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Northwest Power and Conservation Council

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July 6, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Stacy Horton, Washington Policy Analyst/Biologist

SUBJECT: Presentation from the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT)

BACKGROUND:

Presenters: DR Michel and Laura Robinson, Upper Columbia United Tribes; Tom Biladeau, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Casey Baldwin, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation; Deane Osterman, Kalispel Tribe of Indians; Shawn Young, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho; Conor Giorgi, Spokane Tribe of Indians

Summary: Representatives from the UCUT organization and its member tribes will provide an update to the Council on the work of the tribes in the upper Columbia River Basin relevant to the Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. The Council will hear from DR Michel, Executive Director of UCUT, on the history of the UCUT organization and its member tribes. Deane Osterman, Executive Director of Natural Resources for the Kalispel Tribe, will speak on a broad suite of Kalispel projects including Northern Pike suppression and fish passage in the Pend Oreille River system. Shawn Young, Natural Resources Director for the Kootenai Tribe, will provide an update on combining early life releases and habitat restoration projects. And the UCUT reintroduction team will share accomplishments of cultural and educational salmon releases, implementation of the pilot study for Phase 2 reintroduction work, an update on funding for reintroduction research, and how the Council can support reintroduction efforts in the upper Columbia. The UCUT reintroduction team is made up of Tom Biladeau, Anadromous Project Lead, Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Casey Baldwin, Senior Research Scientist,

Colville Tribes; Conor Giorgi, Anadromous Program Manager, Spokane Tribe; and Laura Robinson, Policy Analyst, UCUT.

The UCUT organization and its member tribes have made significant progress on reintroduction since last presenting to the Council. Ongoing cultural and educational releases are continuing to provide hope to the tribes as the resiliency of these fish is revealed, if given a chance. The first research project of the 20-year Phase 2 Implementation Plan is currently underway. Over the summer the tribes will continue to monitor juvenile Chinook as they migrate from the blocked area and to the Pacific Ocean. Although the tribes have secured significant funding for Phase 2 research, there are opportunities for the Council to lend its support.

Background: The five member tribes of the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) are the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, and the Spokane Tribe of Indians. UCUT was established in 1982 to unite Upper Columbia River Tribes for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Treaty/Executive Order Rights, sovereignty, culture, fish, water, wildlife, habitat and other interests and issues of common concern in our respective territories through a structured process of cooperation and coordination for the benefit of all people. Together, the UCUT tribes manage and influence nearly two million acres of reservation land, and influence at least 14 million acres of aboriginal territories, 500 miles of waterways, 40 interior lakes, and 30 dams and reservoirs.

To learn more about the UCUT organization and its member tribes, you can visit the [UCUT website](#).

More Info: The Council received an update on the [Kootenai system restoration project](#) in March 2022. Related to upper Columbia reintroduction, the UCUT organization and its member tribes presented the Phase 2 Implementation Plan at the November 2021 meeting (see [Fish and Wildlife Committee](#) update and [full Council update](#)). And in January 2021, the Fish and Wildlife Committee received an update on the [cultural and educational salmon releases](#) done by the Colville Tribes and the successes seen at that time in the Sanpoil River.

Upper Columbia United Tribes

Northwest Power and Conservation Council July 2022

Presenters:

DR Michel, Upper Columbia United Tribes

Deane Osterman, Kalispel Tribe of Indians

Shawn Young, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho

Tom Biladeau, Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Casey Baldwin, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

Conor Giorgi, Spokane Tribe of Indians

Laura Robinson, Upper Columbia United Tribes

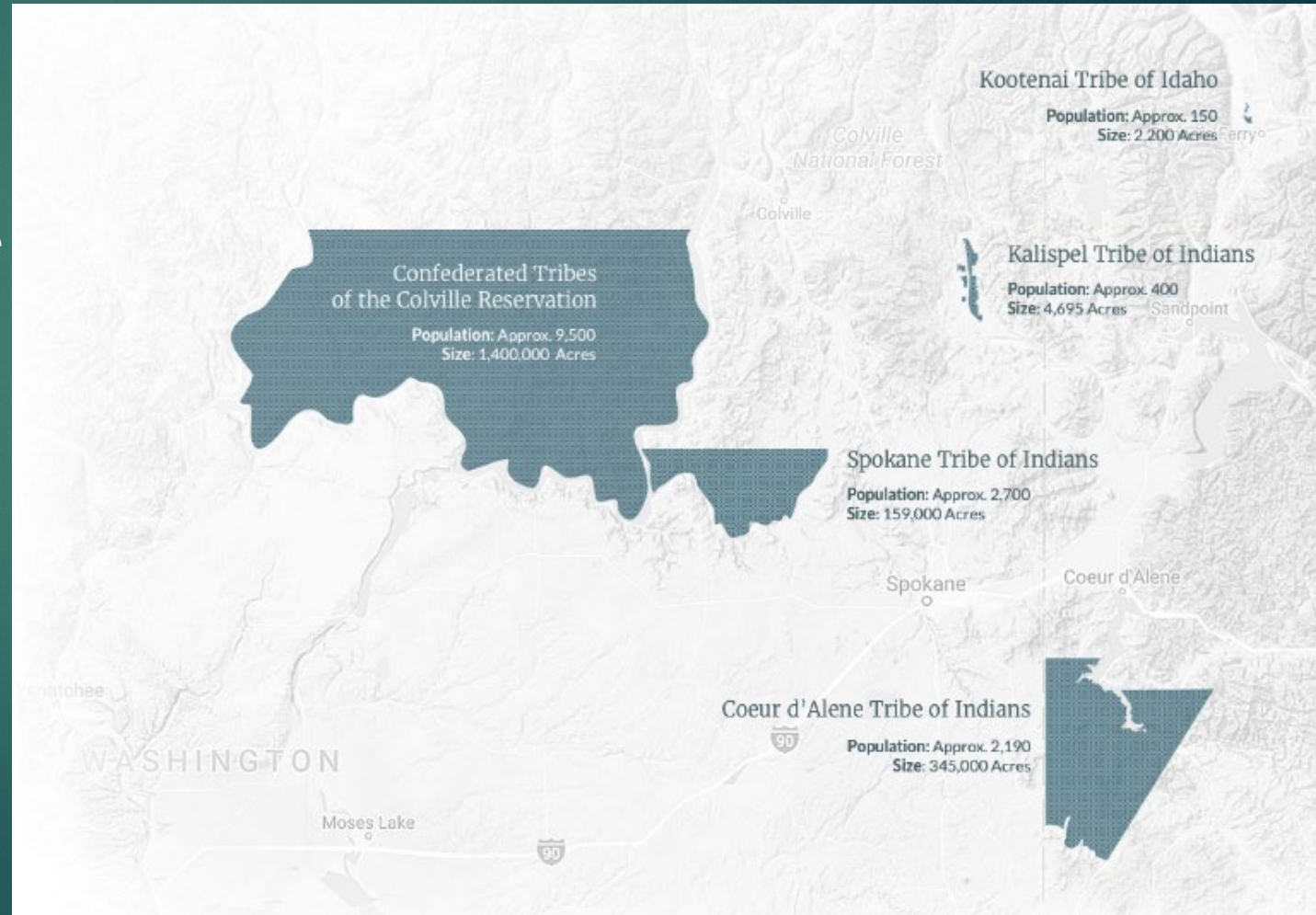


UCUT
UPPER COLUMBIA
UNITED TRIBES



Territories of the Upper Columbia United Tribes

- Coeur d'Alene Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Kalispel Tribe of Indians
- Kootenai Tribe of Idaho
- Spokane Tribe of Indians



UCUT's Mission

To unite Upper Columbia River Tribes for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Treaty/Executive Order Rights, sovereignty, culture, fish, water, wildlife, habitat and other interests and issues of common concern in our respective territories through a structured process of cooperation and coordination for the benefit of all people.

Kalispel Tribe of Indians

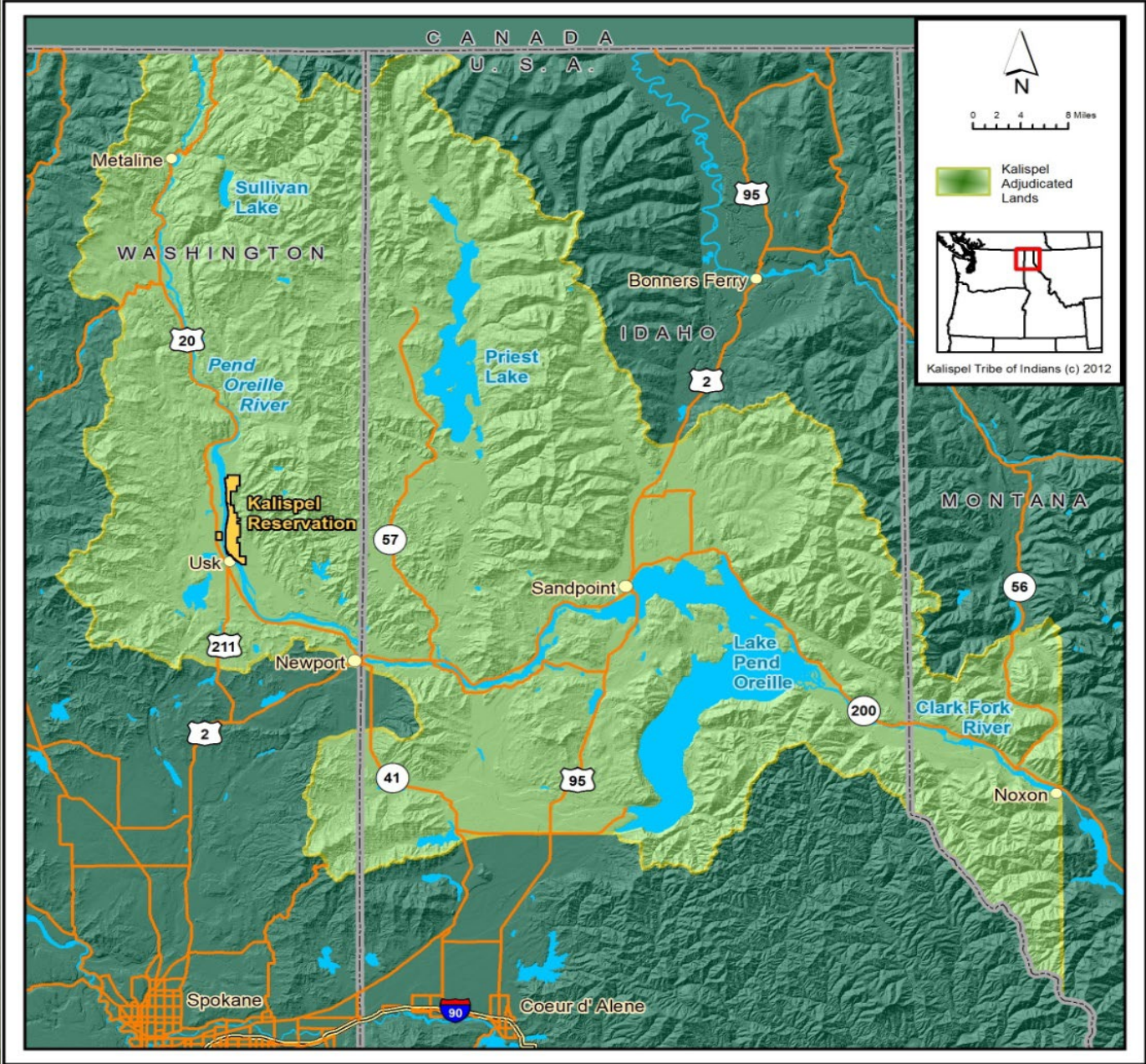


Deane Osterman
Executive Director
Kalispel Natural Resource Department

July, 2022



Kalispel Adjudicated Lands



Department Organization

Executive
Director

Dir. Wildlife and Terrestrial Resources

Dir. Fisheries and Aquatic Resources

Forestry
Program

Wildlife
Program

Cultural
Resources
Program

Water
Resources
Program

Fisheries
Management
Program

Fisheries
Conservation
Program

Significant Fisheries Recovery Efforts in Pend Oreille

- Albeni Falls Dam

- Upstream fish passage
- \$6.5 million for design (2019)
- \$68.1 million appropriated for “New Start” construction (2021)



- Kalispel Tribe Fish Accord/BPA Projects

- \$39.5 Million over 10 years
- Expansion of Existing Projects
 - Northern Pike Suppression Project

Significant Fisheries Recovery Efforts in Pend Oreille

- Pend Oreille PUD FERC Settlement (Box Canyon Dam)

- Restore Tributary Streams
- Upstream Fish Passage at Box Canyon



- Seattle City Light FERC Settlement (Boundary Dam)

- \$392 Million Restoration Deal
- Restoration of Tributaries
- Removal of Mill Pond Dam
- Coldwater Pipe for Sullivan/Outlet Creek
- Upstream Fish Passage at Boundary Dam



Fish Passage

- Adfluvial
- Fluvial
- Resident

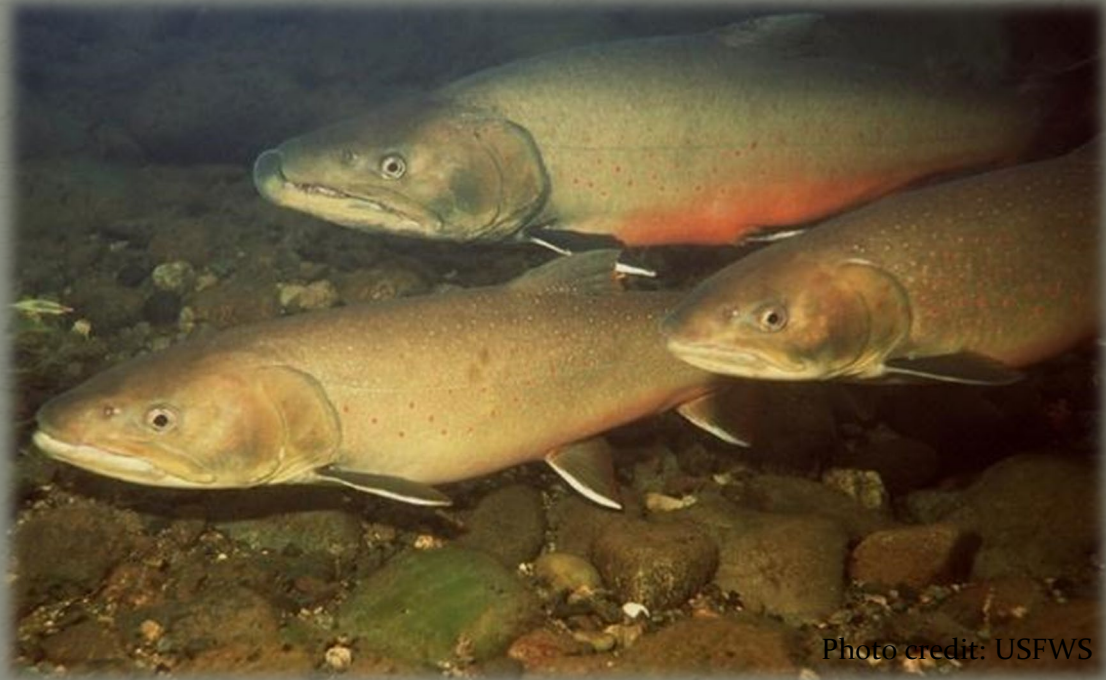
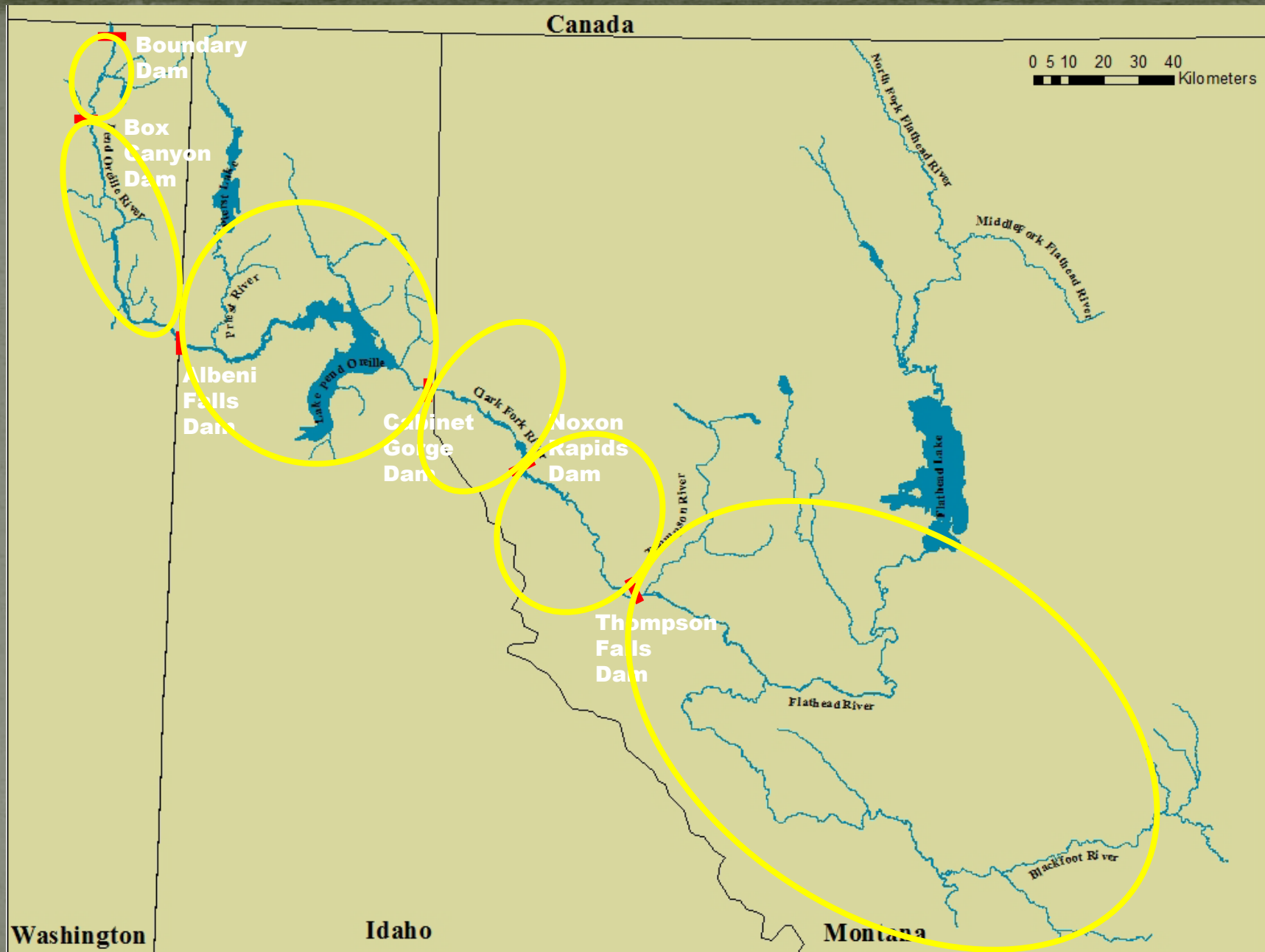
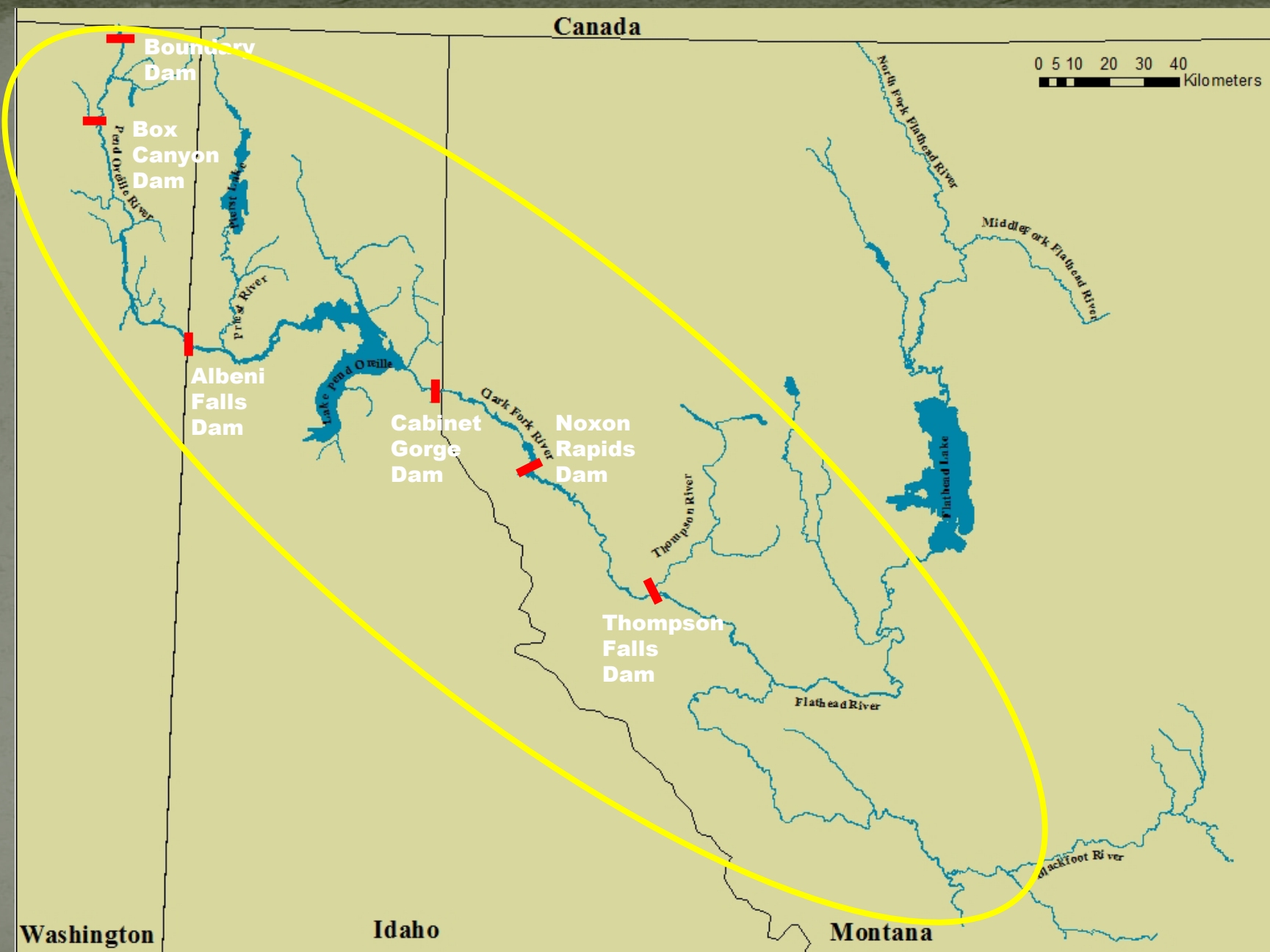
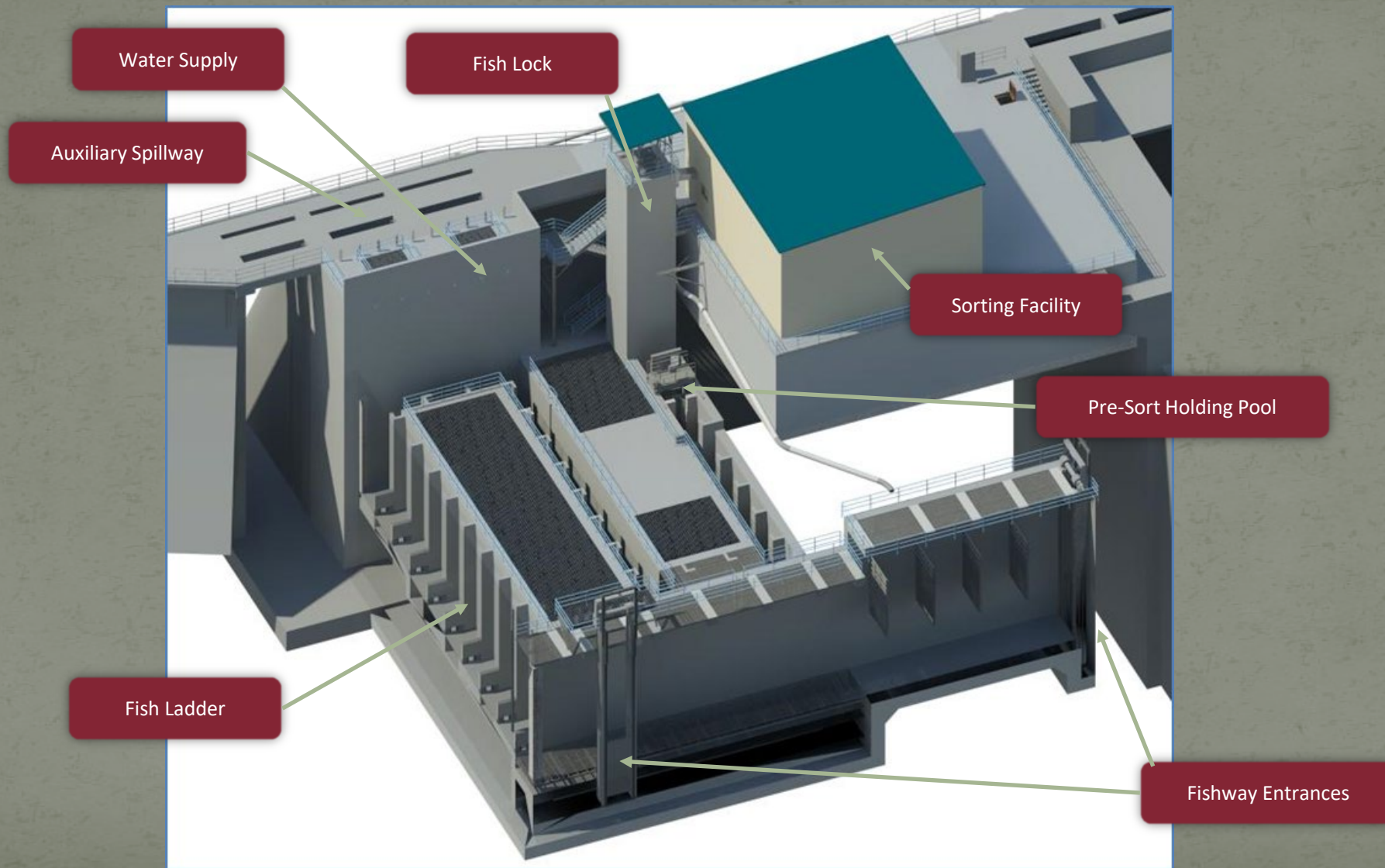


Photo credit: USFWS

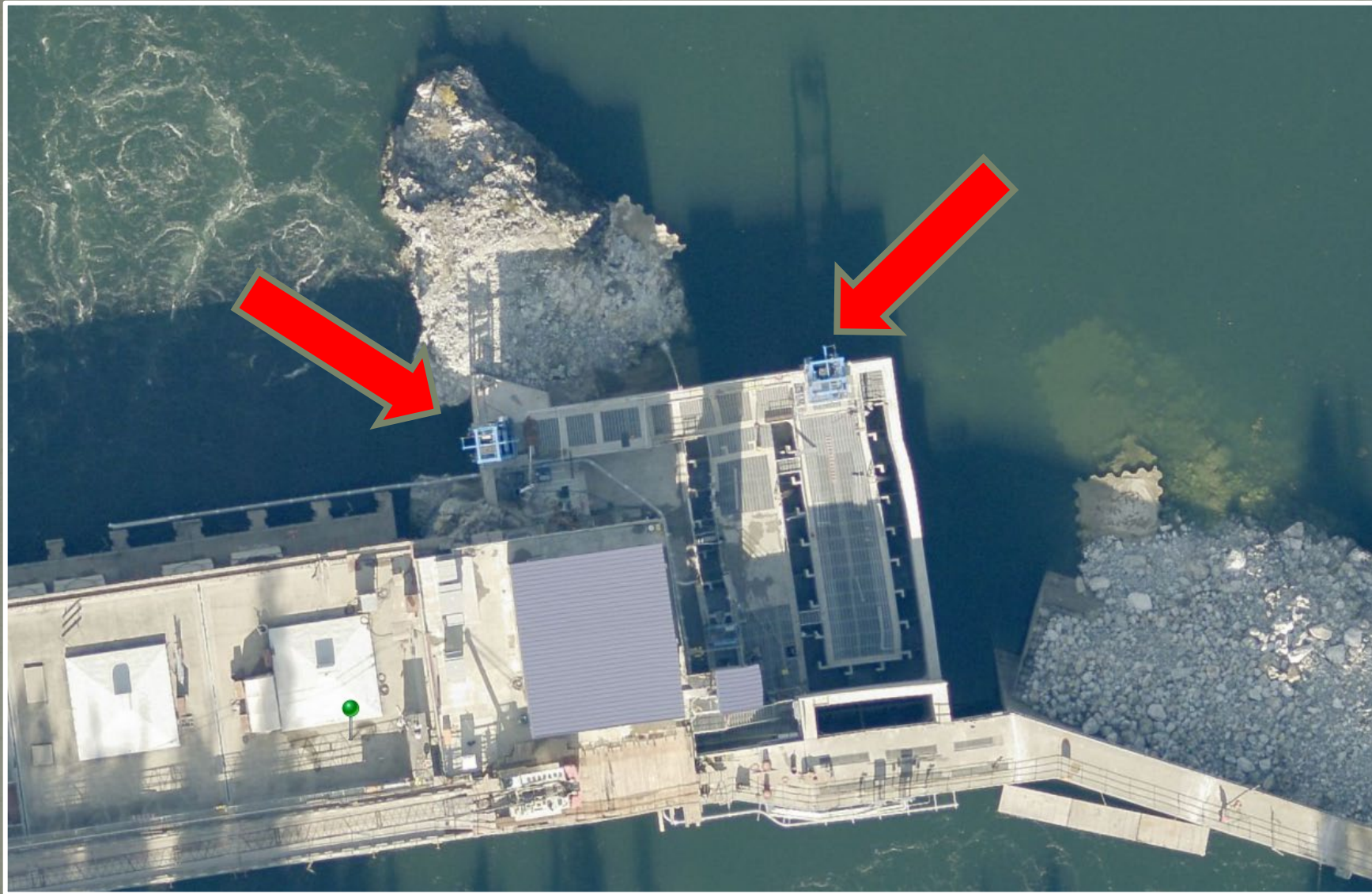




Box Canyon – Upstream Fish Passage

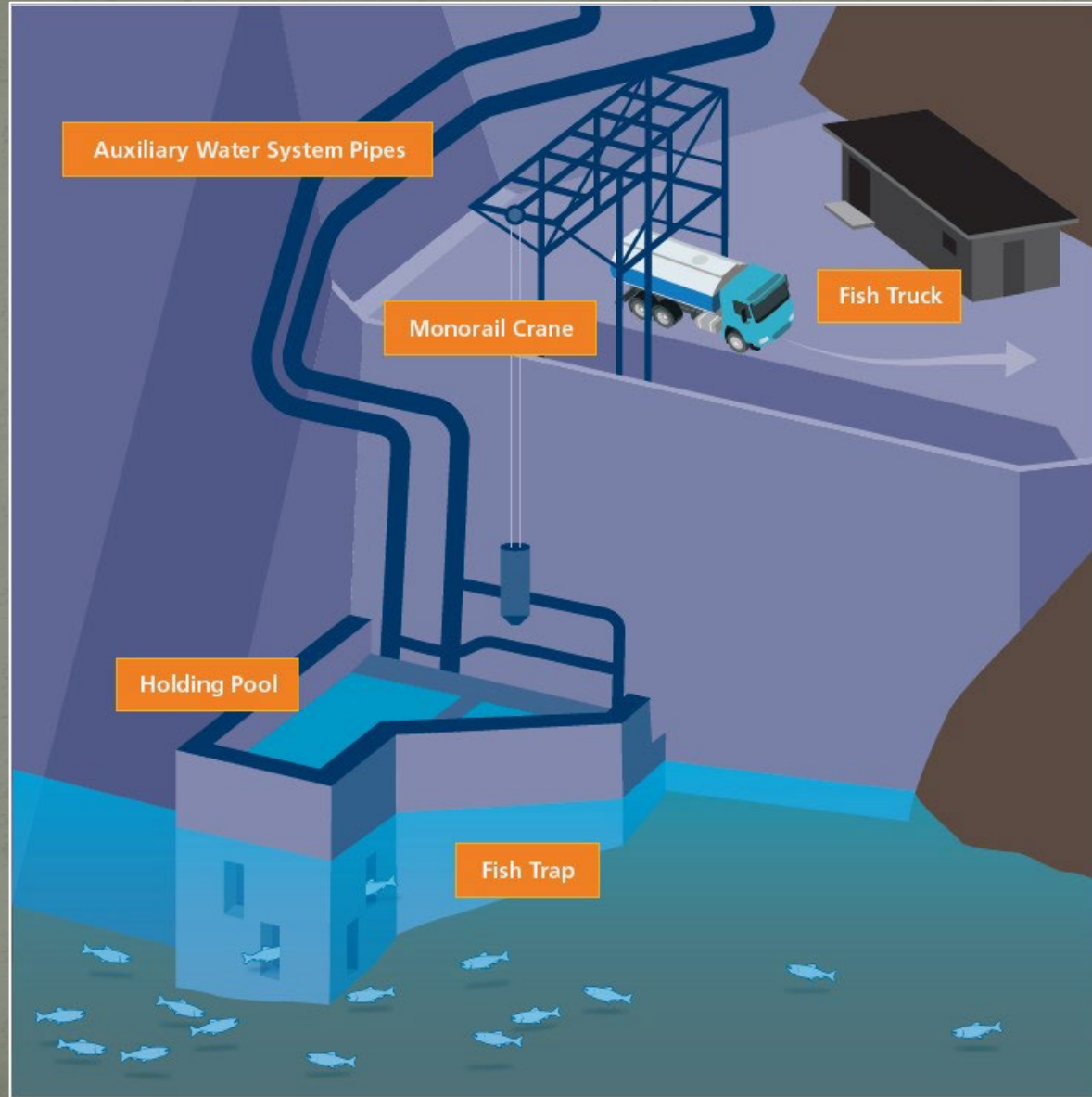


Aerial View of Box Canyon Fishway



Facility became fully operational on April 11, 2022

Cabinet Gorge Dam Fishway





Fisheries Resource Priorities

- **Non-native/Invasive Species Control**
- **Habitat Restoration**
- **Native Species Restoration, Conservation, & Enhancement**
- **Harvest Support & Supplementation**
- **Water Quality Restoration & Conservation**
- **Conservation of Water Quantity**
- **Invasive Aquatic Plant Prevention & Control**

Thank You! Questions?



More Information:

Websites: <http://kalispeltribe.com/kalispel-natural-resources-department/>





Kootenai Ecosystem Restoration: Using Parental Based Tagging (PBT) to Evaluate Native Fish Recruitment and Habitat Dynamics

*Shawn Young
Kootenai Tribe of Idaho*

Northwest Power and Conservation Council

July 13, 2022

2012/02/13 13:03:46



NW

35.1 F

2012/02/12 16:46:59



E

1.8 C









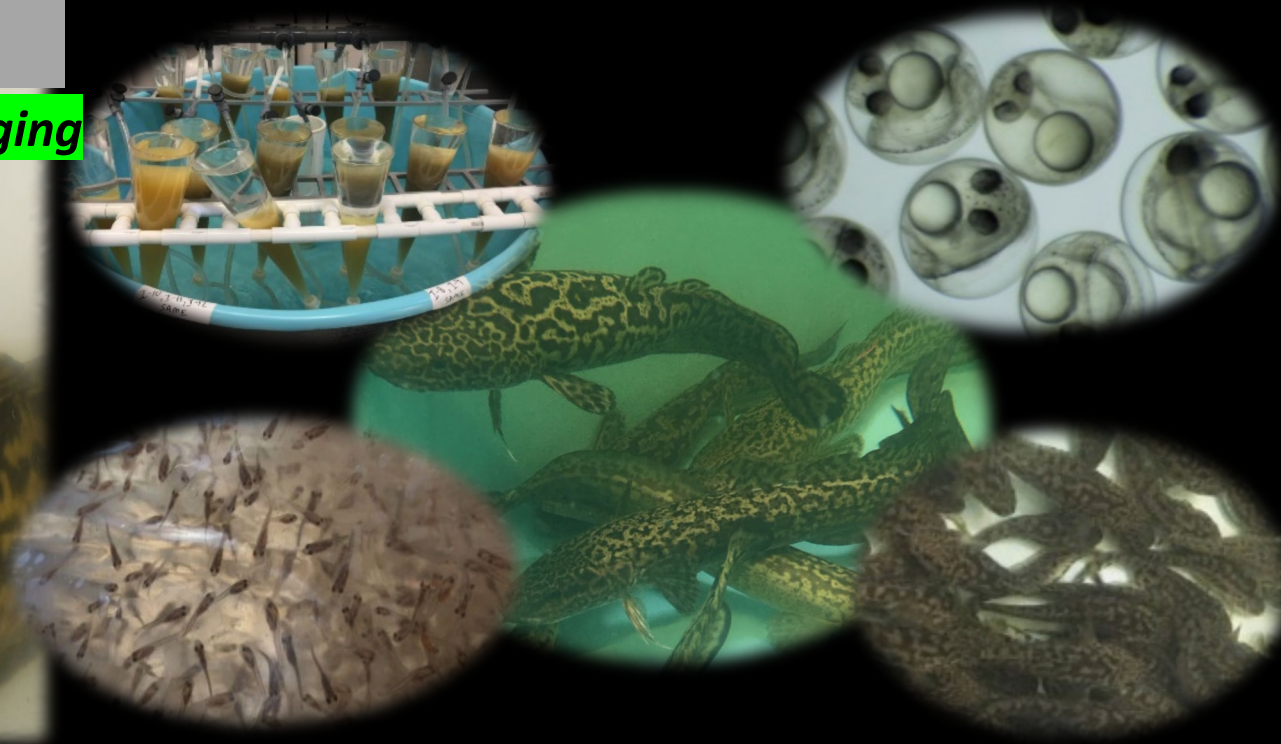


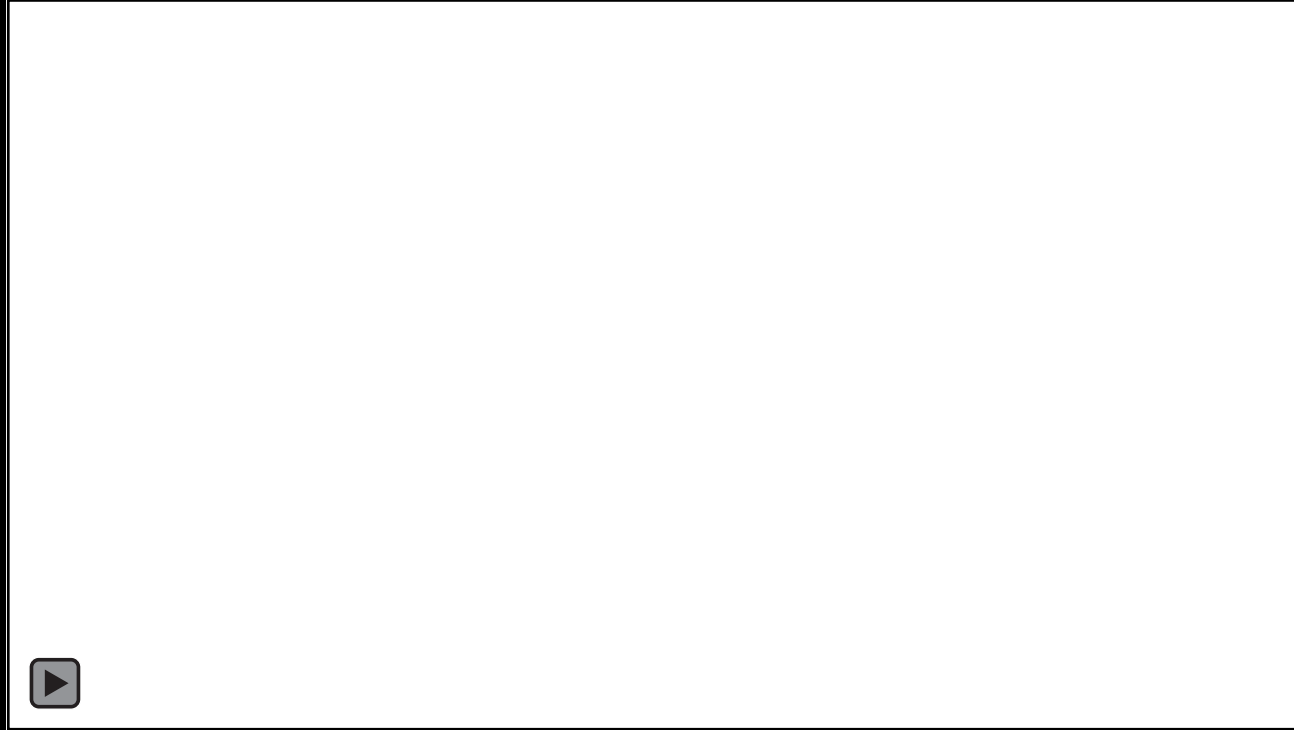


Picture of IDFG staff conducting winter hoopnet surveys, which provide almost all recapture data for adult Burbot

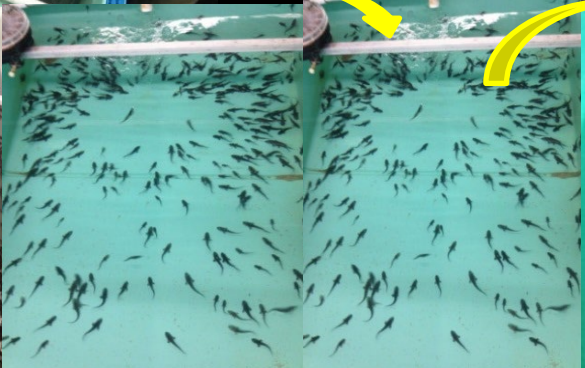


Parental Based Tagging (IDFG)

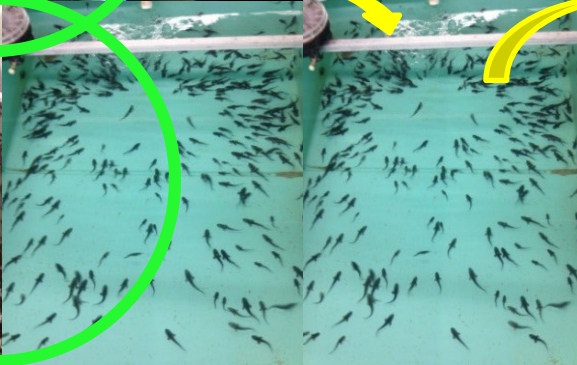




Dan Aitken, KTOI Sturgeon Technician



Parental Based Tagging
Univ. CA-Davis:
Aviva Fiske, PhD Candidate
Dr. Andrea Schreier



Dan Aitken, KTOI Sr. Sturgeon Technician

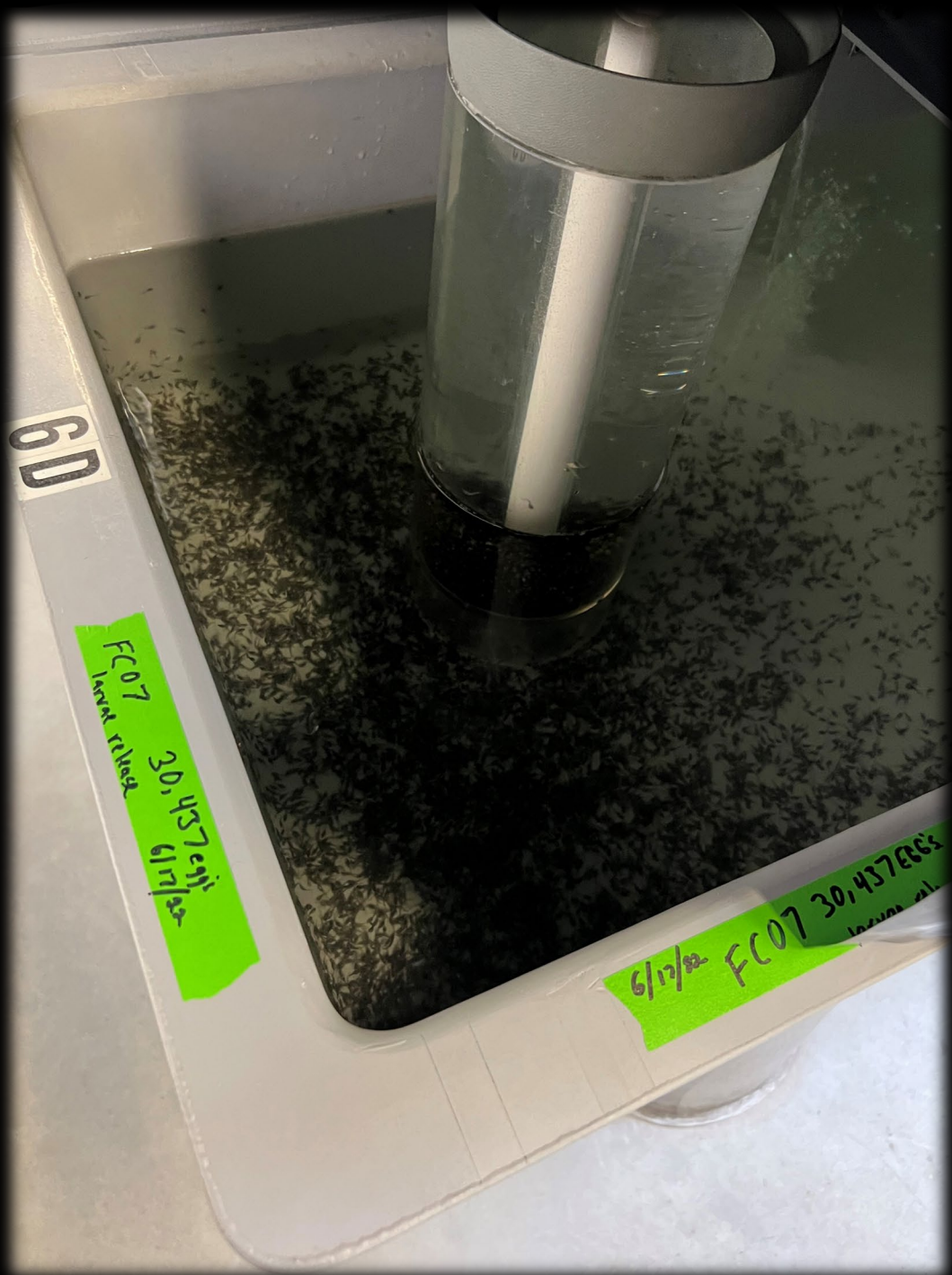


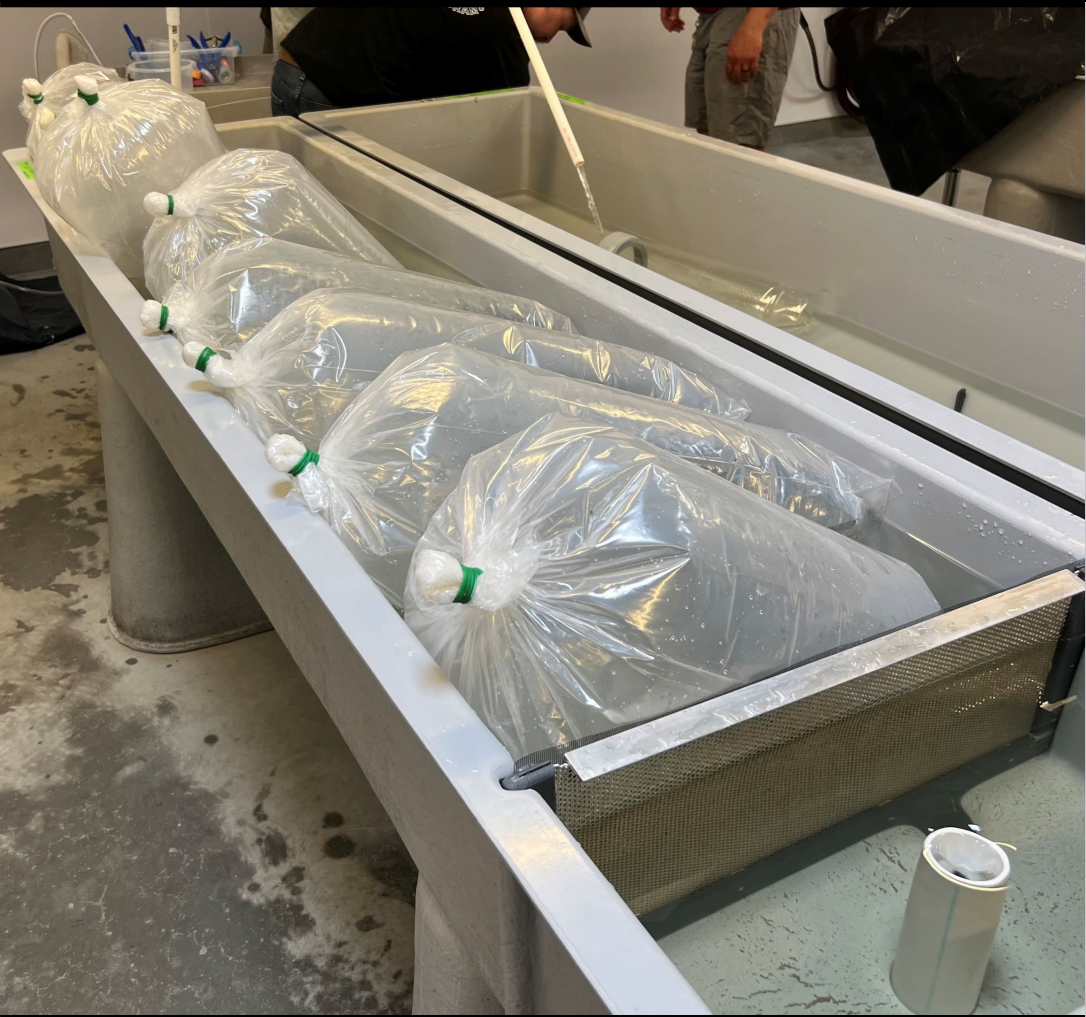
KTOI Staff Preparing Female



Mark Elliston, KTOI Biologist









09/27/2012















Collaboration



We thank Bonneville Power Administration &
Northwest Power and Conservation Council



Commitment

Reintroduction of Salmon Upstream of Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee, and Spokane River Dams



Tom Biladeau, Coeur d'Alene Tribe
Casey Baldwin, Confederated Tribes
of the Colville Reservation
Conor Giorgi, Spokane Tribe of Indians
Laura Robinson, Upper Columbia
United Tribes



Cultural and Educational Releases



Cultural and Educational Releases

UCUT Tribes, 2017-present



Hangman Creek, 2019



Sherman Creek Net Pens, 2021



Hangman Creek, 2020

>15,000 Juvenile Chinook

Cultural and Educational Releases

UCUT Tribes, 2017-present

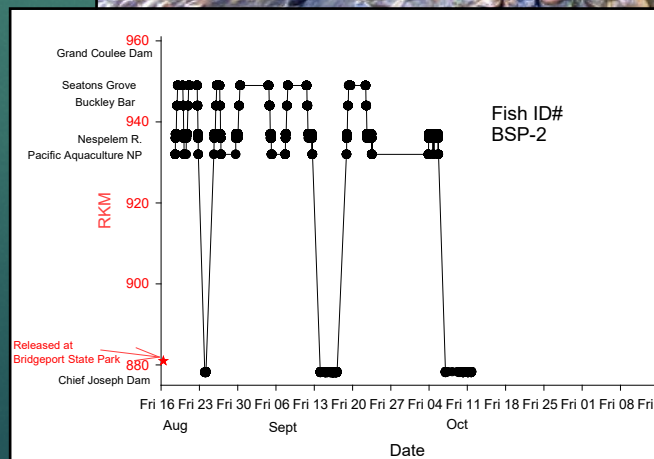


> 1,000 Adult Chinook

Post-release behavior, documented spawning: Sanpoil R., Tshimikain Ck., Little Spokane R. and Rufus Woods

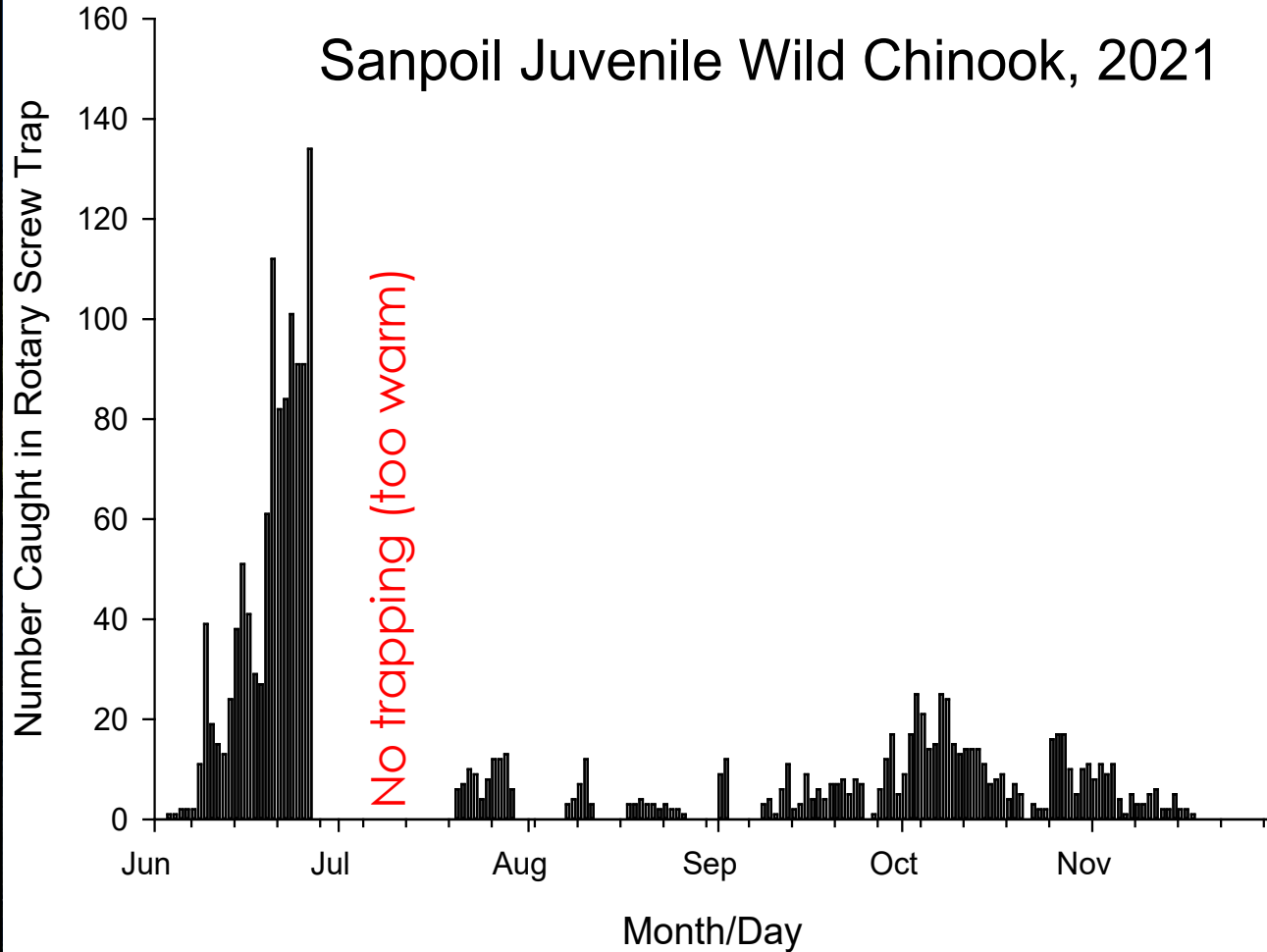


Redds



Documented production of wild juveniles

Sanpoil Juvenile Wild Chinook, 2021



- Caught 1,071 juvenile Chinook between June 3-26, 2021 (the trap only samples a fraction of the river)
- Caught another 743 between July 20 and Nov 18



Documented production of wild juveniles

- Caught 1,065 juvenile Chinook between March 3 – April 14, 2022
- Mean length of 39mm



Tshimikain Creek





sye'us'uslsh


"she who repeatedly (swims) dives"



Hangman Creek
July 12, 2022



Cultural and Educational Releases

- 
- A successful start to meeting some short-term tribal goals
 - Public awareness and education of reintroduction efforts and benefits
 - A proof of concept for the Phased approach

2022 Pilot Juvenile Chinook Outmigration Study (no results yet!)

NPCC, July 13, 2022



Key Personnel and Funding

Key Personnel

Colville Tribe

Casey Baldwin
Holly McLellan

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Tom Biladeau
Aaron Penney

Spokane Tribe

Conor Giorgi
Rick Raymondi

Upper Columbia United Tribes

Laura Robinson

U.S. Geological Survey

Toby Kock
Scott Evans
Jamie Sprando
Jill Hardiman

Many others participated!

Funding

Upper Columbia United Tribes
U.S. Geological Survey
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington State Legislature
Washington State Department of Ecology
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Spokane Tribe of Indians
Coeur d'Alene Tribe
Washington State Office of the Columbia River
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Avista Corporation*
Bureau of Reclamation*
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

*In-kind funding for project planning, equipment installation, and access

Objectives

- Juvenile Chinook Survival (reservoir reaches and dams)
- Juvenile Chinook Behavior (travel time, travel routes)

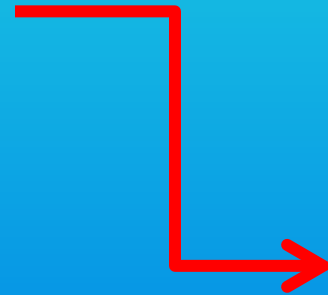


The beginning....

Entiat National Fish Hatchery



Fall 2020



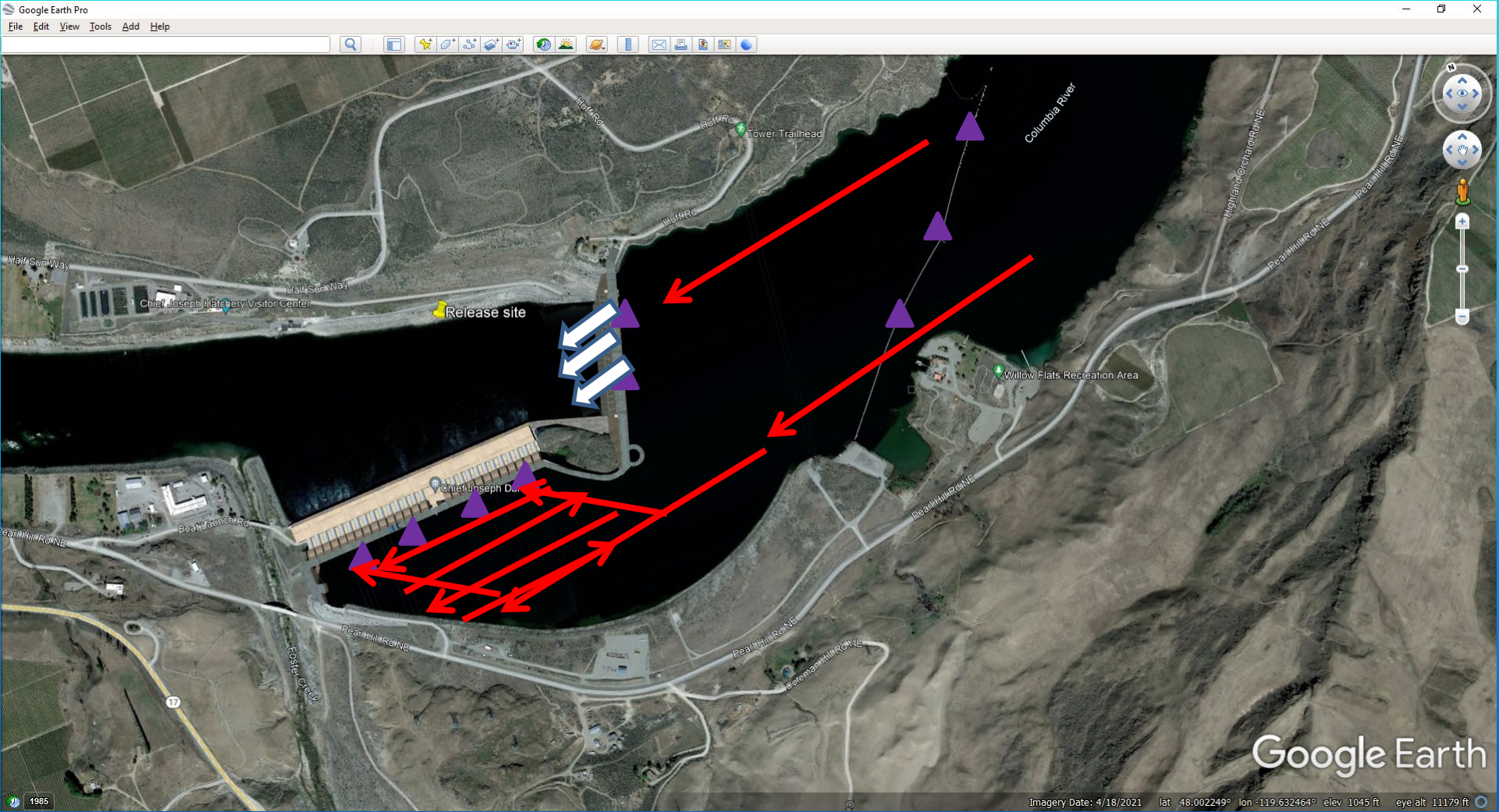
Spring, 2022

Coeur d' Alene Tribal Hatchery
(Plummer, ID)



2022 Pilot Juvenile Chinook Outmigration Study

Acoustic Receivers at CJD



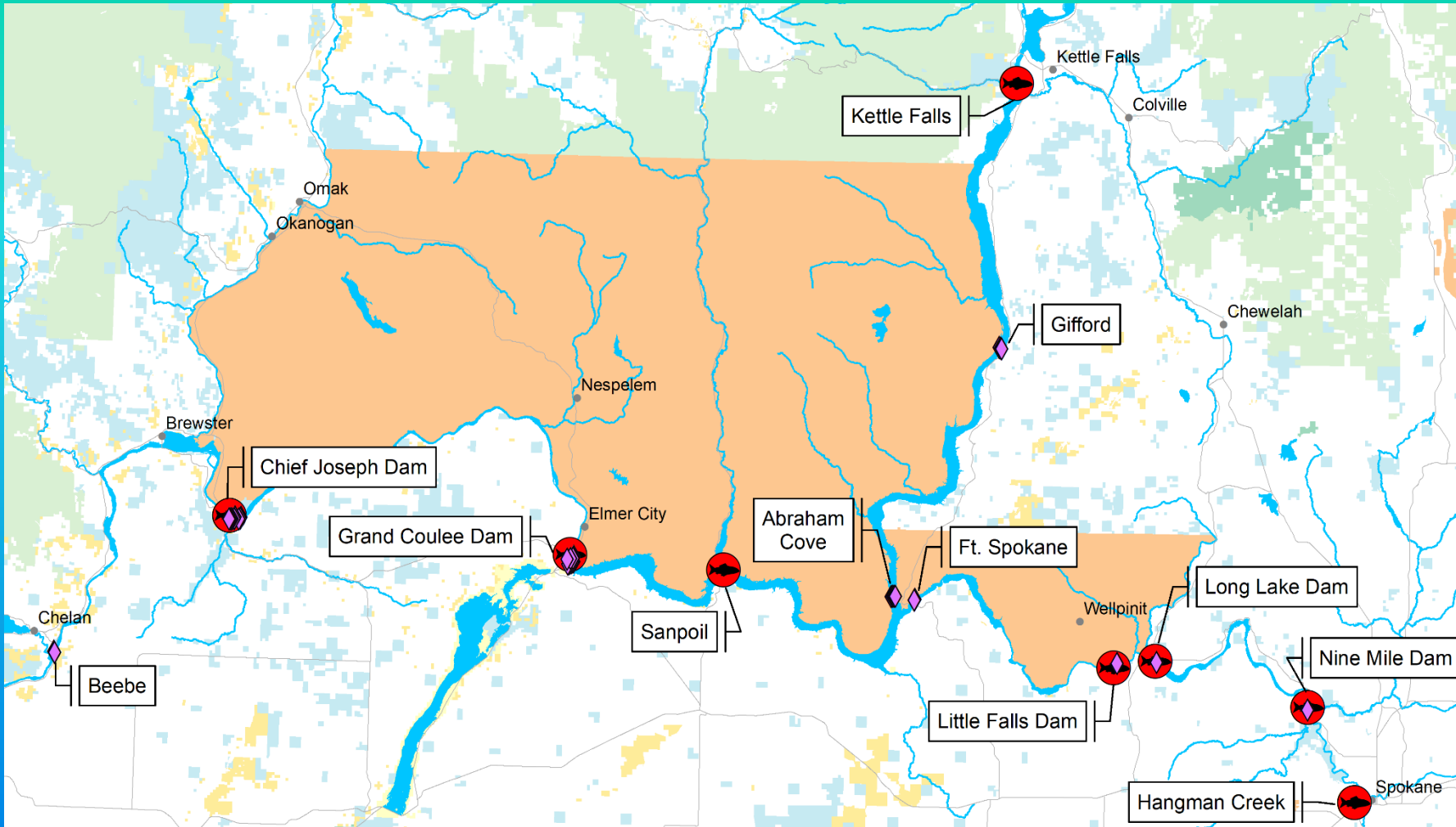
Tagging (March 14- May 5)

4,588 PIT tag only

759 double tagged with PIT and acoustic



2022 Pilot Juvenile Chinook Outmigration Study



Legend

- Receiver
- Fish Release
- Waterbody
- City
- Road
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- US Forest Service (USFS)
- US Fish and Wildlife (USFW)
- Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)
- State

0 5 10 20 30 40 Kilometers



42 JSATS receivers @ 5 dams and 4 'gates'
8 Release sites
Releases occurred from March 15-May 6, 2022

Transport



Transport

Bucket Brigade!



Shore Release

- Spokane R. sites
- CJD tailrace



Boat Release

- Kettle Falls
- Sanpoil Arm



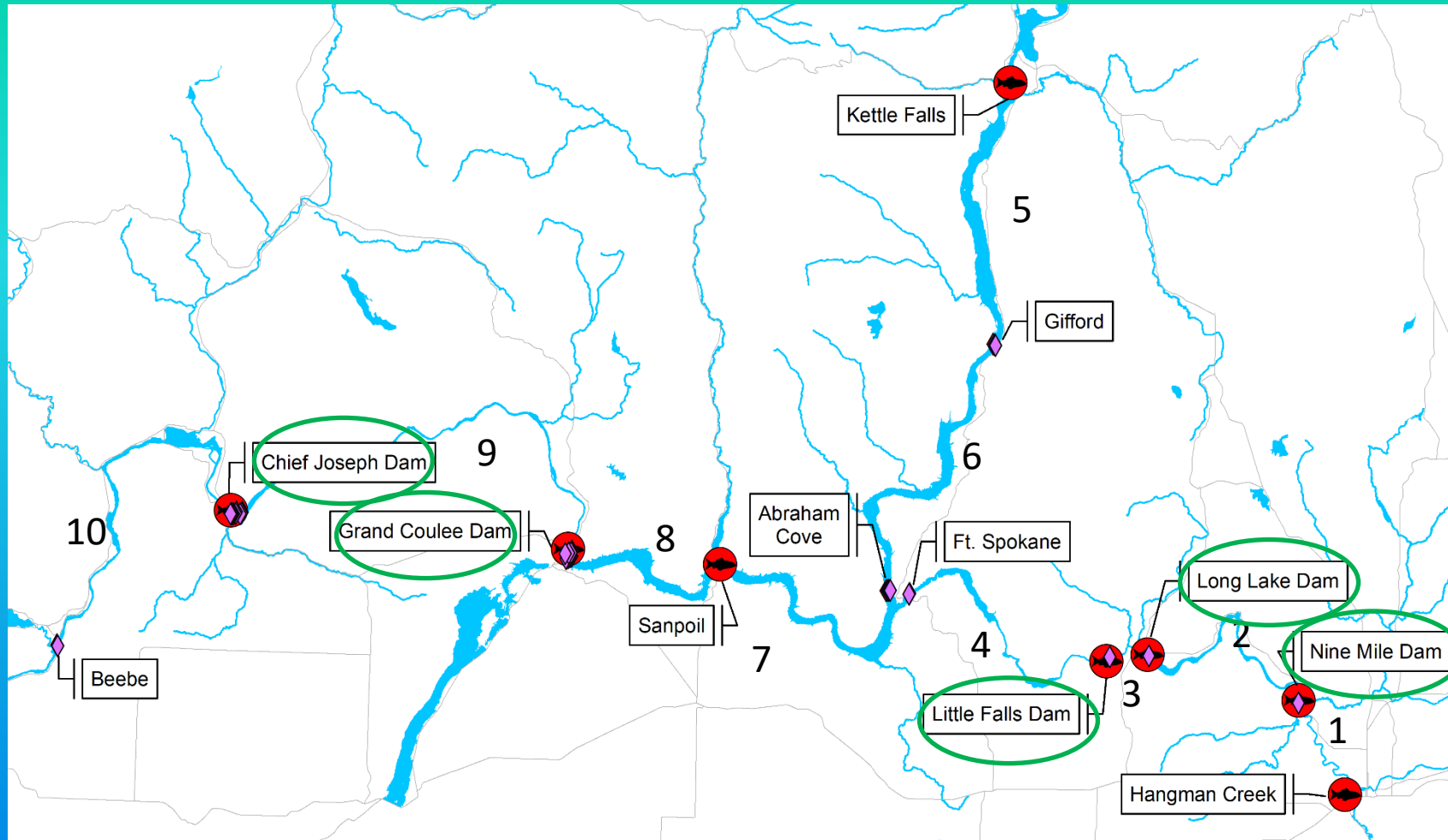
Release dates and numbers

(draft-unofficial)

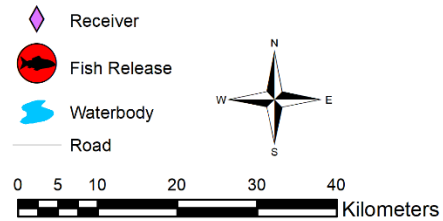
Release Date	Release location	Acoustic & PIT tags released	PIT only released	Total Released
March 15, 17	Kettle Falls	205	903	1108
March 16	Hangman Ck	80	445	525
March 18	Ninemile Falls Dam Tailrace	75	451	526
March 23	Long Lake Dam Tailrace	78	452	530
March 24	Little Falls Tailrace	76	451	527
April 5	Sanpoil Arm	106	461	567
April 15	Grand Coulee Tailrace	71	474	545
May 6	Chief Joseph Tailrace	68	951	1019
		759	4588	5347

Avg. Length 116 mm (4.6 inches)

Avg wt. 17.6 grams (26 fish per pound)



Legend

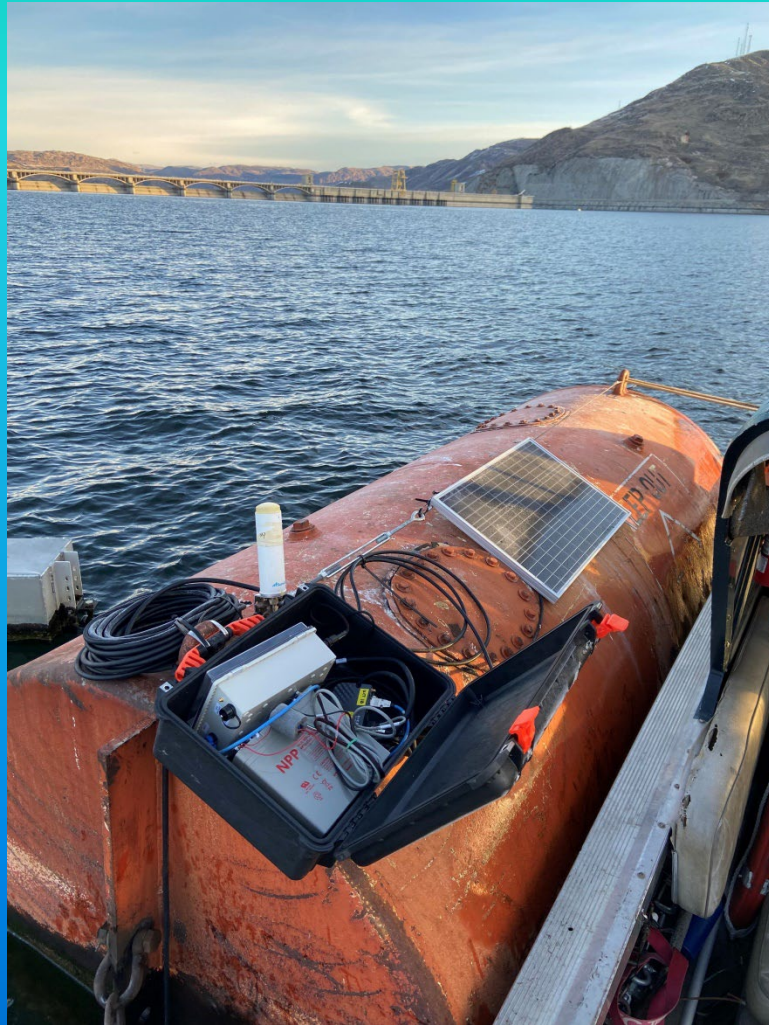


10 Reaches

5 Dams

2022 Pilot Juvenile Chinook Outmigration Study

Results are pending, data collection goes through mid-July

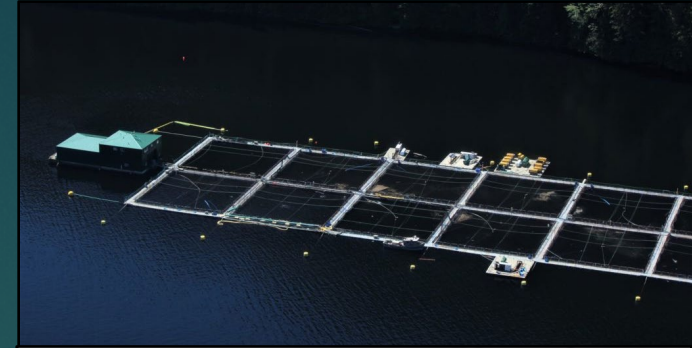


Juvenile Hatchery Chinook for UCR Reintroduction

Brood Year(s)	Approx. Number released / Planned	Notes/info
2015-2018	750-1500	PIT/ cultural release
2019	8,000	PIT, overwinter rearing in net pens @ Kettle Falls and Two Rivers
2020	5,000	Acoustic tracking Pilot Study 2022
2021	70,000	For 2023 release, PIT and acoustic studies
2022	Up to 160,000	Egg request, for 2024 release, PIT and acoustic studies

P2IP Step 1 Review

- Interim fish production facilities
- Local rearing of Chinook and Sockeye
- Acoustic and PIT tag-based juvenile survival studies
- Trap-and-Haul of naïve adult salmon from CJD
- Upstream behavior and passage studies on local-origin adults



P2IP Funding – Spent (FY21 – FY22)

Entity	Funding	Projects
UCUT Organization	\$140,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juvenile Chinook Acoustic Study PIT Tag Study Rearing Labor and Equipment
Individual UCUT Tribes	> \$275,000	
WA Dept. of Ecology – Office of Columbia River	\$71,500	
WA Dept. of F & W – Orca Recovery Funding	\$40,000	
WA State Legislature	\$125,000	
U.S. Geological Survey – Columbia River Research Lab	\$183,000	
TOTAL:	> \$835,000	

In-kind contributions from Corps of Engineers, Reclamation, and Avista Utilities.

P2IP Funding – Secured (FY23)

Entity	Funding	Projects
UCUT Organization	\$50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Juvenile Chinook Acoustic Study• PIT Tag Study• Rearing Equipment• Fish Transport Trucks
Individual UCUT Tribes	> \$460,000	
WA State Legislature	\$3.4 million	
TOTAL:	\$3.9 million	

Total funding previously spent and currently secured = **\$4.7 million**

P2IP Funding – Pending Applications (FY23 – FY24)

Entity	Funding	Projects
Bureau of Reclamation – Science and Technology	\$300k over 3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juvenile Chinook Acoustic Study
NOAA – Pac. Coast. Salmon Recovery Fund	\$916k over 2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PIT Tag Study Juvenile Chinook Acoustic Study Adult trap-and-haul
Congressionally Directed Spending	\$5 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juvenile Sockeye Acoustic Study CJD Upstream Collection Planning & Design
TOTAL:	\$6.2 million	

P2IP Funding – Outstanding Needs

- Development and operation of local rearing facilities
- Long-term PIT tag program at full-scale as described in P2IP
- Agreement and support for adult trap-and-haul at CJD
- Upstream adult behavior and passage studies
- Internal capacity







Key Considerations

- Work with the UCUT Tribes to develop an approach to determine how to proceed with this work
- Identify Program funds to implement this work
- Aid in securing needed donor stocks and identifying/developing rearing space to support needed studies and cultural and educational releases
- Engage in UCUT outreach efforts and participate in regional discussions
- Support of the P2IP as it satisfies Program measures laid out and adopted in the 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program and further reinforced in the 2020 Addendum

Questions?

