

# ISRP Retrospective Review

## Lower Snake River Compensation Plan

### Goal

Replace Lost Adult Salmon  
& Steelhead Caused by the  
Construction and Operation  
of the Four Lower Snake River  
Dams

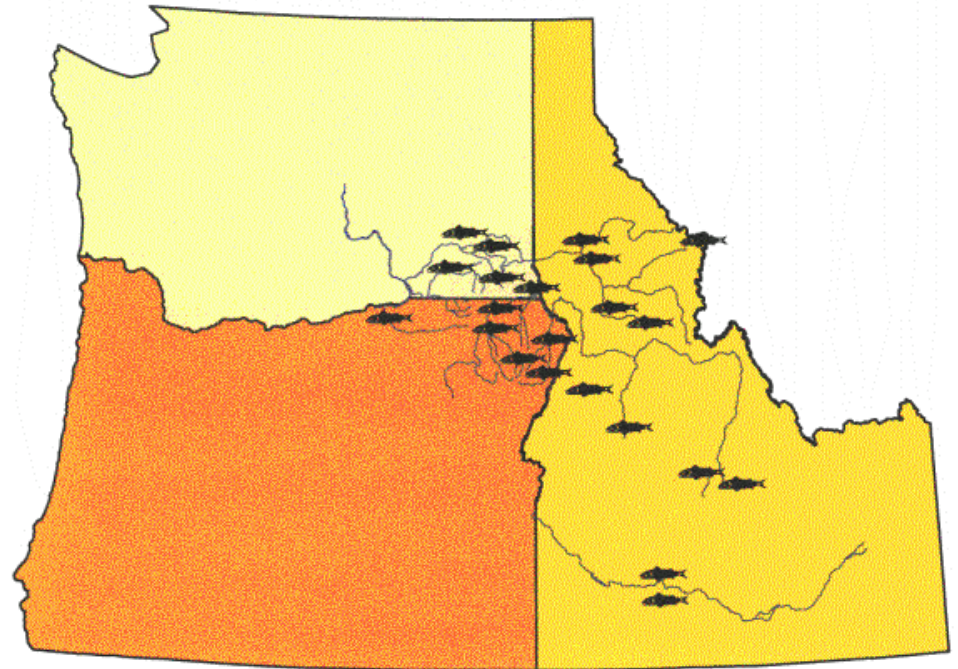
S.L. Marshall (2010)



Snake River & Lower Granite Dam  
Photo by J. Wilson, N.Y. Times

# LSRCP Hatcheries

- Oregon
  - Lookingglass
  - Wallowa
  - Irrigon
  - Umatilla
- Washington
  - Lyons Ferry
  - Tucannon
- Idaho
  - Clearwater (CR, Red Powell)
  - Magic Valley
  - Dworshak NFH
  - Hagerman NFH
  - McCall
  - Sawtooth
- Idaho Power Company
  - Oxbow
- Nez Perce Tribe
  - Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery



From BPA Integrated Program Review Fish & Wildlife Program (2014)

# Estimating Losses (Using Steelhead As An Example)

## Steps:

- 1) Estimate Escapement Prior to Dam Construction  
(Steelhead = 114,800 Adults)
- 2) Estimate Smolt Mortality at Each Dam  
(Steelhead = 15% Loss Per Dam, 48% Total Loss)
- 3) Estimate Number of Adults Lost Due to Dams  
(114,800 Adults x 48% = 55,100)

55,100 Became the LSRCP Return Goal for Steelhead)



Photo from M. Gallinat (2010)

# Estimating Losses (Using Steelhead As An Example)

## Steps:

- 4) Estimate Smolt to Adult Return to Lower Granite Dam = 0.5%

(No. of smolts needed to produce 55,100  
 $55,100 / .005 = 11,020,000$ )

- 5) Estimate Egg-to-Smolt Survival

(Assumed 65%, Therefore No. of Eggs  
Needed =  $11.02 \text{ M} / .65 = 16.95 \text{ M}$ )

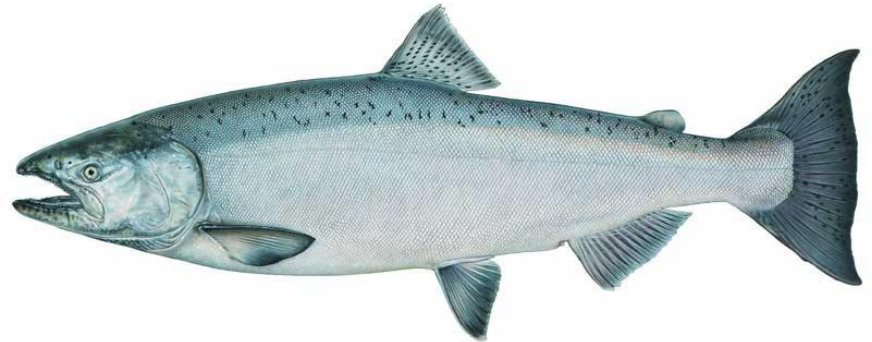


Photo from L. Clarke et al. (2012)

# Mitigation Goals

- Spring Chinook

- **58,700** Adults To Project Area
- **234,800** Adults To Fisheries



- Steelhead

- **55,100** Adults To Project Area
- **110,200** Adults To Fisheries
- **130,000** Angler Days



- Fall Chinook

- **18,300** Adults To Project Area
- **73,200** Adults To Fisheries



# Unforeseen Factors Affected LSRCP

- Lower Smolt-to-Adult Survivals
- ESA Listings of:
  - Fall & Spring Chinook (1992)
  - Steelhead (1997)
- Downstream Harvests Curtailed & More Fish Back to Project Area
- US v. Oregon
  - Hatchery Production Set
  - New Stocks & Release Areas
- Harvest Mitigation Project Changed to Harvest & Conservation Project



Photo USFWS

# ISRP Retrospective Review

## LSRCP Steelhead, Fall & Spring Chinook Programs

### Purpose Of Review

- 1) To determine if the Three Programs are:
  - Based on Sound Science
  - Benefit Fish & Wildlife
  - Have Clearly Defined Objectives
  - Contain M & E Programs



Photo Of Lyons Ferry Hatchery M. Key (2013)

# ISRP Retrospective Review

## LSRCP Steelhead, Fall & Spring Chinook Programs

### Purpose Of Review

#### 2) To Evaluate:

- In-Hatchery Performance
- Post-Release Performance
- Ecological Interactions
- Program Modifications

#### 3) Consistent With Council's FWP

- Artificial Production
- Standards & Strategies



Photo Of Irrigon Hatchery from Carmichael et al. (2012)



# In-Hatchery Performance

## Metrics:

- Broodstock Collection & Survival
- Egg-to-Smolt Survival
- Number of Smolts



Photo from E. Loudenslager (2011)

# Broodstock Collection & Survival

## Spring Chinook

Survival Goal  $\geq$  80%

Yrs Achieved 90%

## Steelhead

No Universal Goal  
For Survival

## Fall Chinook

Survival Goal 90%

Yrs Achieved 86%



Photo From J. Bumgarner (2012)

# Egg-to-Smolt Survival Goals

## Spring Chinook

Survival Goal  $\geq 70\%$

Yrs Achieved 92%

## Steelhead

Survival Goal 65%-70%

Yrs Achieved 76%

## Fall Chinook

Survival Goal 70% - 80%

Yrs Achieved 79%

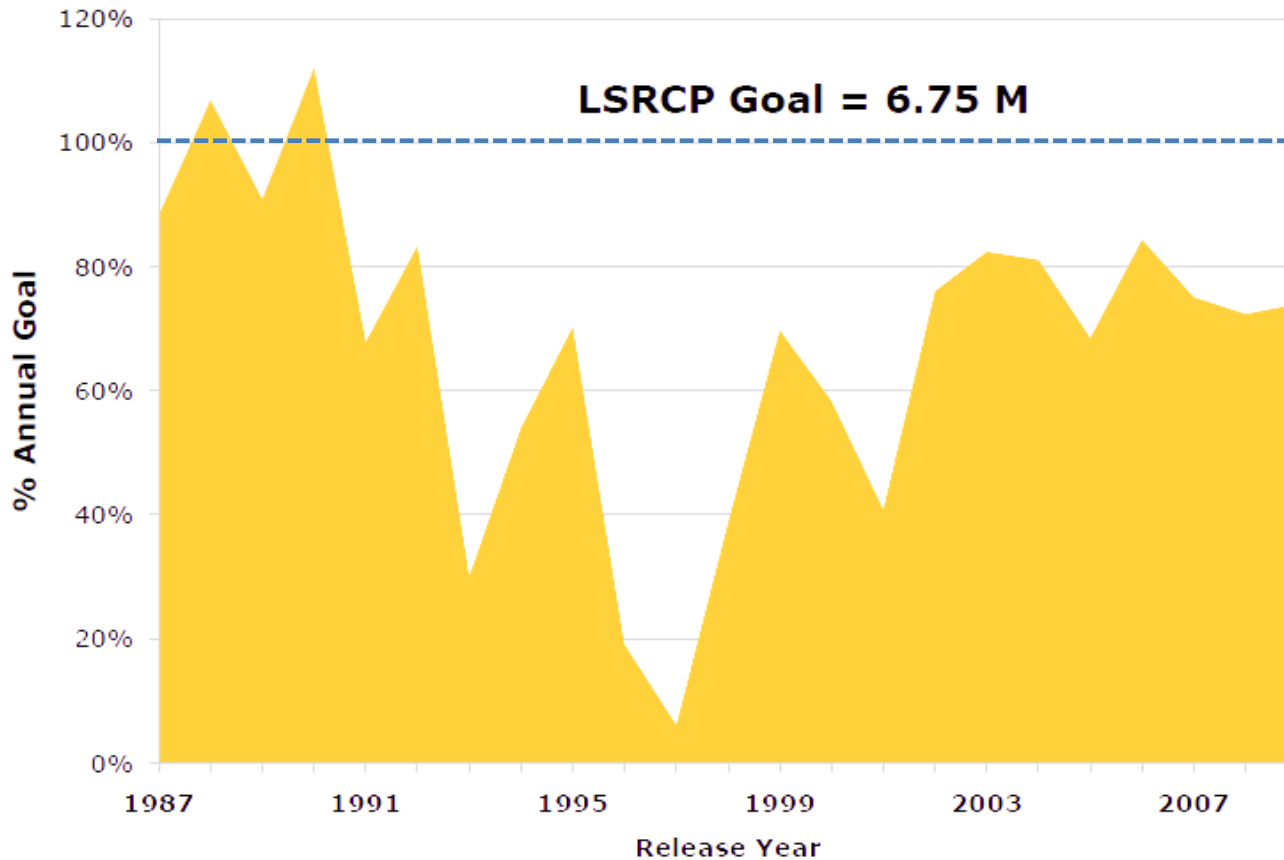


Photo From J. Bumgarner (2012)



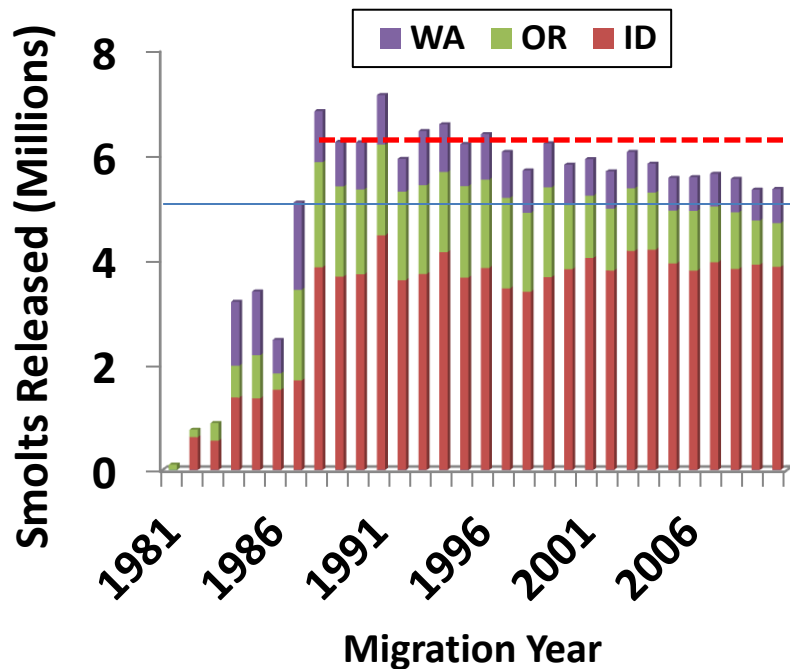
Photo from R. Carmichael et al. (2012)

# Smolt Release Goal: Spring Chinook



From Mark Shuck LSRCP Roll-up (2010)

# Smolt Release Goal: Steelhead



1989- 6.25M

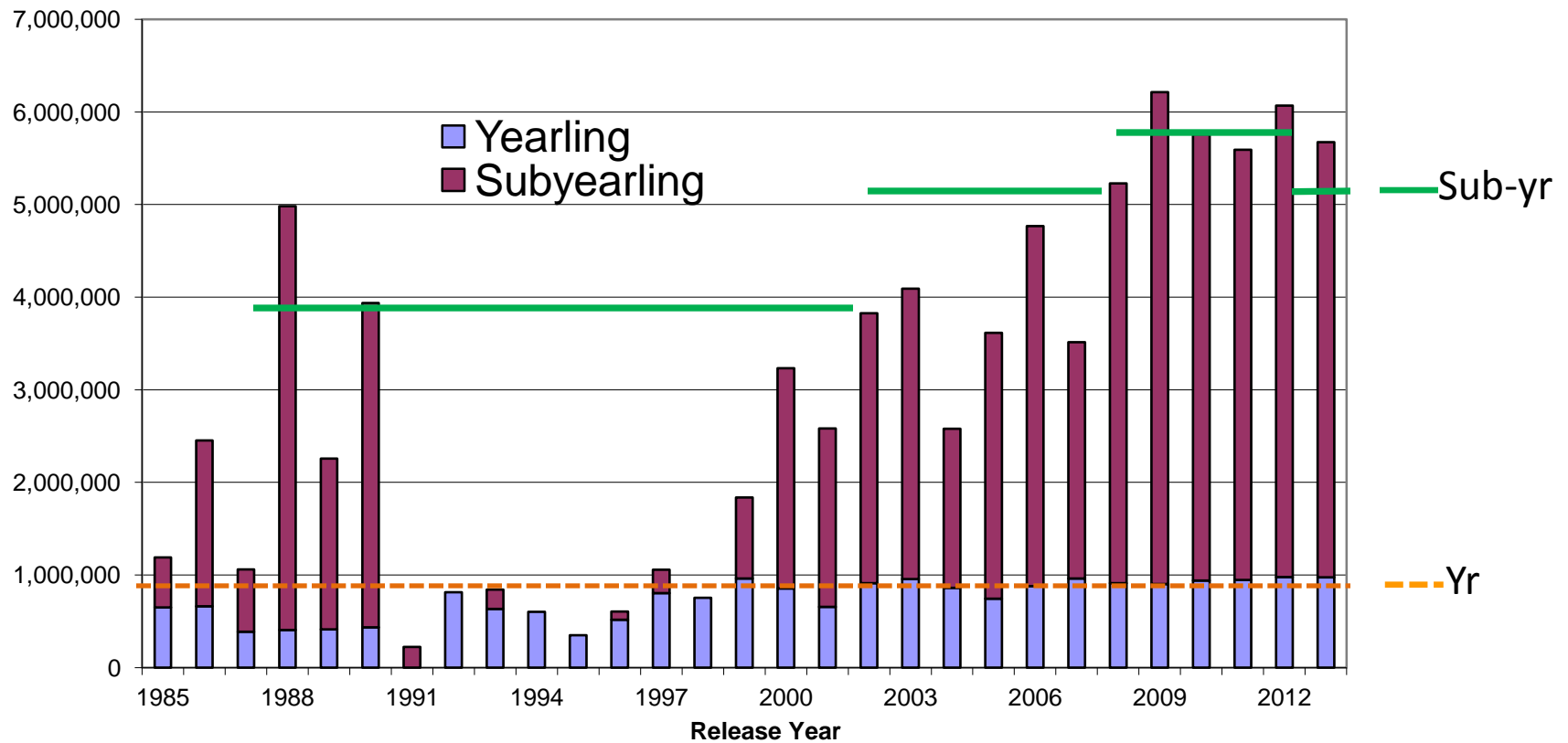
2010- 5.35M



Photo B. Leth Steelhead Roll-up (2012)

From B. Leth Steelhead Roll-up (2012)

# Smolt Release Goal Fall Chinook



From J. Hesse PPT to NPPC Council 2014

# Factors Affecting Release Goals

## Spring Chinook

- Broodstock Scarcity
- Reductions in Rearing Densities
- Water Shortages at Some Hatcheries

## Steelhead

- Greater Smolt Size Goal Set
- Decreases in Water Availability
- Shift in Production to Spring Chinook

## Fall Chinook

- Broodstock Scarcity



Lyons Ferry Hatchery  
Photo by D. Gloyn (2013)

# Post Release Metrics

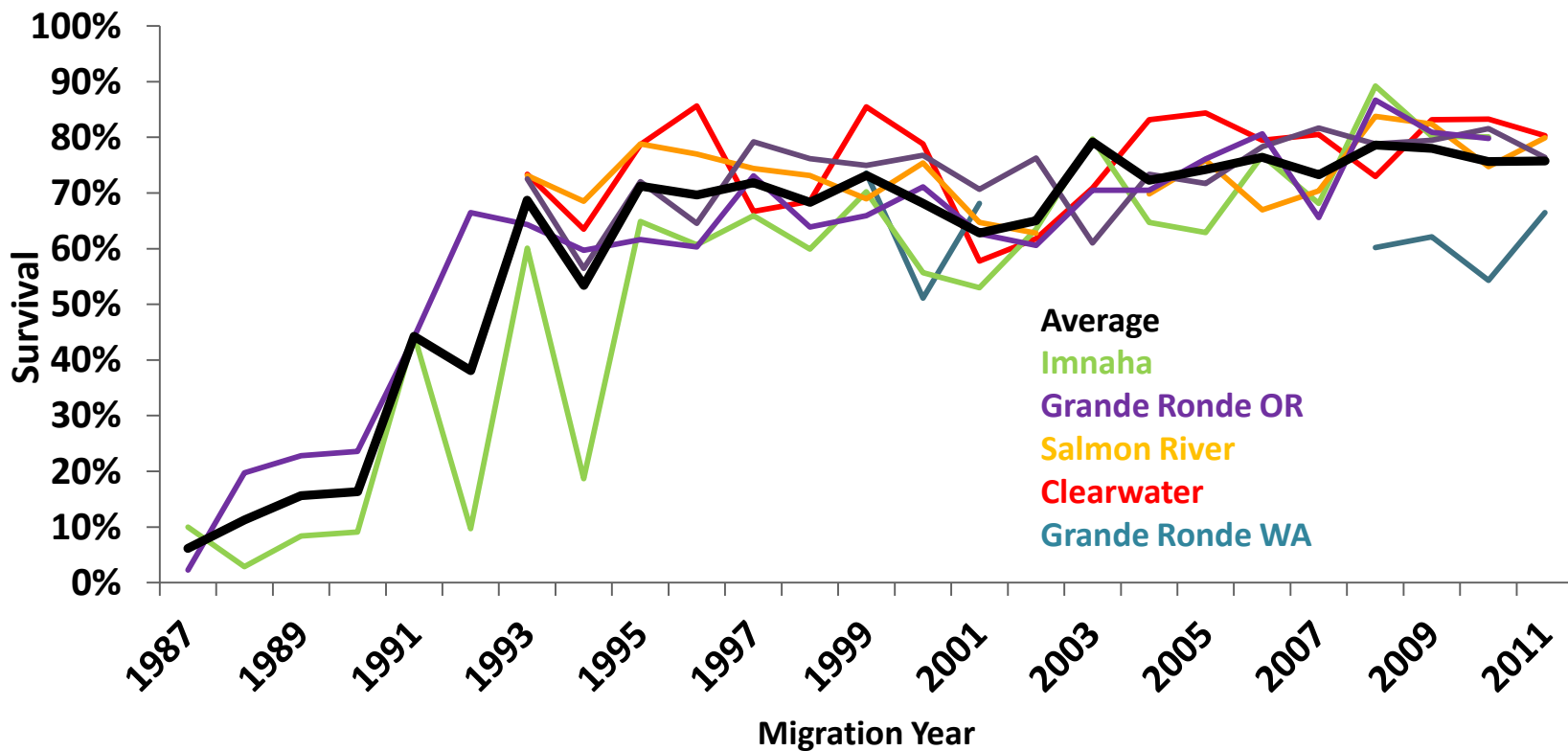
- Survival to Lower Granite Dam
- Smolt-to-adult survival (SAS)
- Smolt-to-adult Return (SAR)
- Recruits per Spawner (R/S)
- Harvest (below and within project area)



Photo from B. Leth steelhead roll-up (2012)



# Smolt Survival to Lower Granite Dam: Steelhead



B. Leth steelhead roll-up (2012)

# Smolt Survival to Lower Granite Dam: Spring Chinook

## Potential Factors Affecting Survival

River Flow

Water Temperature

Turbidity

Travel Distance

Date of Release

Type of Release

    Direct-Release

    Acclimation Pond

Fish Size

    Yearling

    Sub-Yearling

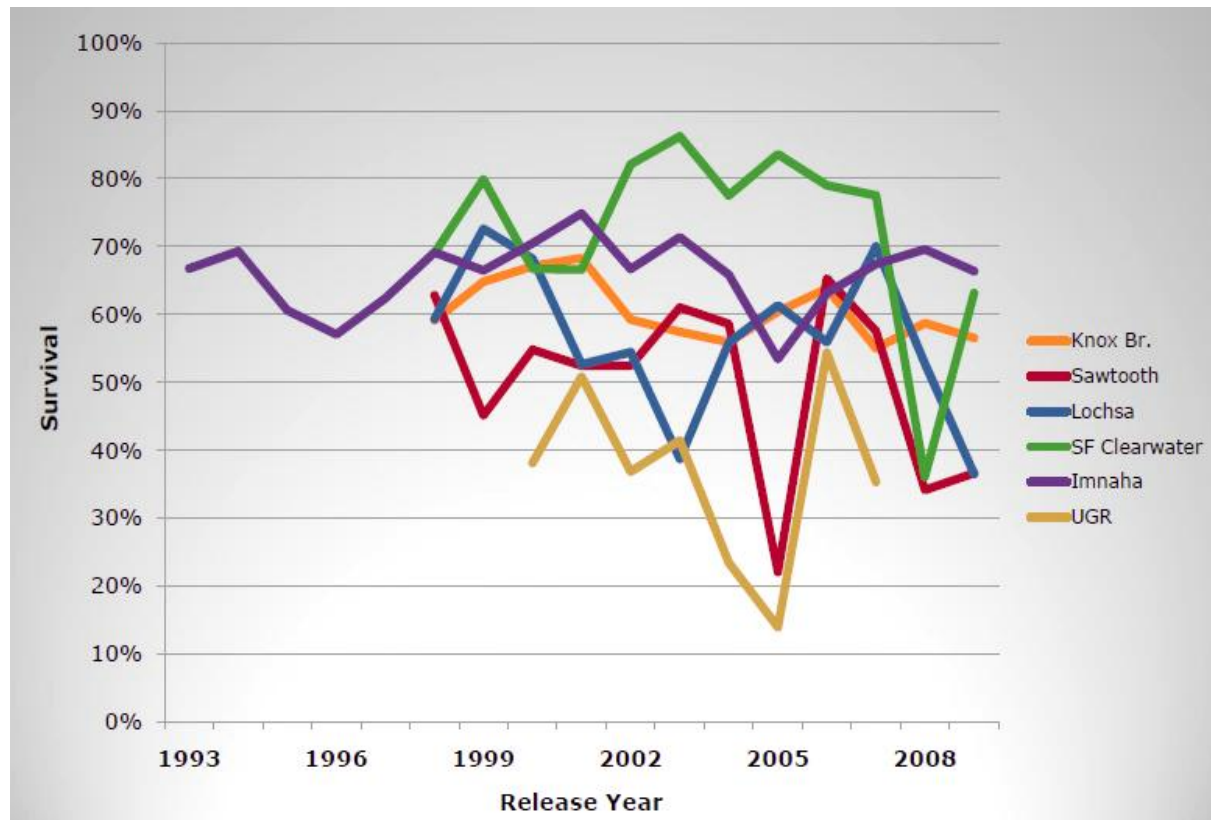
Smoltification Stage

Fish Health

Time Of Release

    Diurnal

    Nocturnal



From Mark Shuck LSRCP Roll-up (2010)

# Smolt-to-Adult Survival & Return Rates

## Steelhead & Spring Chinook

### Spring Chinook

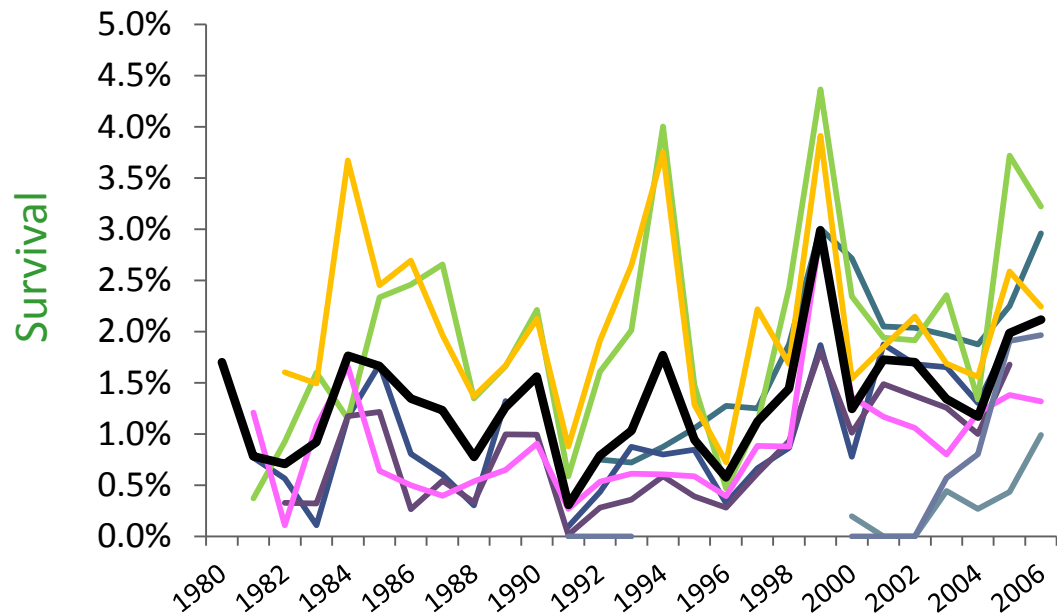
SAS Goal 3.25% - 4.35%  
Years Achieved = 0%

SAR Goal 0.1% - 0.87%  
Years Achieved = 41%

### Steelhead

SAS Goal 1.5% - 2.61%  
Years Achieved = 38%

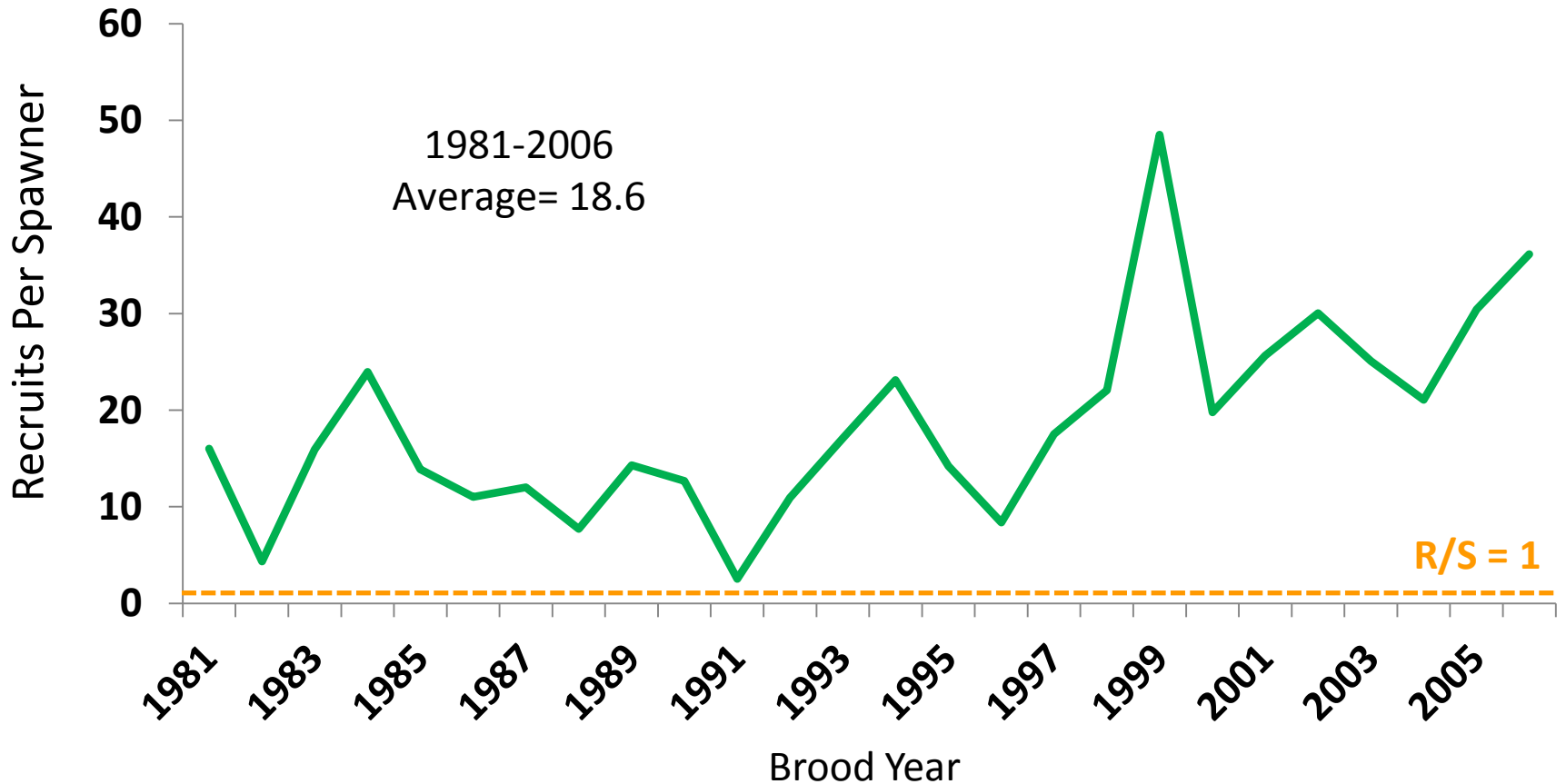
SAR Goal 0.5% - 0.87%  
Years Achieved = 83%



Steelhead SAS By Brood Year  
From B. Leth Steelhead Roll-up (2012)

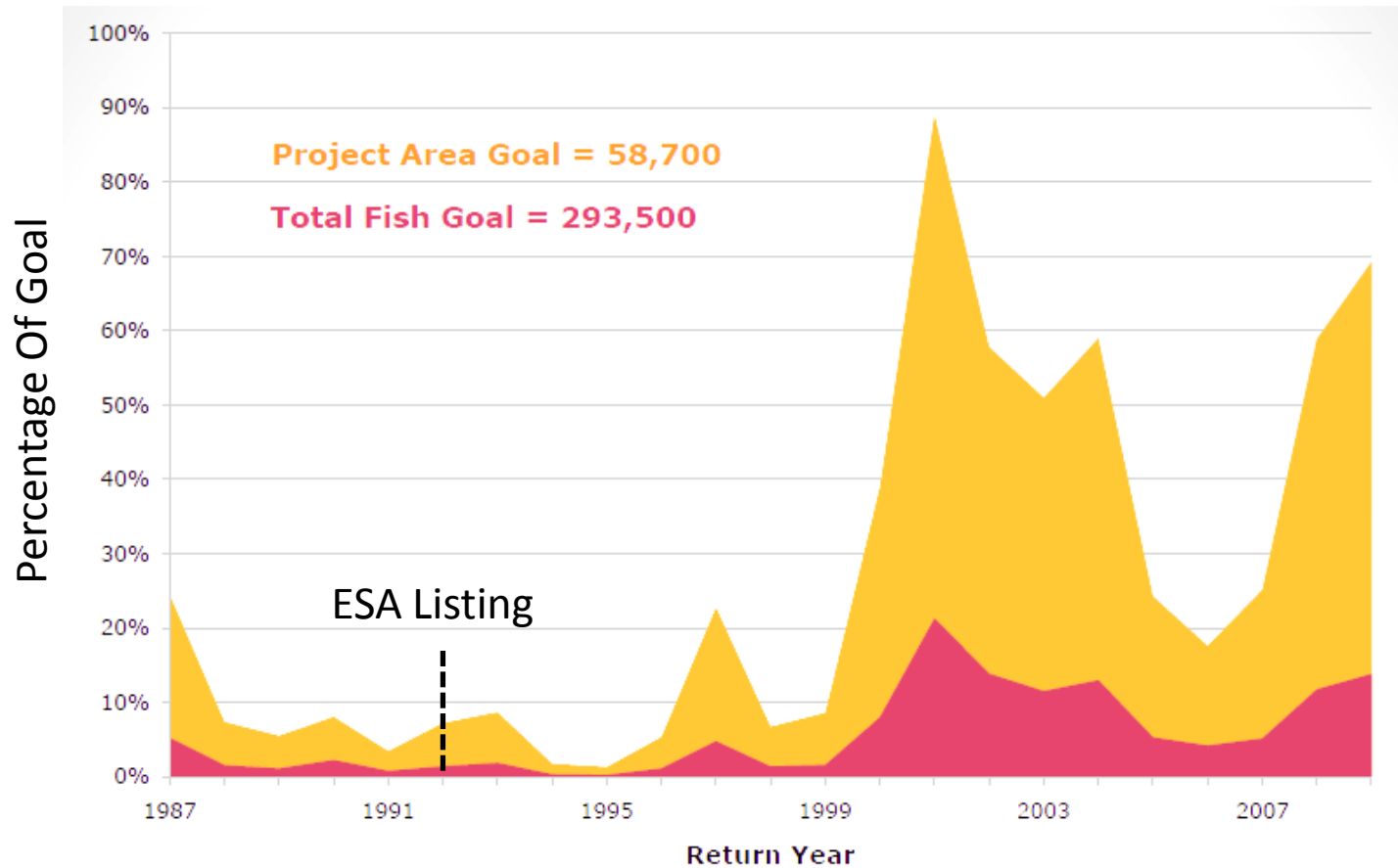
# Recruits Per Spawner

## Hatchery Steelhead



# Adult Abundance

## Spring Chinook Salmon



From Mark Shuck roll-up (2010)

# Adult Steelhead Abundance Above Project

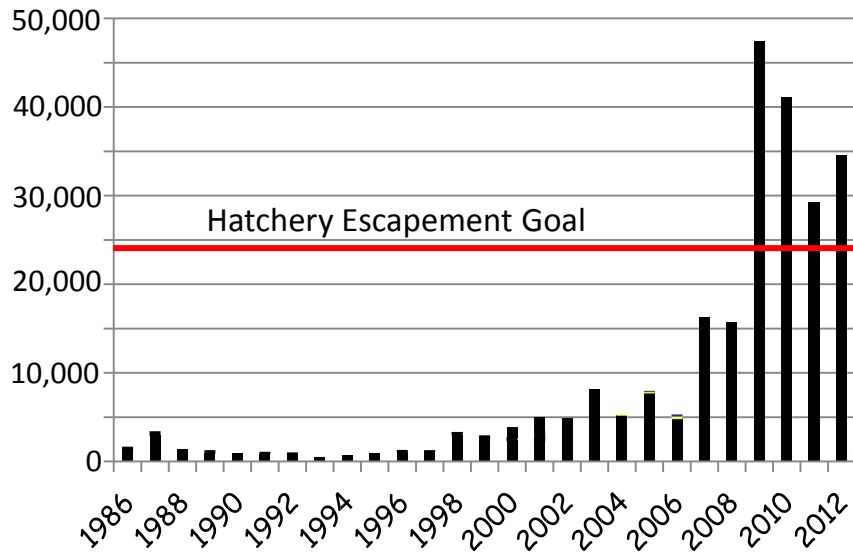


From B. Leth Steelhead Roll-up (2012)

# Adult Fall Chinook Abundance

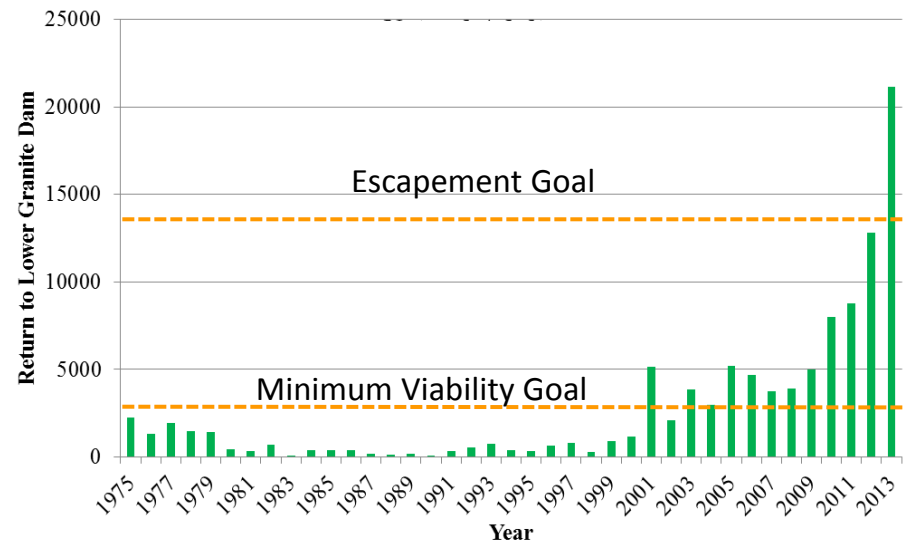
## Snake River

### Hatchery Fall Chinook Returns



From J. Hesse Fall Chinook Roll-up (2013)

### Natural Origin Fall Chinook Returns



From J. Hesse PPT to NPPC Council 2014

# Spring Chinook Harvest

## Fisheries In Project Area

No Fisheries From 1975 – 1995

In 2010:

9 % Of Historical Harvest

31% Of Historical Area

16% Of Historical Fishing Days

Fishing Opportunities are  
Growing With Increases in  
Abundance

M. Shuck spring Chinook Roll-up (2010)



Photo of Spring Chinook Fishing In The Lower Snake River  
Photo from Bing



# Steelhead Harvest In Project Area

## Pre Project Harvest & Effort

- Average of **26,000** Caught Per Year
- Average Angler Effort 130,000 days

## Post Project 1998 – Present

- Average of **62,000** Caught Per Year
- Average Angler Effort 475,000 days

B. Leth Steelhead Roll-up (2012)

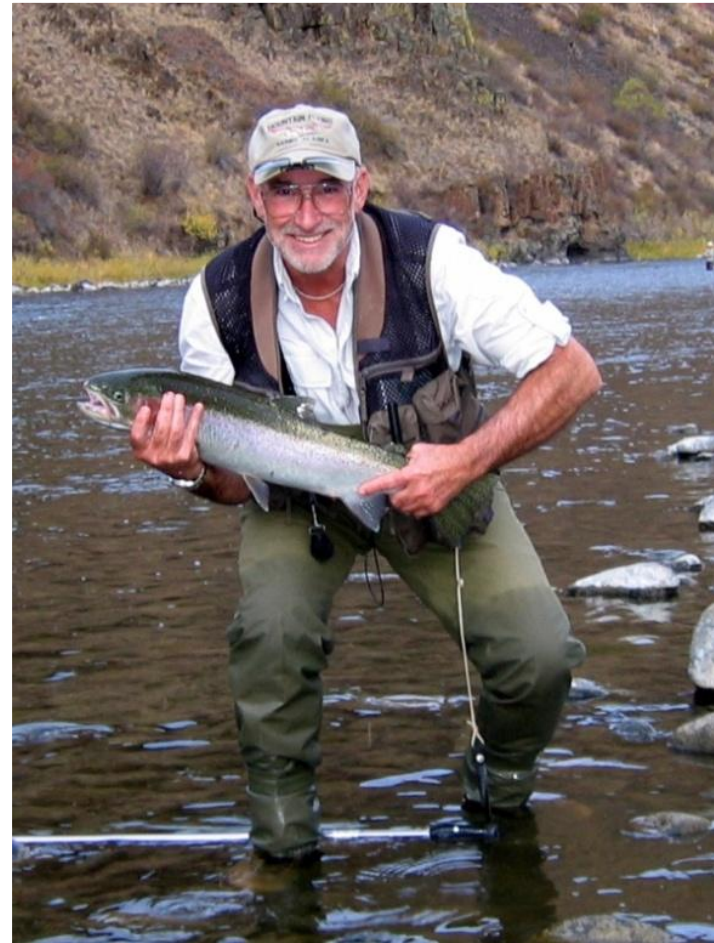


Photo From L. Clarke et al. (2012)

# Fall Chinook Harvest Snake River

## Exploitation Rates

Brood Years 1994-2007 (Ad Clipped CWT Fish)

Program	Returns + Harvest	% Col R & Ocean	% Snake River	Total %
IPC	24,791	20	0.1	20
LSRCP	104,684	44	0.3	44
FCAP	45,284	44	0.3	45
NPTH	8,334	26	<0.1	26

From Milks et al. (2013)



Photo: sarasotasalilingsquadron.com

# Fish & Wildlife Program

## Artificial Production Standards and Strategies

- ❖ Operate in an Experimental & Adaptive Manner
- ❖ Minimize Adverse Effects on Other Stocks Through Straying & Harvest
- ❖ Preserve Natural Populations Where Habitat is Intact
- ❖ Restore, Preserve, and Rebuild Natural Populations



# Average Annual Deschutes River Straying By Snake River Hatchery Steelhead

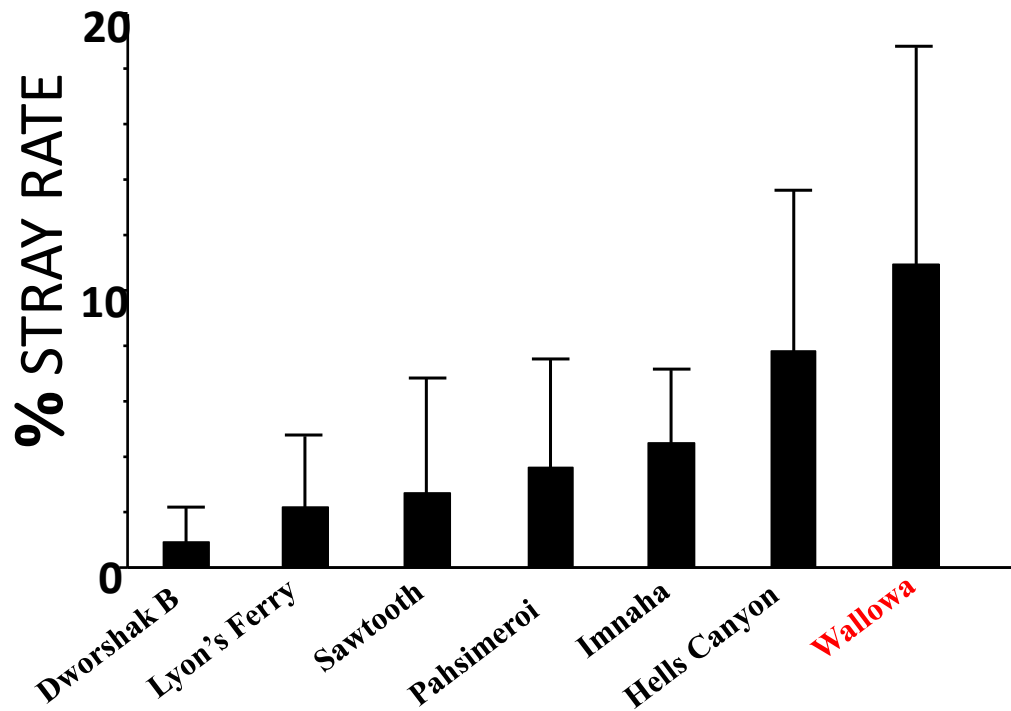


Photo Of Lower Deschutes River From Findfish.com

Figure From Clarke et al. 2012

# Potential Factors Affecting Straying Frequencies

- Incubation, Rearing,  
and **Release Strategies**
- Release Location
- Stock Origin
- Seaward Migration  
Pathways (In-river vs.  
Transported)
- Columbia River and  
Deschutes Water  
Temperatures

From R. Carmichael (2012)



John Day River Photo From [pinterest.com](https://www.pinterest.com)

# Acclimated vs. Direct Release Studies Steelhead

Wallowa Hatchery Studies

1. **Acclimated vs. Direct Releases**
2. **Volitional vs. Forced Release**



# Results of Acclimated v. Direct Releases Steelhead

## Acclimated vs. Direct Release

1. **Smolt-to-adult Survival**  
(**33.3% higher** survival for acclimated releases  $p = 0.013$ )
4. **Stray frequency**  
(**70% higher** stray rates for direct releases  $p = 0.001$ )



Photo from J. Bumgarner (2012)

# Results of Volitional vs. Forced Releases Steelhead

## Results of Volitional vs. Forced Releases

1. **Smolt-to-adult Survival**  
(no difference detected  $p = 0.658$ )
2. **Straying frequency**  
(no difference detected  $p = 0.852$ )



Big Canyon Acclimation Pond  
Photo from Clarke et al. (2012)



# Results of Volitional vs. Forced Releases Steelhead

## Results of **Volitional** vs. **Forced** Releases

3. Volitional Releases Allow the Removal of “Residual” Males at End of the Release Period

When 70% of the Fish Remaining in a Pond are Males—They are Trucked and Released Into Local Ponds for Fisheries



Photo by Mike Croxford

# Acclimation Ponds Studies

## Spring Chinook

### Effects of Duration Of Acclimation Period

1. 4 Months vs. 2 Months
2. Fish Acclimated for 4 Months Had Higher Smolt-to-Adult Survival Rates ( $p < 0.005$ )



Umatilla River

Photo [nwwaterfrontrealestate.com](http://nwwaterfrontrealestate.com)

# Protecting Natural Production Areas Steelhead & Spring Chinook

Natural Spawning & Rearing  
Areas in Idaho, Oregon, &  
Washington are Being  
Protected & Monitored



South Fork Salmon River

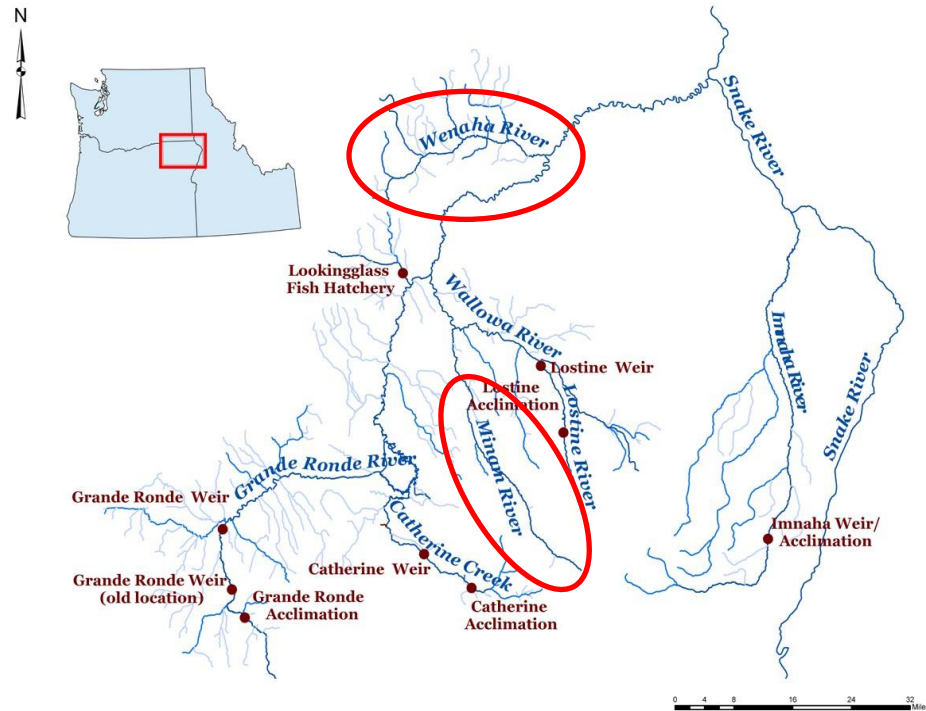
Photo by panoramio.com

# Wild Stock Protection

## Grande Ronde Spring Chinook

### Incidence Of Strays

1. 1986-1994  $\geq 50\%$
2. Endemic Broodstock & Acclimation Ponds 2000
3. Present Occurrence of Strays 2002 – Present  $< 5\%$



# Conservation via Captive Brood Program

## Grande Ronde Spring Chinook

### Approach Of Captive Brood Program

- 1) Collect 500 Parr in the Grande Ronde River, Catherine Creek, & Lostine River



Photo From T. Hoffnagle et al. (2010)

# Conservation via Captive Brood Program

## Spring Chinook

### Approach Of Captive Brood Program

2) Rear Wild Parr to Maturation



Juvenile Chinook Salmon, Tucannon River  
From M. Gallinat (2010)

# Conservation via Captive Brood Program

## Approach Of Captive Brood Program

- 3) Artificially Spawn Reared Adults
- 4) Rear Subsequent Progeny to Smolt Stage and Release
- 5) Allow Resulting  $F_1$  Adults to Spawn in Nature



Tucannon River Captive-reared Adult Spring Chinook—Photo from M. Gallinat (2010)

# Comparison of F<sub>1</sub> Adult Production

Type	No. Of Parr	No. Adult Females Produced	No. Of F <sub>1</sub> Adults
Captive Brood	500	133	370
Conv. Hatch	500	1.1	18
Natural	500	0.6	2

Data From T. Hoffnagle et al. (2010)

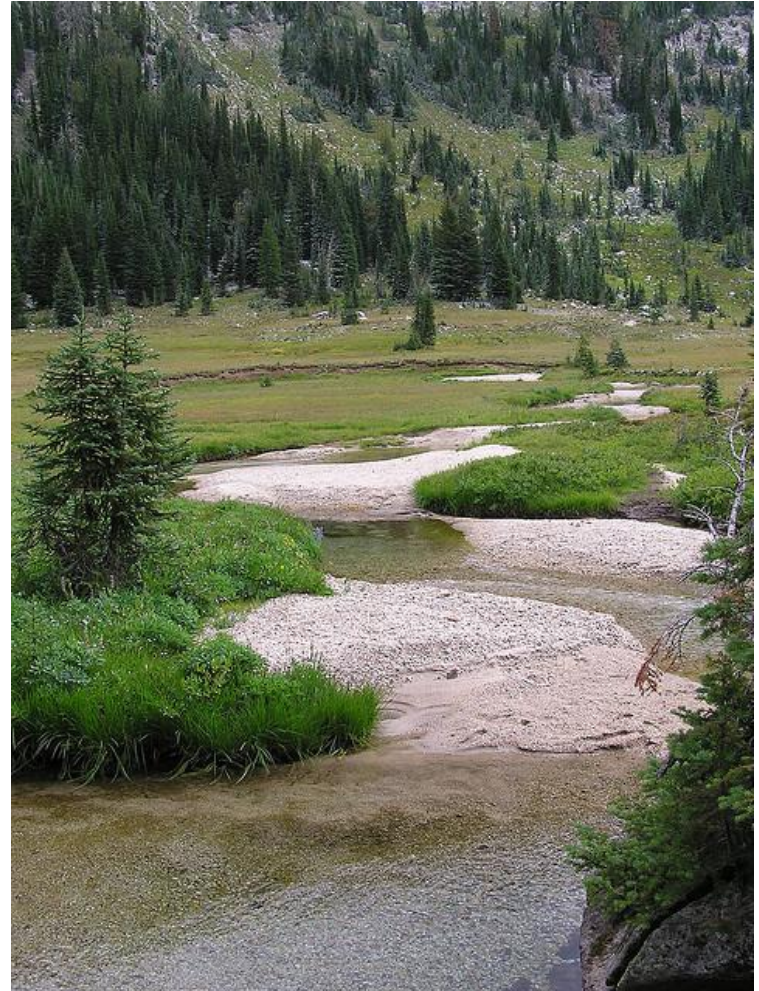


Photo: [thewildlifeneews.com](http://thewildlifeneews.com)



# Results Of Captive Brood Program Grande Ronde Spring Chinook

1. Contributed Smolts to Hatchery Releases
2. Increased Adult Abundance in Targeted Streams
3. Reduction in Smolts Per Spawner as Spawner Densities Increased



Lostine River Photo Flickr.com

# Regional & LSRCP Challenges

## RM&E

1. Identifying Factors Responsible for Density-Dependency in Natural Spawning and Rearing Habitats
2. Assessing & Reducing Stray Rates
3. Regulating Numbers of Hatchery Fish on Spawning Grounds
4. Evaluating the Utility of Supplementation
5. Identification of Project Fish in Fisheries & on Spawning Grounds



Spring Chinook Smolts

Photo from [kera-kw.com](http://kera-kw.com)

# LSRCP Challenges

## Regional & Basin-Wide Management

6. Integrating & Coordinating LSRCP Programs With on-going Regional Habitat Restoration, Harvest Management, US v. Oregon Agreements & ESA Recovery Efforts
7. Using Artificial Production to Augment Harvest While Simultaneously Implementing Recovery Actions for ESA-Listed Steelhead & Chinook
8. To Achieve Mitigation Goals Will Require Action Beyond the Responsibilities of the LSRCP



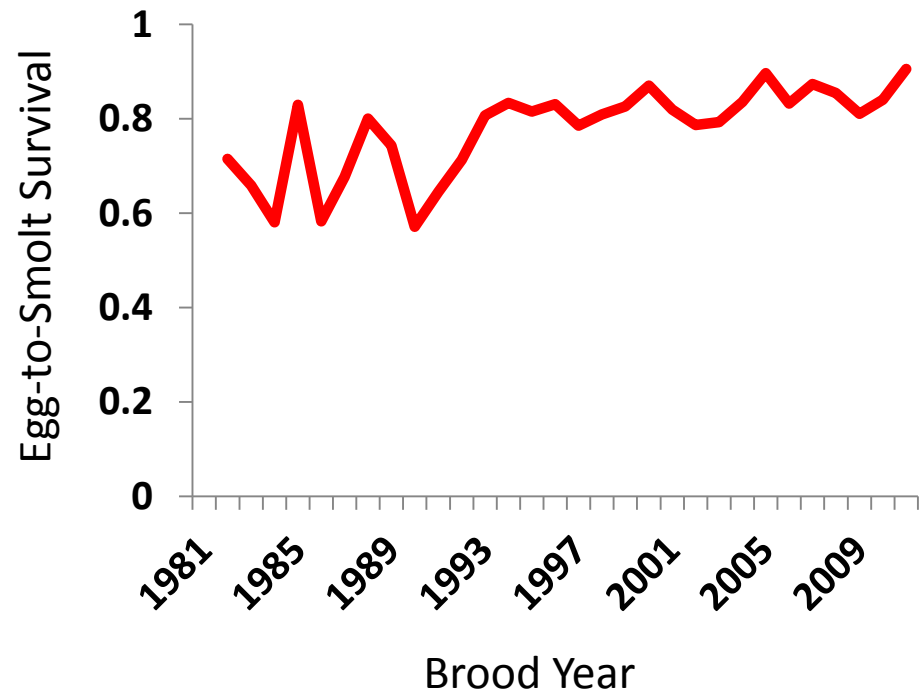
Adult Spring Chinook  
Photo from [businessweek.com](http://businessweek.com)



# Egg-to-Smolt Survival: Steelhead Across All Projects



Photo from J. Bumgarner (2012)



From B. Leth steelhead roll-up (2012)

# Smolt Release Goals

## Spring Chinook

Goal = 6 – 7.5 Million

Yrs Achieved = 42%

## Steelhead

Goal = 5.3 – 6.8 Million

Yrs Achieved = 57%

## Fall Chinook

0+ Goal = 4.6 Million

Yrs Achieved = 69%

1+ Goal = 0.9 Million

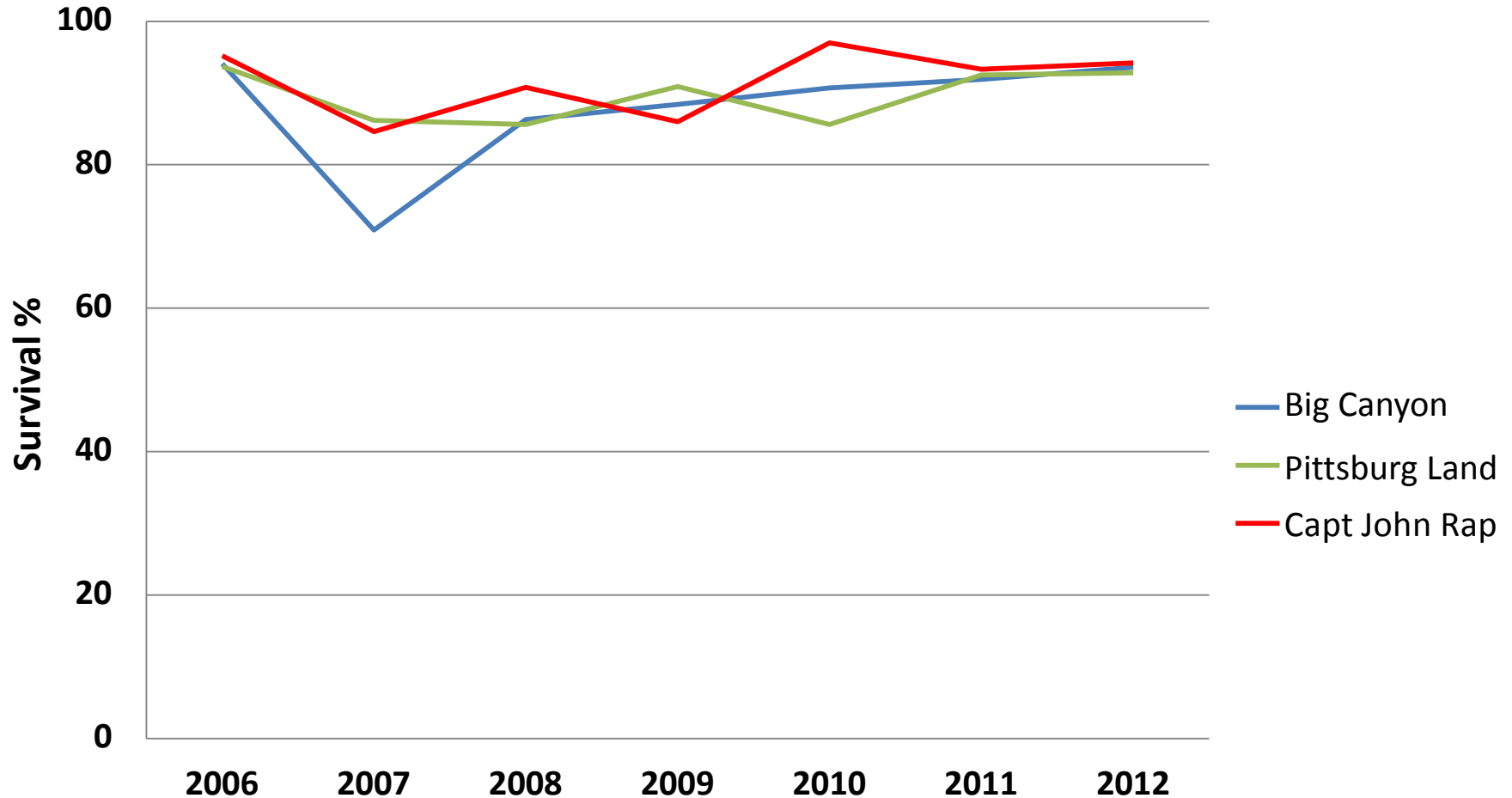
Yrs Achieved = 95%



Spring Chinook smolts

Photo workareaonline.com

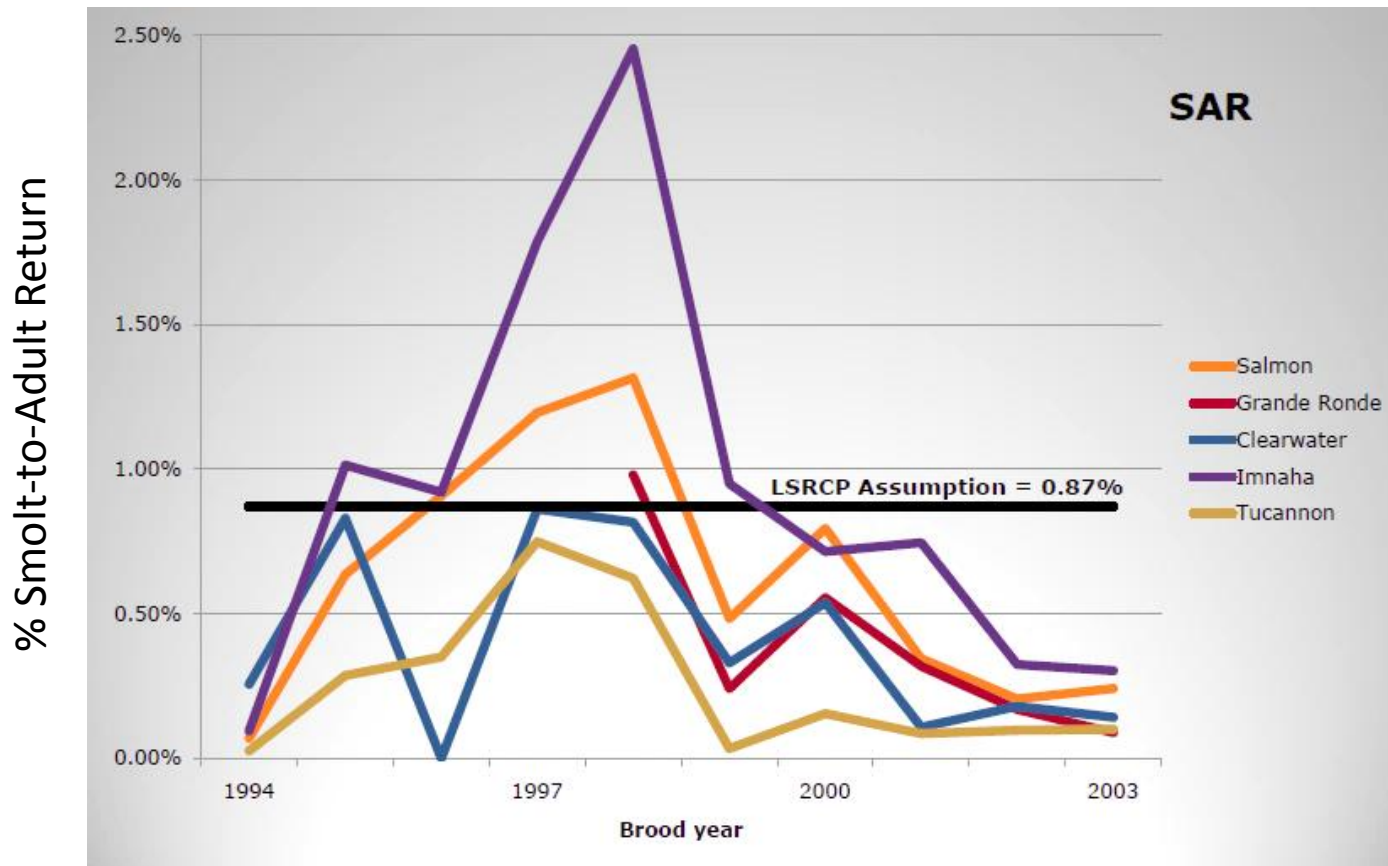
# Yearling Fall Chinook Survival To Lower Granite Dam Acclimation Pond Releases



From M. Key (2013)

# Smolt-to-Adult Returns (SAR)

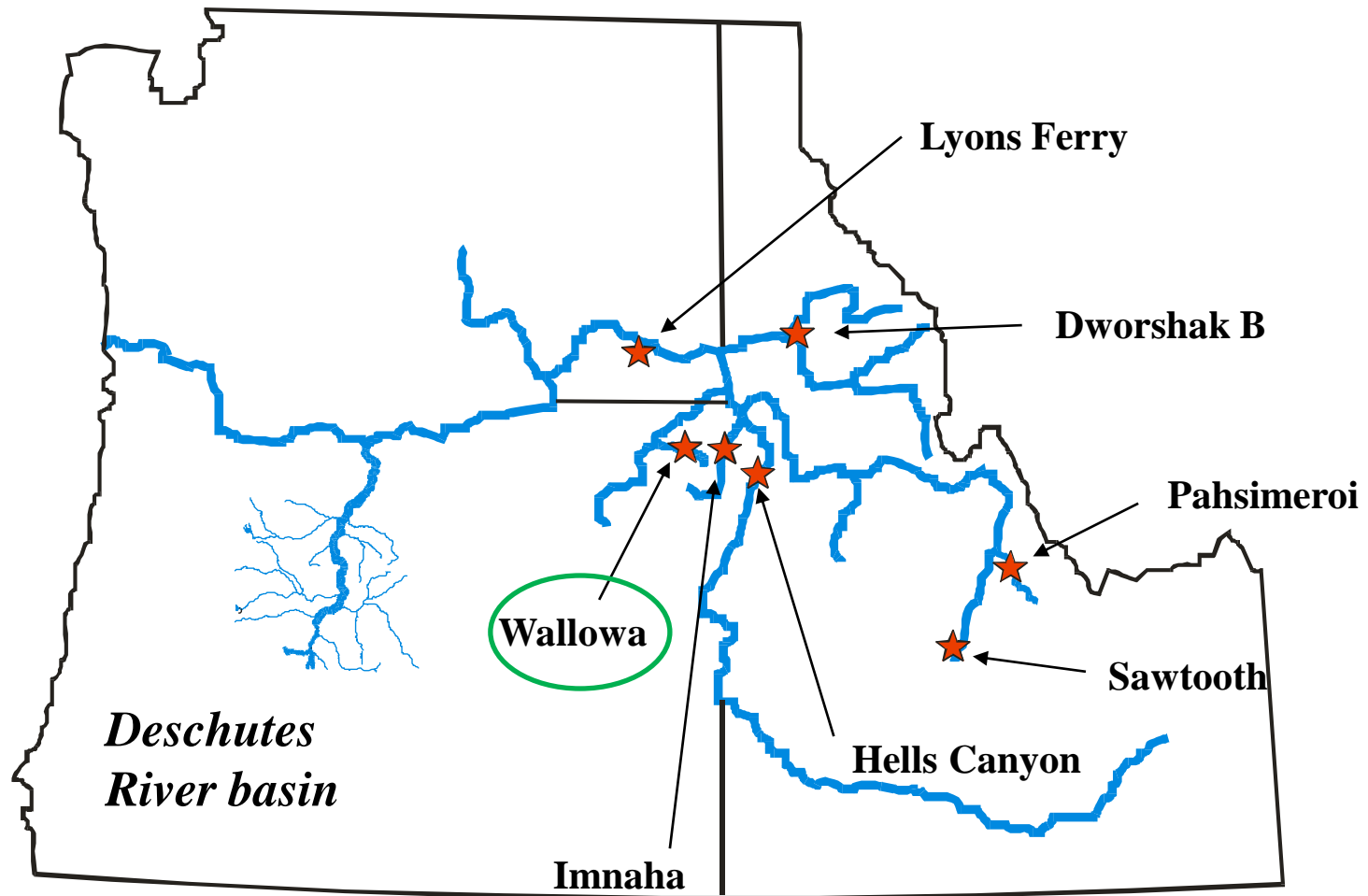
## Spring Chinook



From Mark Shuck roll-up (2010)



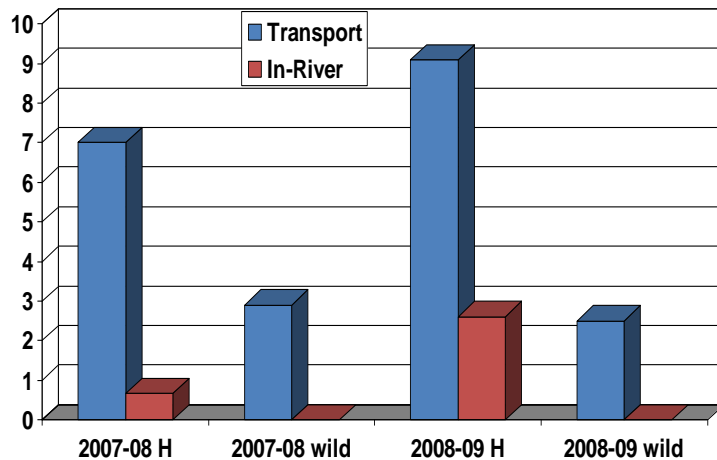
# Snake River Hatchery Steelhead Stocks



From Clarke et al. (2012)

# Effects of Barging On Straying Steelhead

Stray rates into the Deschutes



Stray rates were:  
Higher for Transported Fish  
Within Transported Fish:  
Hatchery > Natural



Photo From M.L. Keefer and C. Caudill Tech. Rept. 2012-6 Draft

# Wild Stock Protection

## Salmon River Steelhead

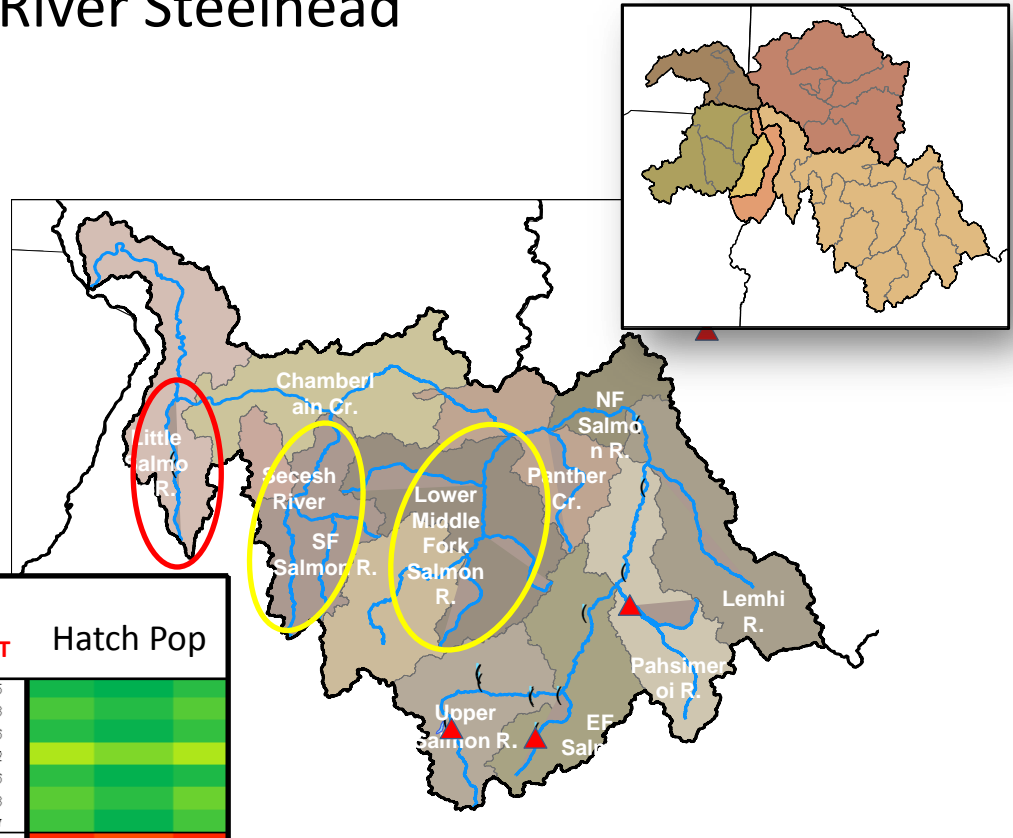
- Hatchery Releases

Little Salmon R. and  
Upper Salmon R

- No Releases

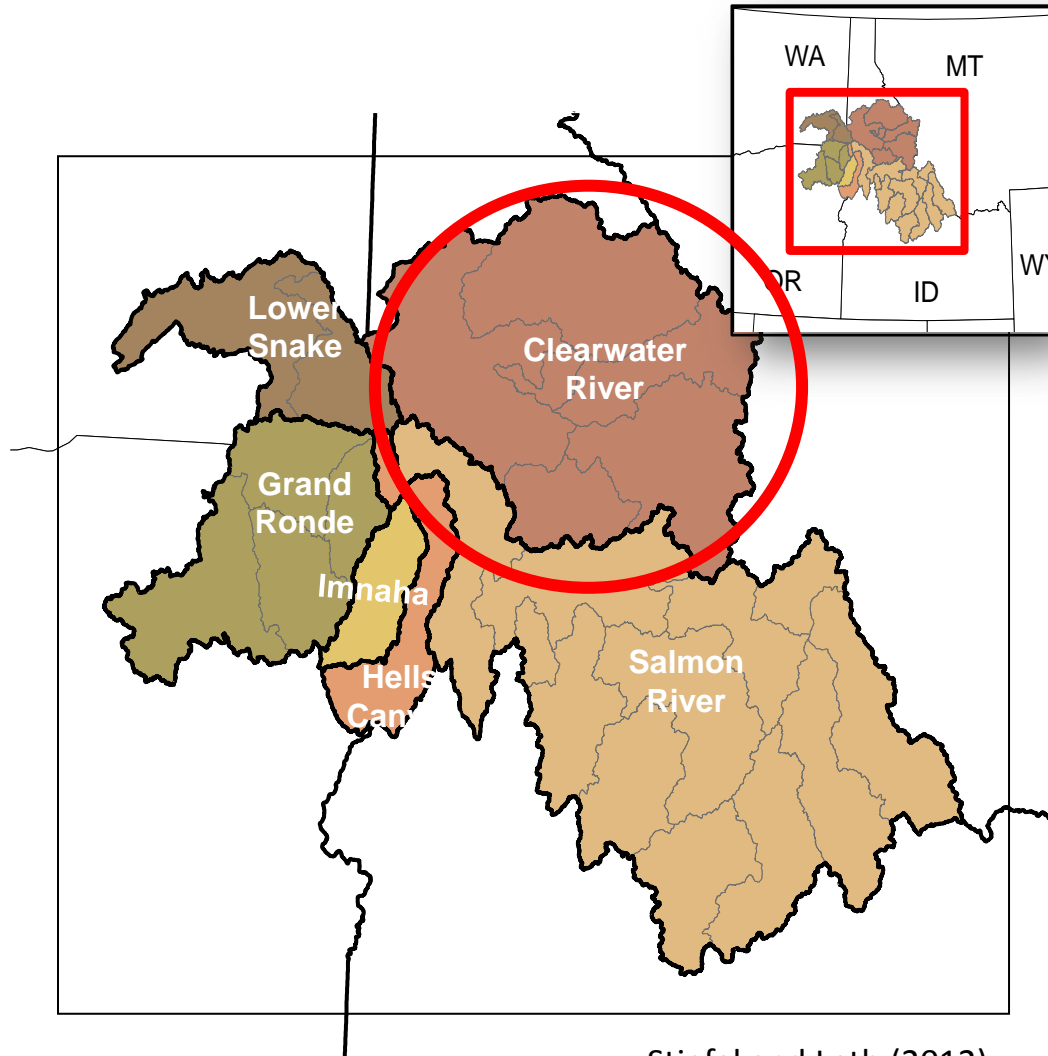
South Fork  
Middle Fork  
North Fork  
Mainstem Salmon  
downstream of the North  
Fork

Area	$F_{ST}$	Hatch Pop
Upper Salmon	0.005	[Heatmap grid]
	0.008	
	0.006	
	0.012	
	0.006	
	0.008	
	0.007	
Middle Salmon	0.032	[Heatmap grid]
	0.030	
	0.029	
	0.034	
	0.023	
	0.022	
	0.030	
	0.025	
South Fork	0.016	[Heatmap grid]
	0.017	
	0.029	
	0.026	
Low Salmon	0.026	[Heatmap grid]
	0.031	
	0.012	
	0.013	
	0.012	
	0.011	



# Wild Stock Protection Clearwater Steelhead

Natural Population	Tributary	Dworshak Avg. Pairwise $F_{ST}$
Colt Cr	<b>Lochsa R. No Releases</b>	0.023
Storm Cr		0.025
Crooked Fork		0.018
Lake Cr		0.025
Fish Cr		0.018
Canyon Cr		0.013
Selway R	<b>Selway R. No Releases</b>	0.024
Little Clearwater R		0.023
Whitecap Cr		0.024
Bear Cr		0.025
NF Moose Cr		0.018
Three Links Cr		0.026
Gedney Cr		0.016
O'Hara Cr		0.011
Clear Cr	<b>SF Clearwater Releases</b>	0.011
Crooked R		0.004
Tenmile Cr		0.021
John's Cr		0.010

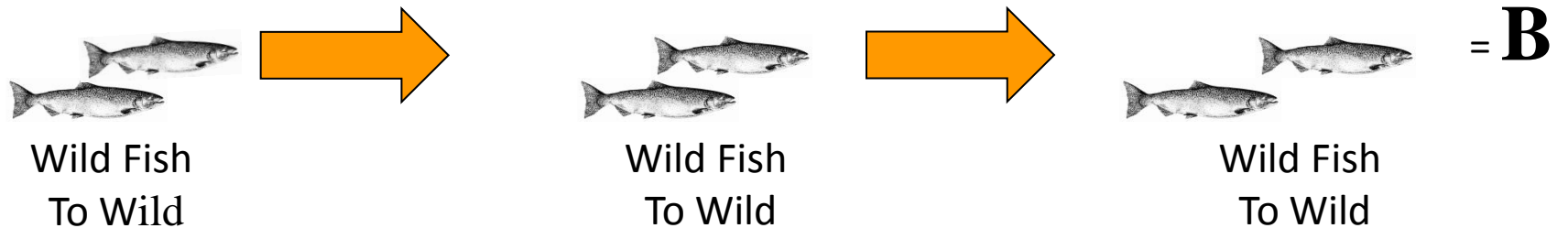
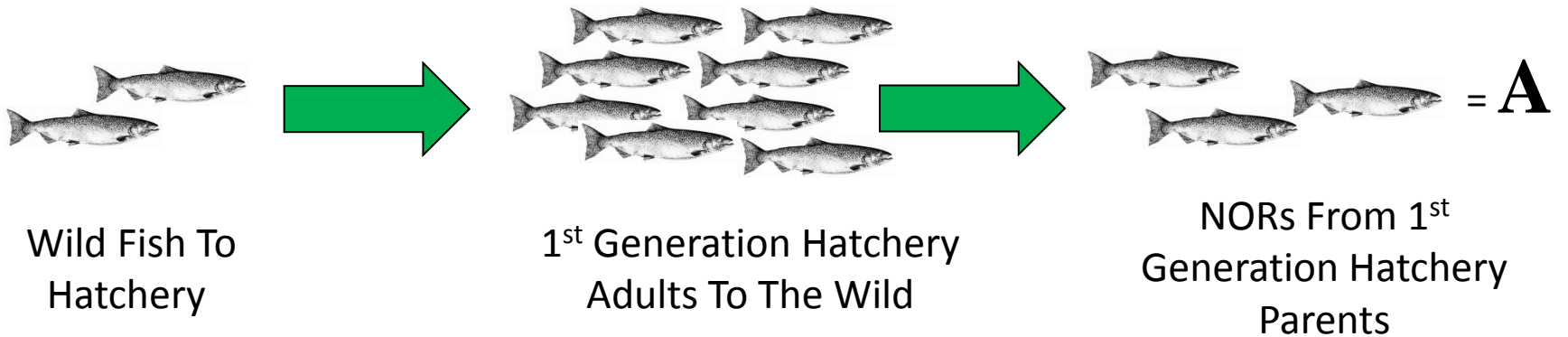


Stiefel and Leth (2012)

# Hatcheries, Supplementation & Conservation



# Operational Definition Of Supplementation



Is  $A \geq B$  ?

# Key Assumptions Of Supplementation:

1) Hatchery-Origin Fish Are Reproductively Competent When Allowed To Spawn Under Natural Conditions

# Key Assumptions Of Supplementation

2) Progeny Produced  
By Hatchery Origin Adults  
Can Survive In Nature



Spring Chinook Juvenile

Photo grantpud.org



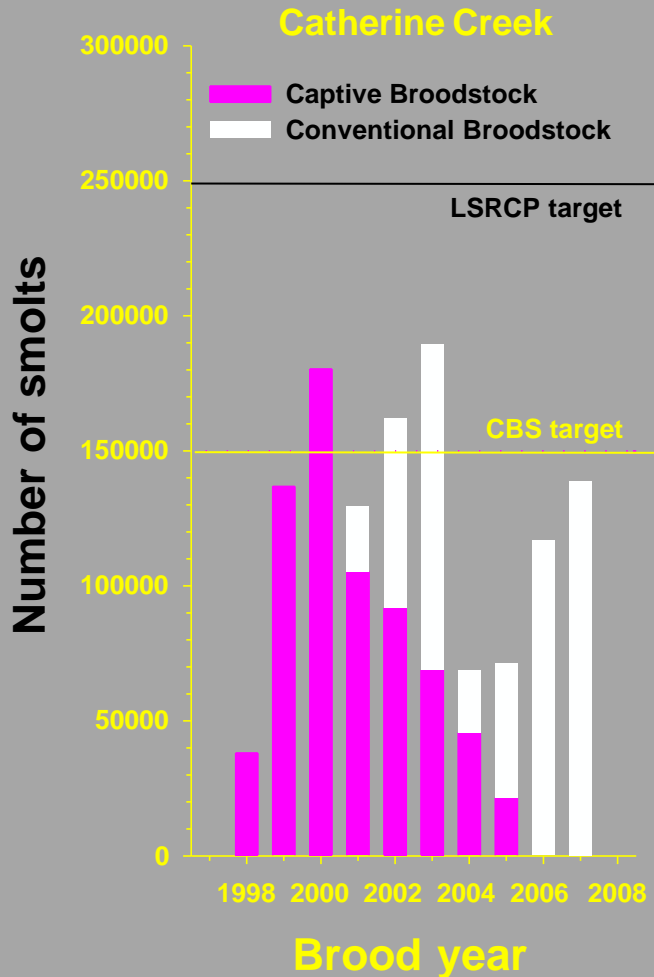
# Key Assumptions of Supplementation

3) The Receiving Environments  
Are Productive & Complex  
Enough To Accommodate  
Additional Juveniles



Grande Ronde River  
Photo commons.wikimedia..org

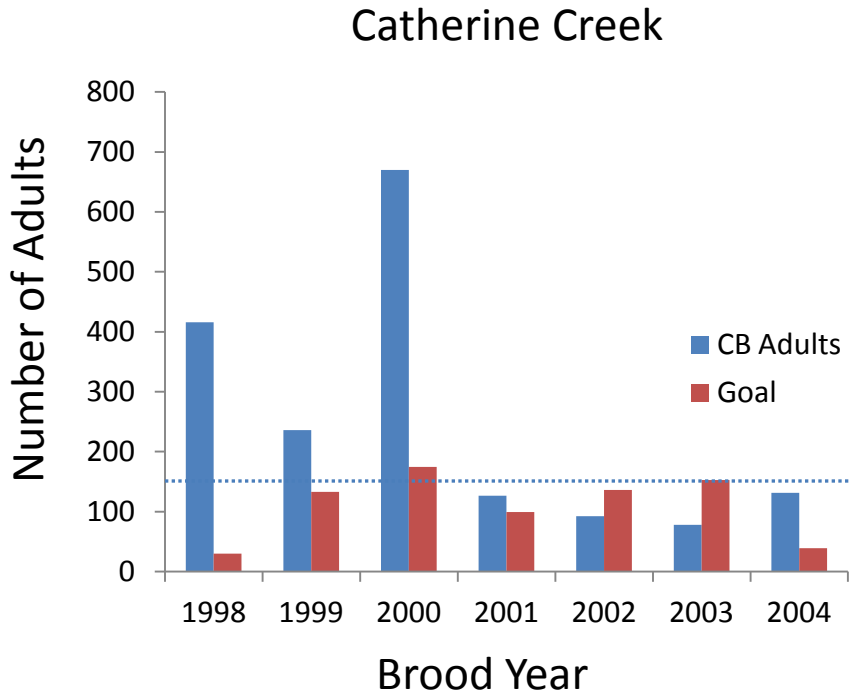
# Changes In Smolt Origin



Catherine Creek Acclimation Pond  
Photo from R. Carmichael (2010)

Data From T. Hoffnagle et al. (2010)

# Captive Brood Adult Returns



Data from T. Hoffnagle et al. (2010)



Photo pinterest.com

# Results Of Captive Brood Program Grande Ronde Spring Chinook

**Parr Collections:** Generally Met

**Growth:** Slower than Expected

**Survival:** Wild Parr-to-Smolt > 95%

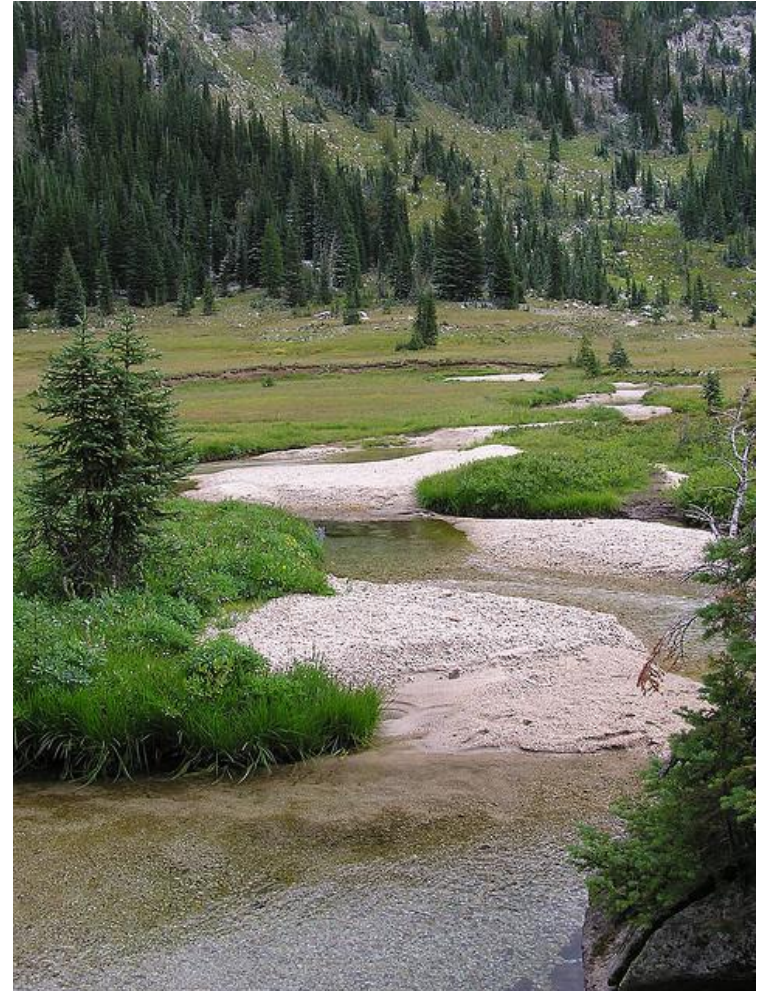
Wild Smolt-to-Adult ~ 55%

**Mortality:** BKD Largest Cause

**Maturity:** Male matured earlier than expected – most at age 3

Females matured later, more 5's than expected

**Fecundity:** 60% Lower than expected



Lostine River Photo Flickr.com

# Captive Broodstock Challenges

## Recognized Challenges In The Captive Broodstock Program

- $F_0$  Smolt-to-Adult Growth
- $F_0$  Fecundity
- Egg Culling & Disease During Rearing
- Hatchery Performance of  $F_1$ 's
- Potential Gene Amplification

From Hoffnagle et al. (2010)



Photo from Venditti et al. (2005)