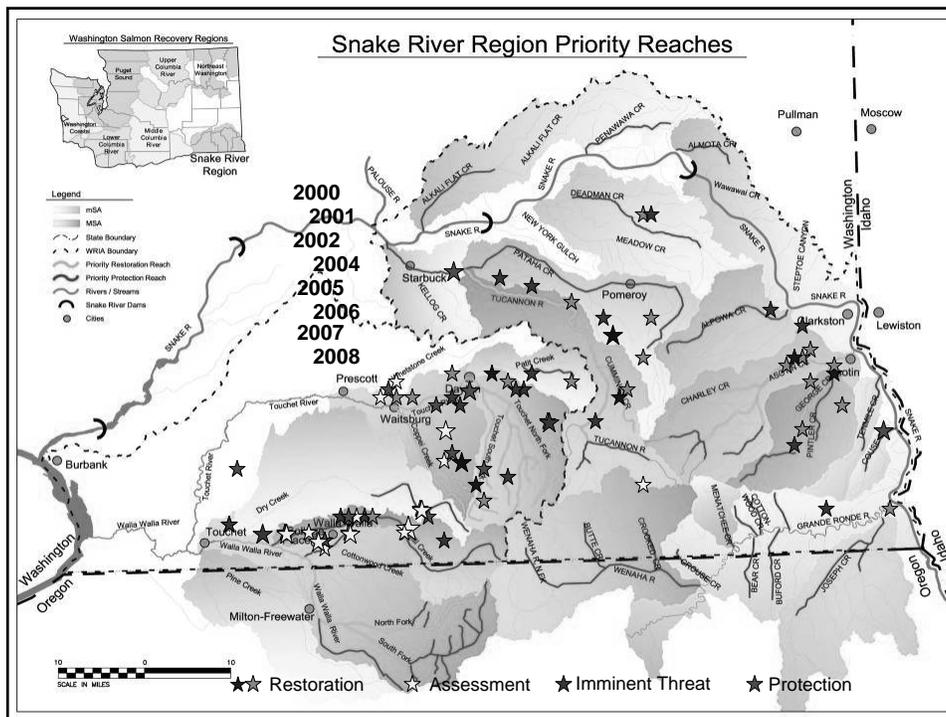
IMPLEMENTATION WORK PLAN

- 5 Sections (soon to be included in HWS)
 - ✓ Habitat projects
 - ✓ Project assessments to fill data gaps/lead to a project and project designs
 - ✓ RM&E
 - ✓ Hatchery reform (new)
 - ✓ Outreach
- Actions focused on limiting factors and threats
- Predictability, "forecastability," reporting
- Maintaining shared work plan with partners

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- **Management** priorities drive plan implementation
- Priority **areas** informed by Intrinsic Potential Analysis
- Priority **reaches** informed by Ecosystem Assessment (EDT)
- Priority **actions** to address primary limiting factors recommended by RTT and approved by SRSRB
- RME activities are driven by de-listing criteria
- Policies and programs driven by threats criteria



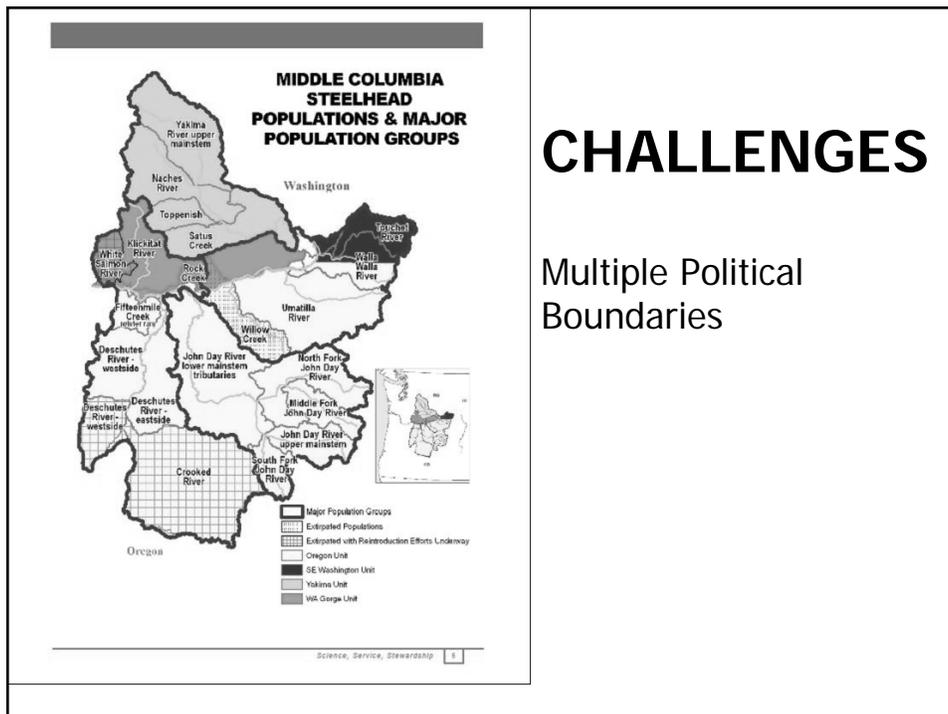


CHALLENGES

- **Agency Participant Commitments**
 - Commitments are tied to their program funding/agency mandates
- **Coordination**
 - Multiple policy forums/funding programs with unique but complementary missions result in duplication/redundancy and confusion for the public
- **Monitoring**
 - Legacy programs and lingering direction combined with inadequate funding leave region in limbo

CHALLENGES

- Reporting
 - Multiple implementing partners store/manage project data and distribute reports differently; HWS is encouraging
- Coordination
 - Large geographic area, multiple political boundaries, myriad project sponsors, and various funding sources
- Sponsor Capacity/Workload
 - Processes are difficult for a sponsor to work on multiple projects per year; projects are getting more complicated



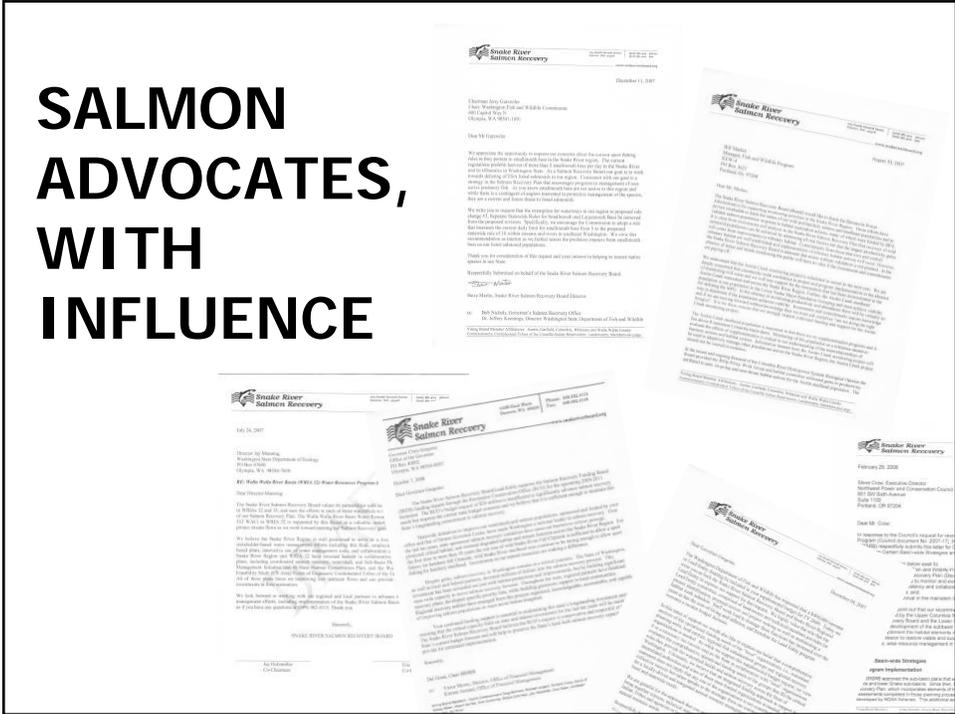
SUCCESSSES

- Commitments & Coordination
 - Common work plan
- Funding
 - SRFB and emerging partners have committed to supporting regional organizations; LE program is vital
- Monitoring
 - Narrowing regional monitoring framework and evaluating legacy monitoring programs' usefulness for monitoring VSP criteria
- Reporting
 - Habitat work schedule to "house" projects, allowing for comprehensive reporting

EFFICIENCIES GAINED

- WWCC as fiscal agent allows government procurement rates and employees
- Transitioned from contractors to staff
- Relocated office
- Conduct Board meetings via ITV / video conference
- Interagency agreements
- Administer Lead Entity and Recovery Board jointly reduces meeting frequency, administrative costs, staff time, travel expense, etc and ensures projects are implementing priorities in recovery plan
- Shared agendas with Planning Units enhances coordination and reduces "committee" meetings

SALMON ADVOCATES, WITH INFLUENCE

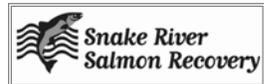


IS IT WORTH IT ?

YES:

- If not now, then when? And if not us, then who? (David Troutt, RATF December 2008)
- 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!



CLOSING THOUGHTS

- I never imagined it possible – local governments, tribal organizations, landowners, environmentalists, state agencies and the federal government not only saying they would work together to develop recovery 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. This is certainly newsworthy.

