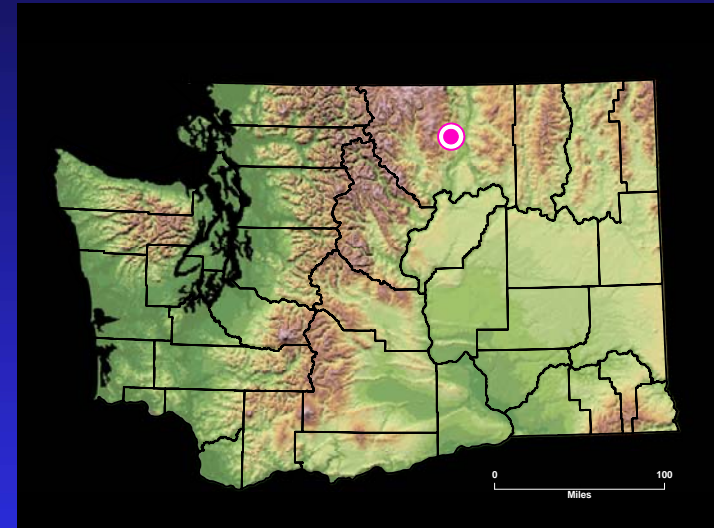
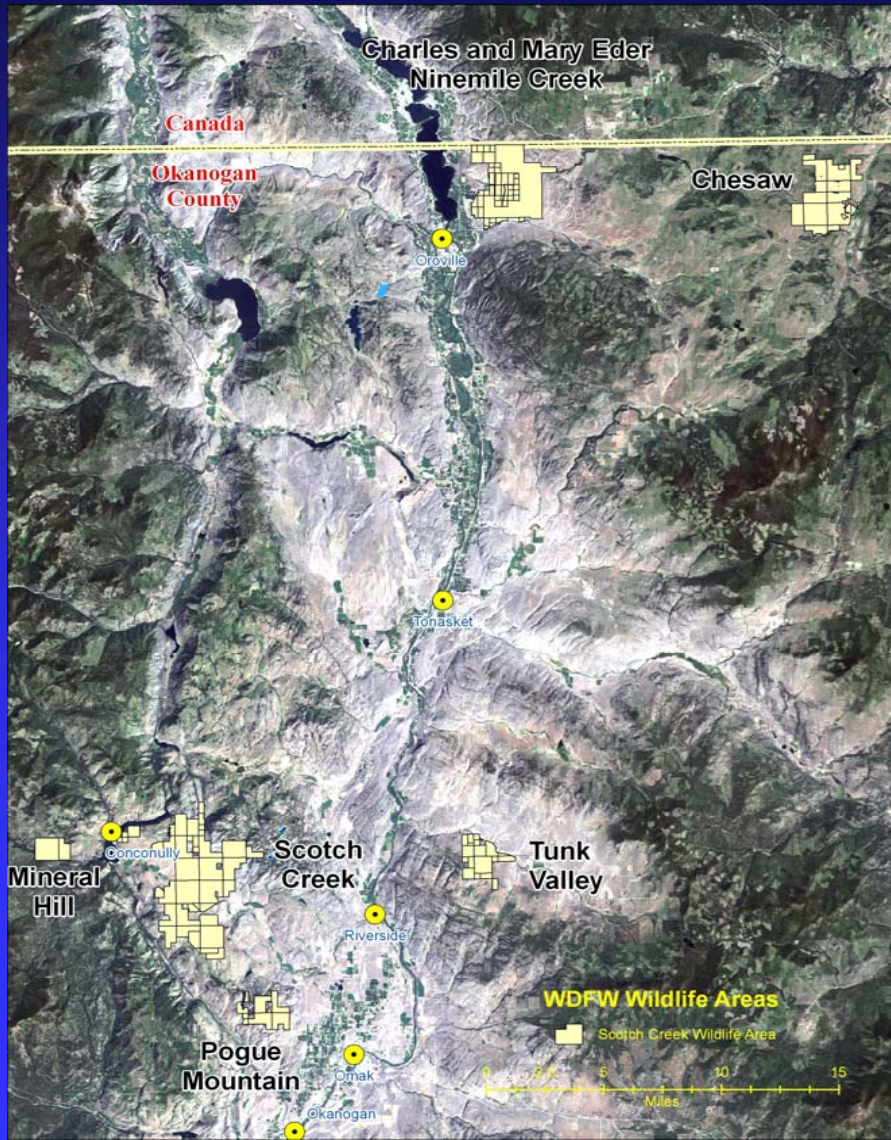


# Scotch Creek Wildlife Area

BPA Project #1996-094-01



Washington  
Department of  
FISH AND  
WILDLIFE

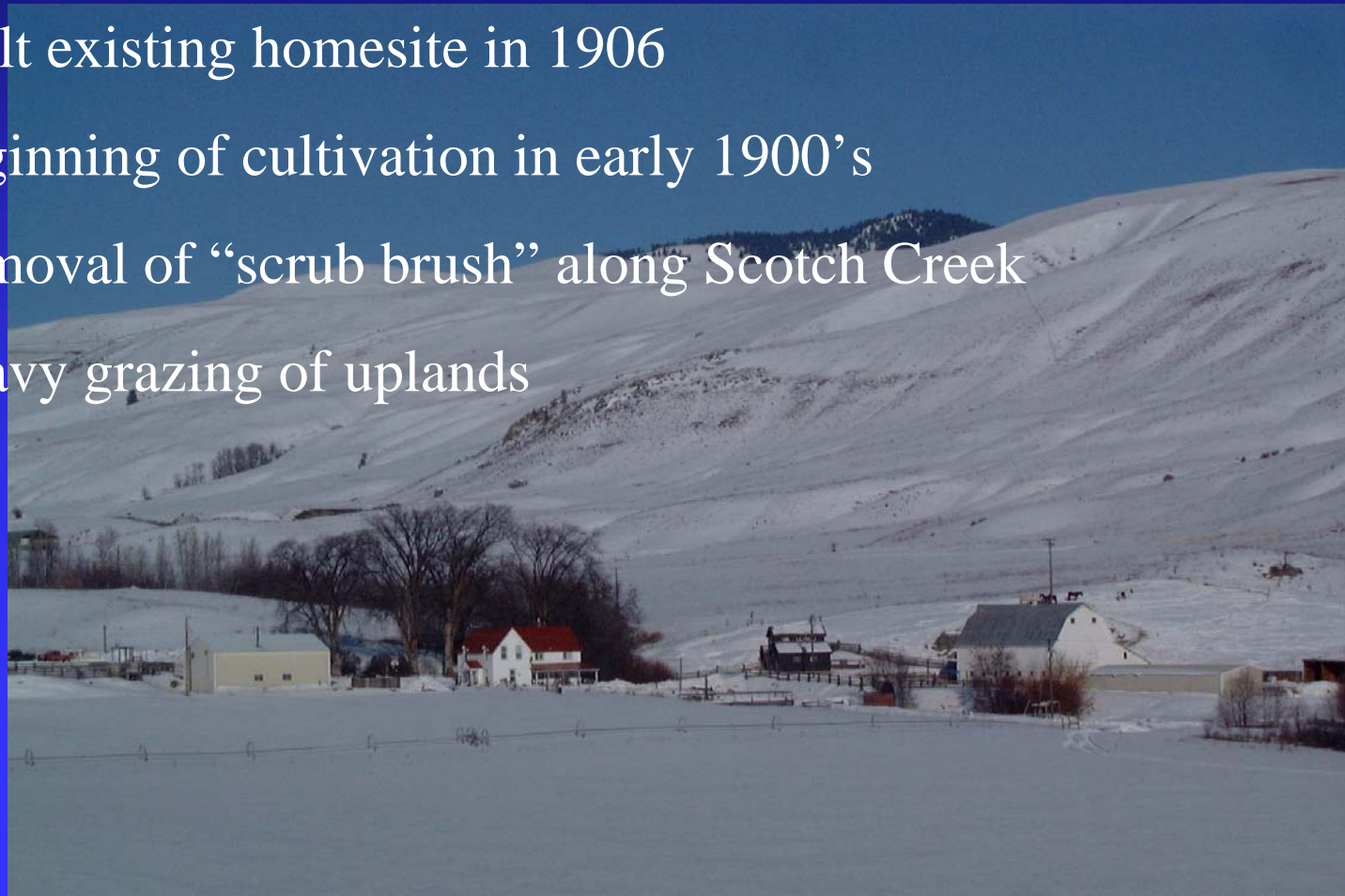
Presentation to ISRP

March 2009

Jim Olson

# Area History: Landscape

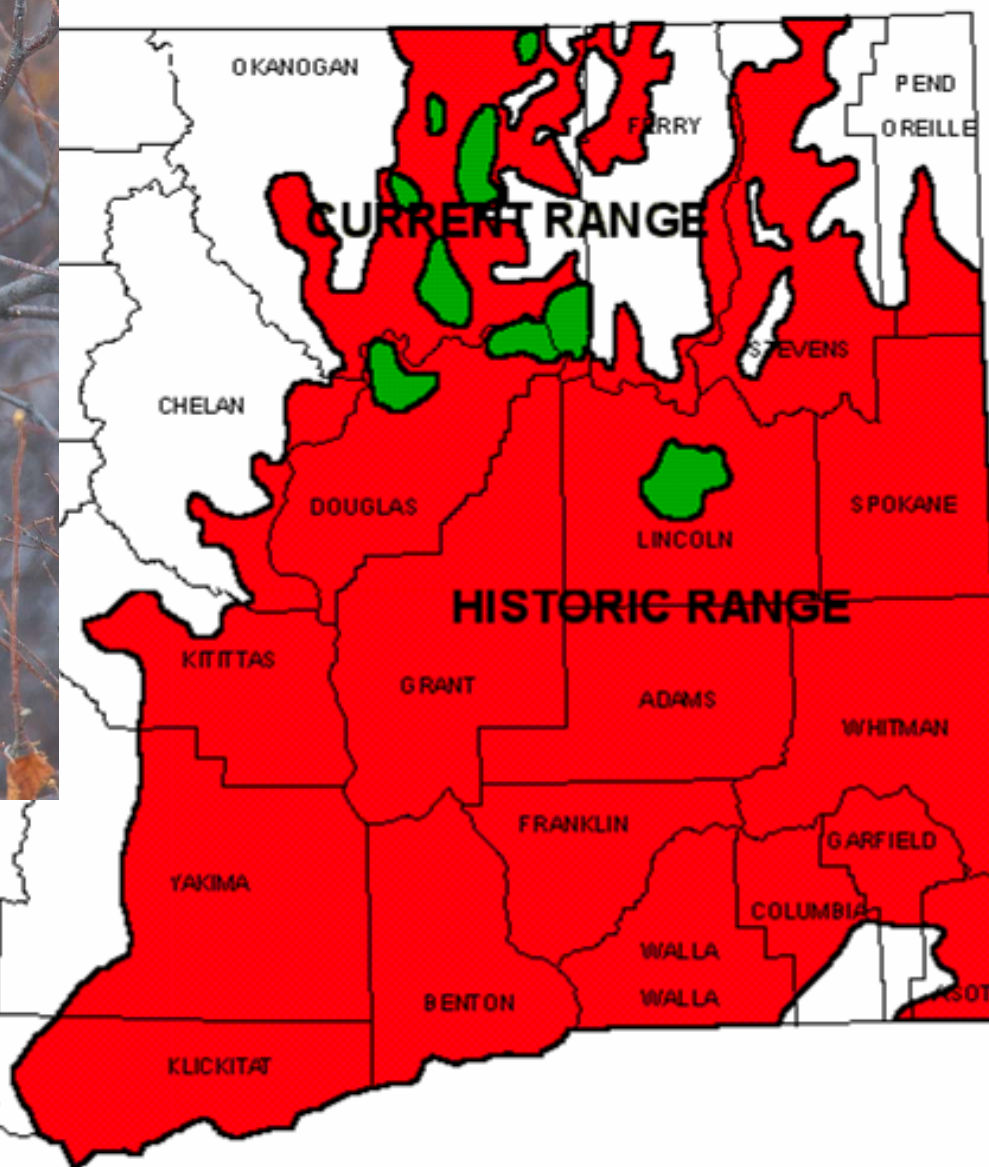
- Early settlement
  - Homesteaded in late 1800's, first cattle ranch
  - Built existing homesite in 1906
  - Beginning of cultivation in early 1900's
  - Removal of “scrub brush” along Scotch Creek
  - Heavy grazing of uplands



# Area History: Sharp-tailed Grouse

## SHARP-TAILED GROUSE IN WASHINGTON





# Area History: Acquisition

- First established in 1991 for a Sharp-tailed grouse recovery area
- 12,653 acres purchased in 5 separate units in 1991, the first year of WWRP. The core of the Scotch Creek Complex.
- 1991-2009: 11,117 additional acres purchased with WWRP and BPA funds, total of 23,770 acres
- Accepted as a mitigation project in 1996





# Limiting Factors

- Lack of and/or availability of shrubsteppe habitat dominated by herbaceous cover
- Distribution of riparian habitats dominated by deciduous shrubs
- Habitat fragmentation



# Management Goals:

- Establish a viable sharp-tailed grouse population on and adjacent to the Scotch Creek Wildlife Area.
- Preserve habitat and species diversity for wildlife resources
- Maintain healthy populations of game and non-game species
- Protect and restore native plant communities
- Provide diverse opportunities for the public to encounter, utilize, and appreciate wildlife and wild areas.

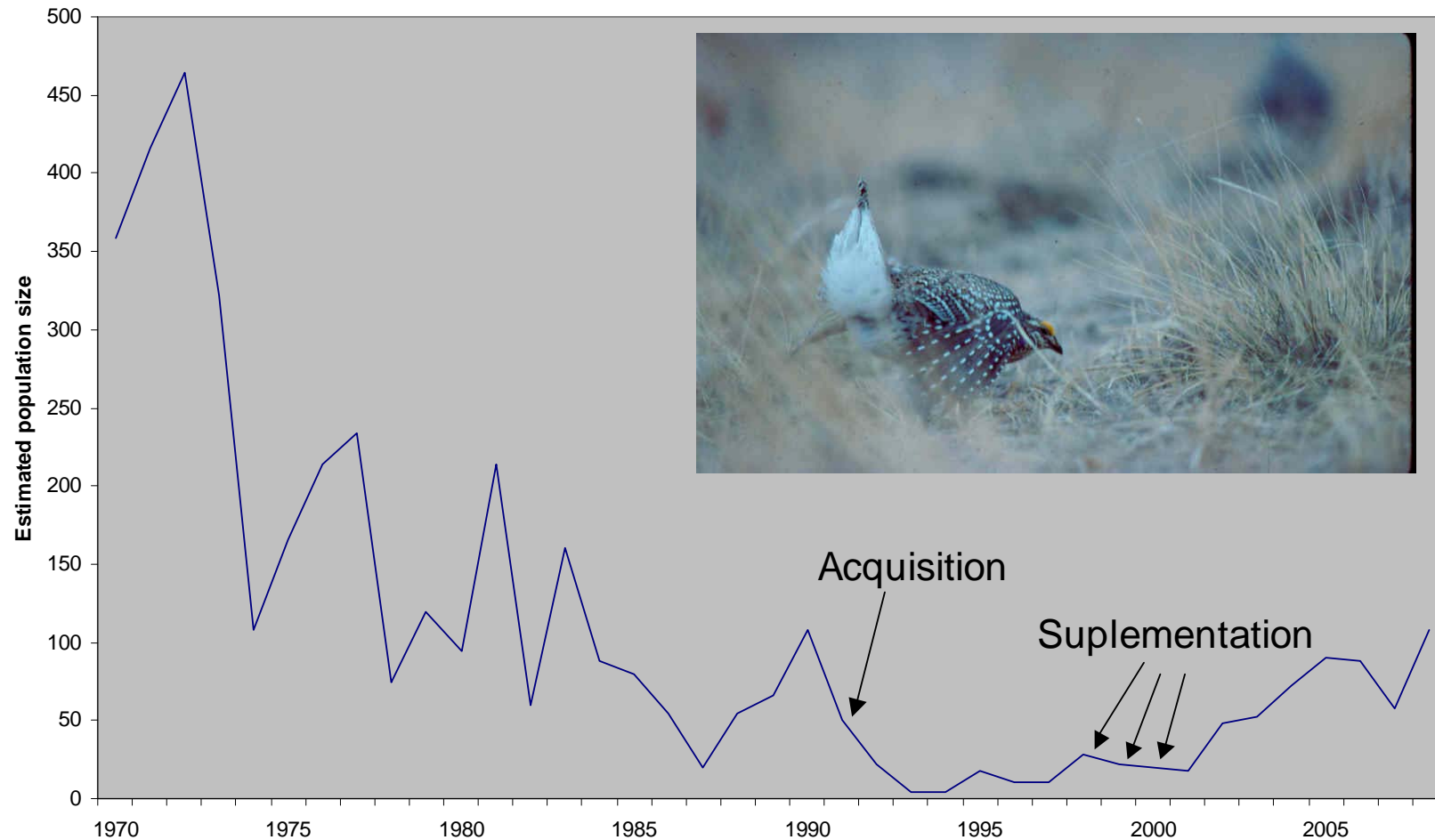


# Major Accomplishments:

- 3,281 acres of agricultural conversion lands restored to a native shrub-steppe
- 107,900 trees and shrubs planted to restore critical riparian habitat
- Weed control on 7,435 acres to enhance native plant communities
- 58 miles of new boundary fence surveyed and constructed, 20 miles repaired and 30 miles of interior fence removed;
- 150 acres of browse pruned to improve Mule deer forage;
- Installation of 150 nest boxes
- Maintained and improved all infrastructure and equipment necessary to carry out project objectives.

# Population Estimate

## Scotch Creek Wildlife Area



# Immediate Management Needs

- **Continue Maintenance on previous enhancements to ensure quality of habitat**
- **Continue to enhance shrub-steppe, riparian and forest habitats where needed**
- **Enhance habitats on new acquisitions**

# Long-term Management Needs

- **Equipment/vehicle maintenance and/or replacement**
- **Administrative duties and professional development**
- **Maintain Infrastructure**

# Monitoring and Evaluation

“Management actions must be taken in an adaptive, experimental manner because ecosystems are inherently variable and highly complex. This includes using experimental designs and techniques as part of management actions, and integrating monitoring and research with those management actions to evaluate their effects on the ecosystem.”

NPPC, 2000

# Budget

| ITEM          | NOTE             | FY 2010 | FY 2011 | FY 2012 |
|---------------|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Personnel     | 3.25 FTE's       | 142,542 | 146,105 | 149,757 |
| Benefits      | For above FTE's  | 44,030  | 45,130  | 46,258  |
| Supplies      | Supplies & Mat   | 99,291  | 101,773 | 104,317 |
| Travel        | Training, mtgs   | 3,500   | 3,587   | 3,677   |
| Capital Equip | Equip, Vehicles  | 23,500  | 26,000  | 70,500  |
| Overhead      | Exclude Cap. Eq. | 74,858  | 76,729  | 78,647  |
| Totals        |                  | 387,721 | 399,324 | 453,156 |

Questions:

