

Progress Report: Implementation of Columbia River Fish Management and Reform Rules

January 9, 2015

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Background

- Joint OR/WA policy adoption 2012
 - OR re-adoption of rules 6/13
- Transition period (2013-2016)
 - Phased allocation shift
 - Mainstem gillnet allowed
 - Enhance off channel fisheries
 - Develop alternative mainstem gears techniques
- SB 830: all gear authority and budget (\$4M)
- Ongoing litigation

Key Elements for Review

TRANSITION PERIOD ACTIVITIES (2013-2016)

- Phased allocation shifts
- Off-channel enhancements
- Alternative gear evaluations
- 2014 fisheries
- 2014 angler trips and ex-vessel values

OTHER

- White sturgeon status update

Phased Allocation Shifts

2014 Spring

- Preseason ESA limitation = 2% NT on ESA wild coho Chinook
- Allocation policy 70-30 ESA impacts (R/C)
- Preseason US v Oregon catch-balancing limit = 21,000 coho Chinook (kept plus wild mortalities)

	Preseason		Final	
	ESA Allocation	% of available	% of impact used	
Recreational	70%	54%	53%	
Commercial	30%	11%	17%	
		(18% unused)		

- Impacts used (65%) out of 2% ESA available
- 21,970 Chinook NT mortalities (87%) of 24,000 limit
- Full compliance with ESA and US v Oregon

2014 Summer

- Not ESA Listed
- Allocation policy 60-40 of -PRD catch (R/C)
- Preseason US v Oregon catch-balancing limit = 4,700 summer Chinook (kept plus wild mortalities) -PRD

Fishery	Preseason		Final	
	Allocation	% of available	% of used	
Recreational	60%	49%	51%	
Commercial	40%	13%	40%	
		(12% unused)		

- 5,700 Chinook NT mortalities (83%) of 6,500 limit
- Full compliance with US v Oregon

2014 Fall

• ESA Recreational: 41% rule (8% in-river); 15% SRW

• Allocation policy: 50% 30 on rule and SRW Channel (R.C)

LCN Title	Preseason		Final - PRELIMINARY	
	ESA Allocation	% of available	% of impact used	
Recreational	70%	80%	80%	
Commercial	30%	20%	20%	
		(+15% unused)		
SRW-URB				
Recreational	31%	31%	36%	
Commercial	49%	54%	64%	
	(20% unused)	(15% unused)		

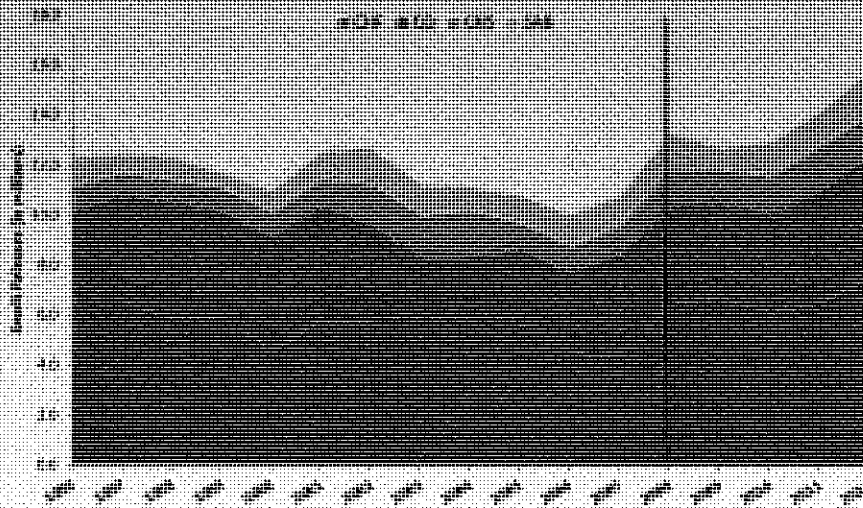
• Title = 7.98% out of 8% in-river ESA; SRW = 12.67% out of 15% ESA

• Full compliance with ESA and LW of Oregon

Off-Channel Enhancements

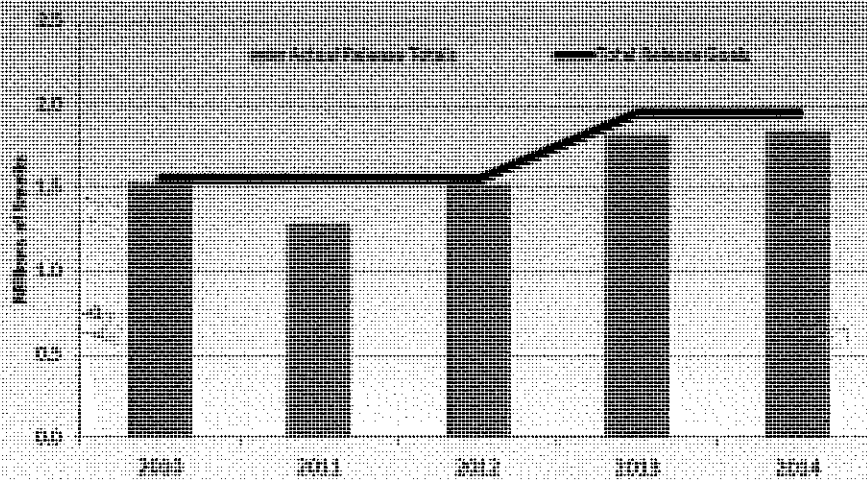
- Enhanced production at existing off-channel sites
- Expanding existing off-channel sites
- New off-channel sites

Total Production in Off-Channel Areas



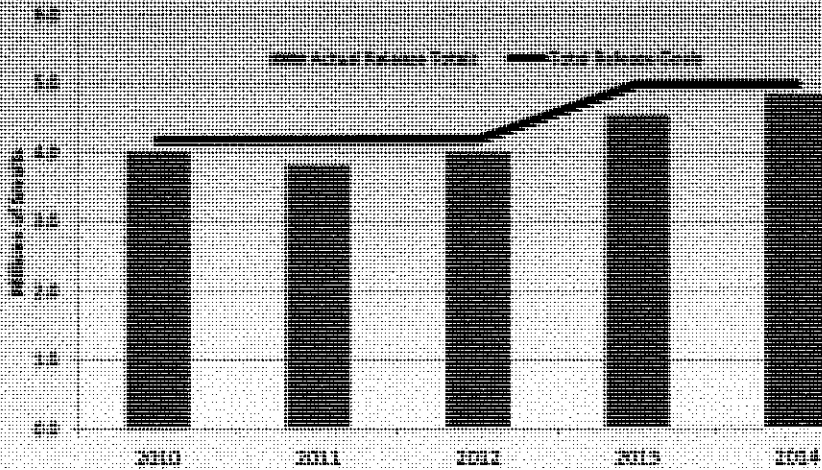
Smelt Releases into Select Areas by Species and Brood Year, 1996-2012

Off-Channel Enhancements - Increased Production



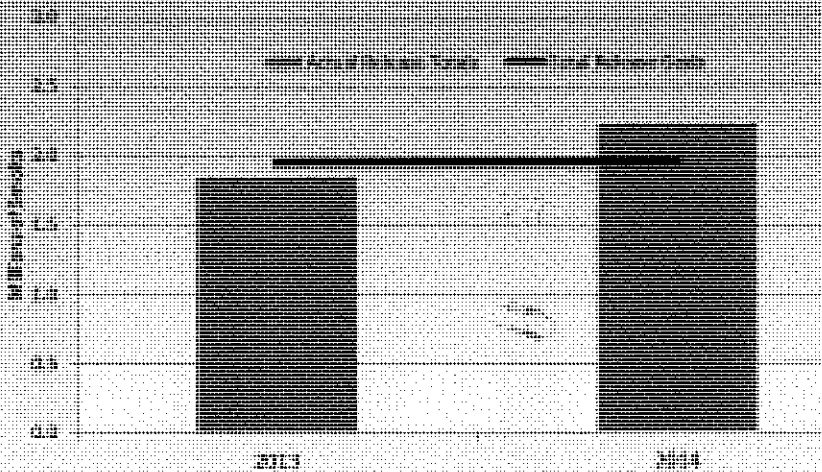
Spring Chinook Production Goals and Actual Releases in Select Areas

Oil-Channel Enhancements – Increased Production



Coha Production Goals and Actual Releases in Select Areas

Oil-Channel Enhancements – Increased Production



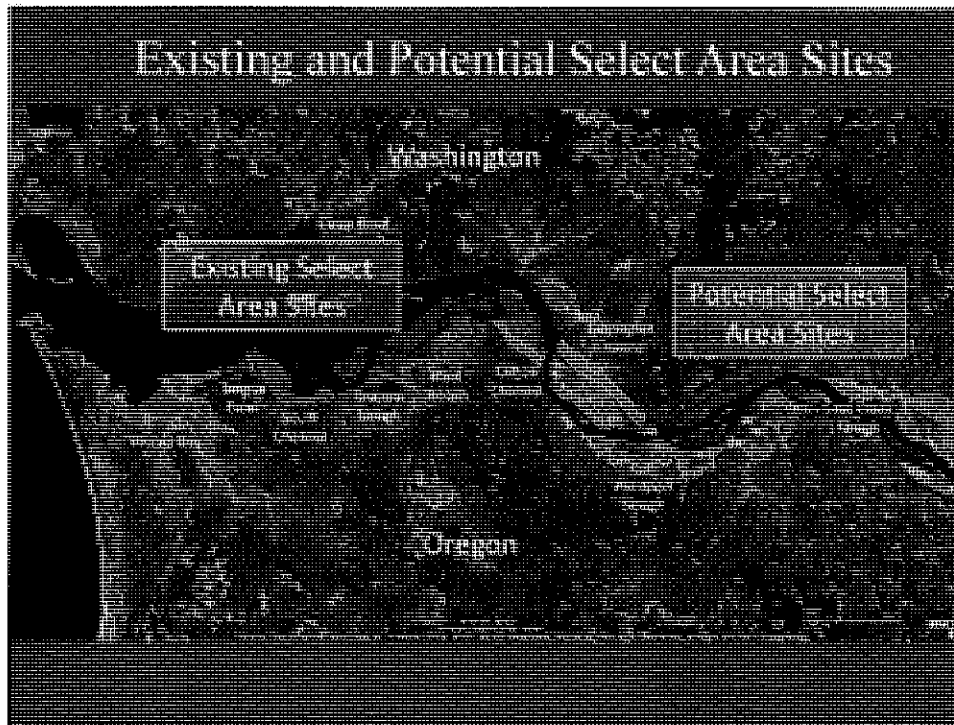
S&B Production Goals and Actual Releases in Select Areas

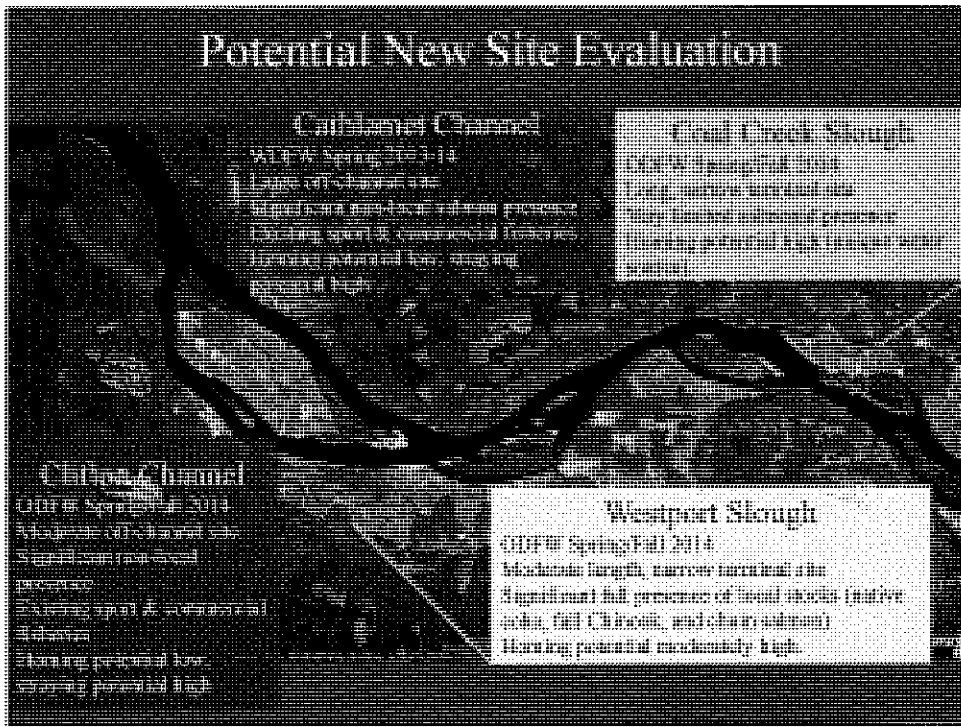
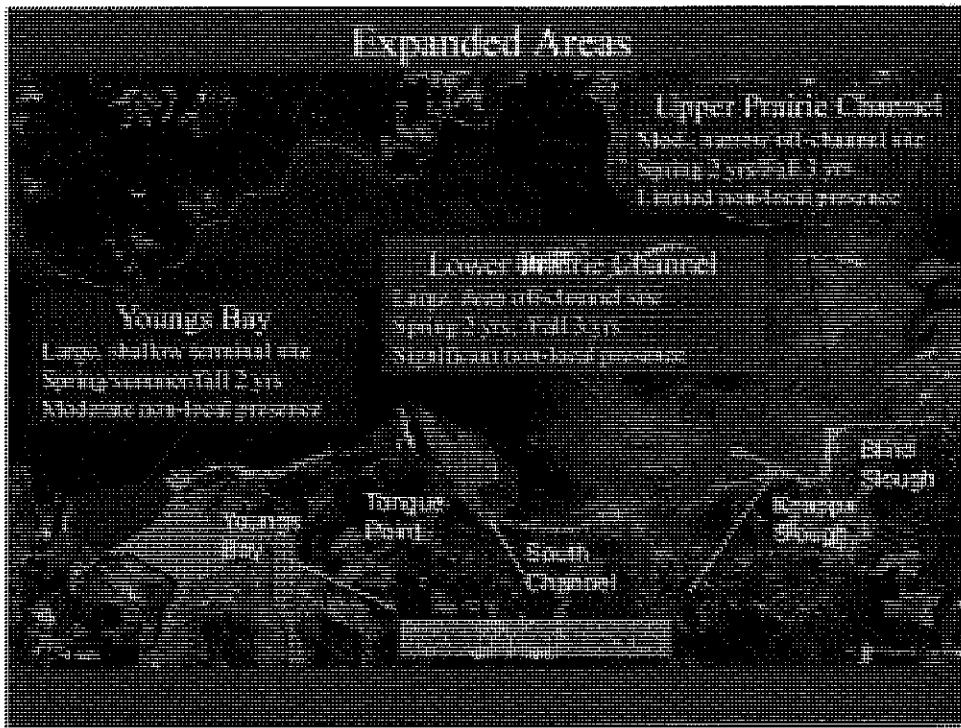
Off-Channel Enhancements – Expanded Seasons

Site	Year	Date Range	Days	Chinook
Toquie Pt. S. Channel	2013	Feb 11-Mar 13	9	70
	2014	Feb 10-Mar 14	10	33
Kumpri Slough*	2013	Feb 11-Mar 12	9	37
	2014	Feb 10-Mar 14	10	25

*Blind Slough was already open these periods, catch for KS and BS is aggregated

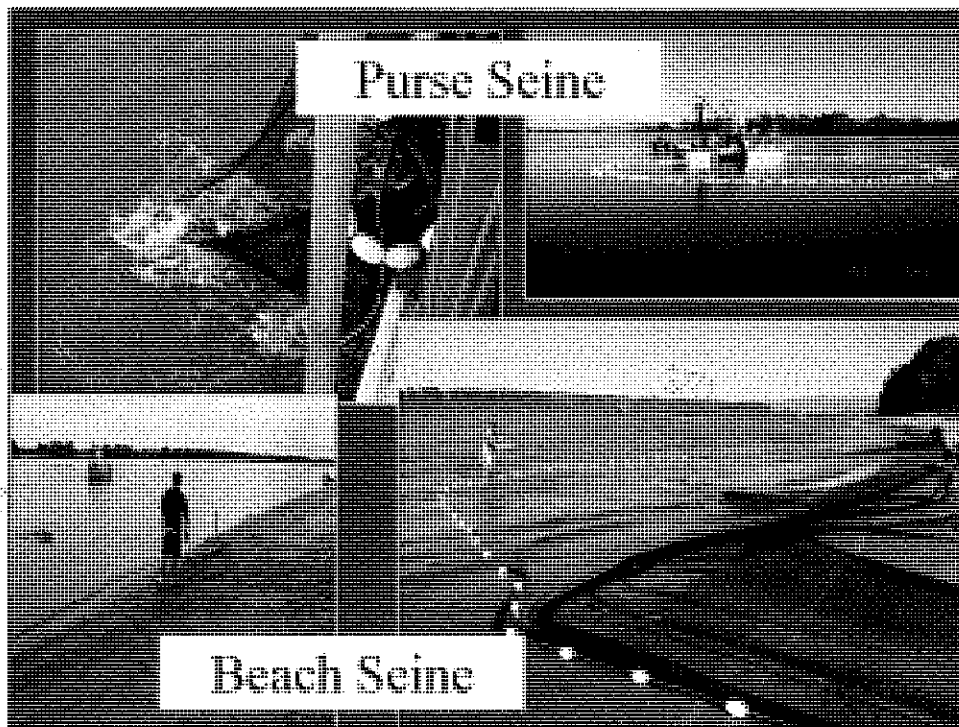
Existing and Potential Select Area Sites





Alternative Gear Evaluations

- Research into alternative gears.
 - Mortality studies
- Implementation of pilot alternative gear fisheries.

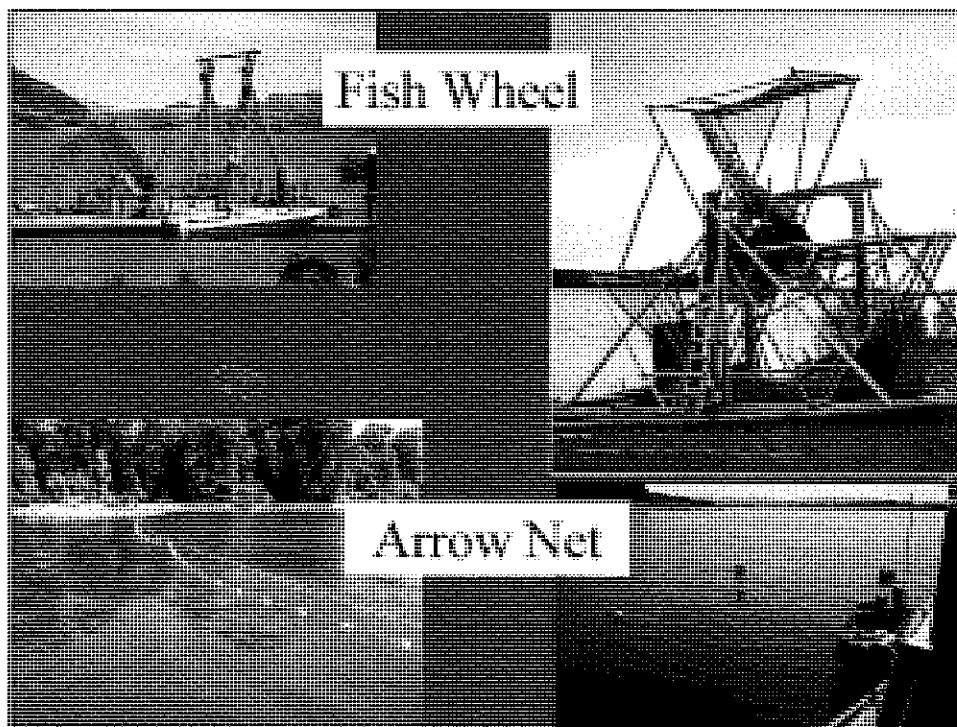
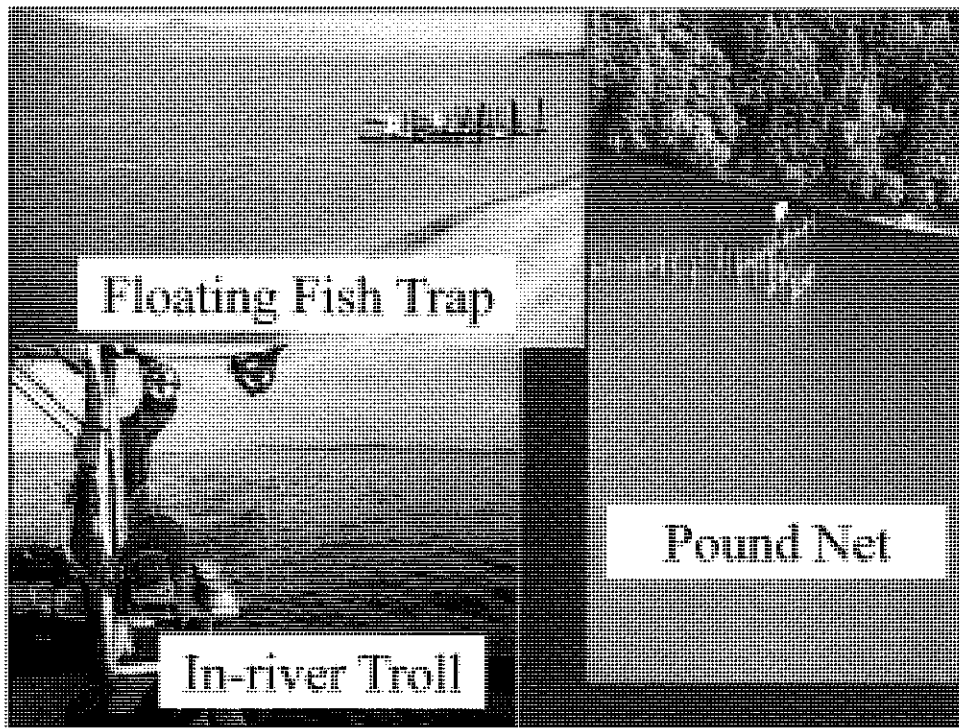


Post-release Mortality - Seines

- Critical topic for evaluation of gear viability.
- Technically and logistically difficult.
- WDFW evaluations for Chinook, coho, and steelhead based on 2011-2013 research.
 - Difficulties in study design.
- Interim rates by TAC in 2014 for use in pilot fishery pending potential re-analysis.
- WDFW re-evaluating data and alternative analyses. Results pending.

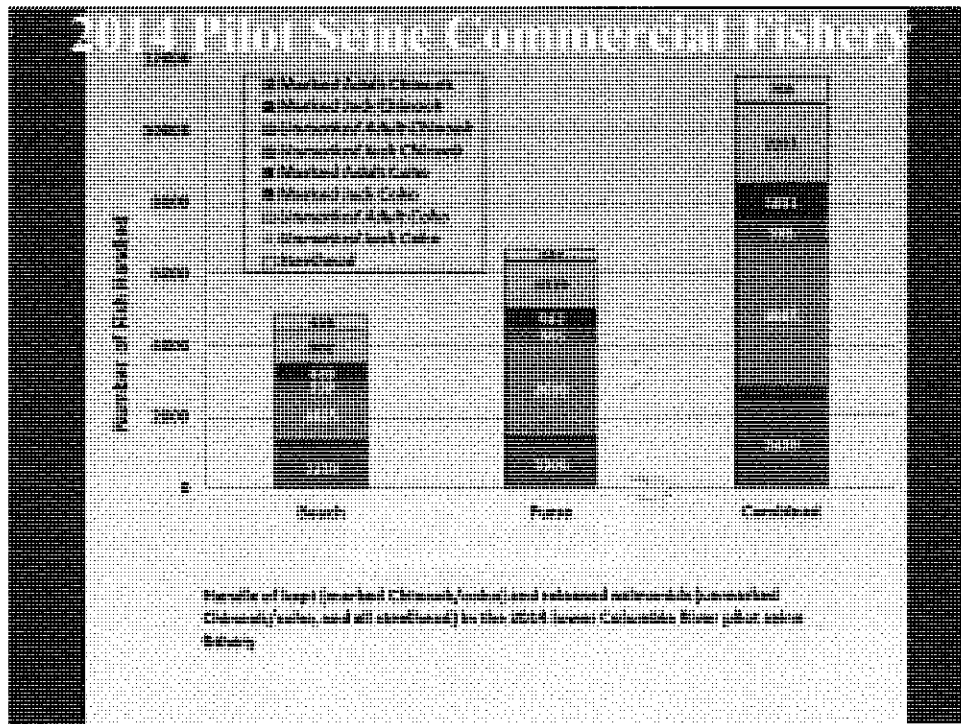
•Coho Tangle Net





2014 Pilot Seine Commercial Fishery

- Research fishery
- Aug 19-Sep 30, mark-selective, 100% observer coverage
- 2,400 adult Chinook kept, 1,000 adult coho kept
 - Mark-rate: 38% Chinook, 32% coho
 - 700 total steelhead handled (450 in beach seines)
- 43 total fisher days (22 beach, 21 purse)
- 217 total net sets made (110 purse, 107 beach)



2014 Fisheries Review

2014 Spring Recreational

Below Bonneville

- 44 d of fishing in Mar/Apr (objective ≥45 d)
- 34 d May/Jun
- 145,600 angler days
- 15,700 kept Chinook (all stocks)

Bonneville-OR/WA

- No emergency closures
- 7,900 angler days
- 2,100 kept Chinook

2014 Spring Commercial

Mainstem

- 1 day in Apr; 4 days in May/June
- 3,500 kept Chinook (all stocks)

Off-Channel (Select Areas)

- 10-20 days (Feb-early Apr); 12-23 days (mid-Apr to mid-Jun)
- Emergency closures and modifications occurred in all sites from Apr 22nd to May 9th
- 2,800 kept Chinook

2014 Summer Recreational

Recreational Fishery Below Bonneville

- Jun 16-Jun 30, Jul 3-6, Jul 11-31
- 2,000 kept Chinook
 - Mark rate well below expected/past average
- 53,700 angler trips

Recreational Fishery Bonneville - PRD

- Jun 16-Jul 31
- 440 kept Chinook

2014 Summer Commercial

Mainstem

- 1 d Jun, 4 d Jul
- 2,700 kept Chinook

Off-Channel (Select Area)

- 7 periods Jun 16-Jul 31
- 1,500 kept Chinook

2014 Fall Recreational

Booy 10 - Chinook Aug 1-Labor Day (Sep 1) -mark selective Aug 30- Sep 1; Oct 1-Dec 31; Coho Aug 1 - Dec 31.

- 26,800 kept Chinook, 57,600 kept coho
- 107,700 angler trips (highest since 2001)

Tongue Point to Warrior Rock - Chinook Aug 1-Sep 7; mark selective Sep 8-14; Oct 1 - Dec 31. Boat limits allowed.

Warrior Rock to Bonneville Dam - Chinook Aug 1-Dec 31. Boat limits allowed. All non-MSP.

- Three Chinook allowed upstream of Steamboat Landing.

Tongue Pt. to Benn - 26,300 kept Chinook, 5,300 kept coho (record), 143,900 angler trips (2nd highest).

Above Bonneville Dam

- Aug 1-Dec 31 (7 fish). Boat limits allowed. All non-MSP.
- 9,200 kept Chinook (prelim)

2014 Fall Commercial

Mainstem Gill-Net Fishery for Chinook

- 31 d Aug-Oct; all in Zones 4-5
- 97,700 Chinook; 7,600 coho

Mainstem Gill-Net Fishery for Coho

- Tangle Net - 9 d in Oct; Zones 1-3
 - 19,100 coho; 2,100 Chinook (17-30 deliveries per period)
- Gill-net - 13 d in Oct; Zones 1-3
 - 46,300 coho; 2,300 Chinook (19-80 deliveries per period)

Off-Channel (Select Area)

- Varied by site: 33-73 days; Aug 5 - Oct 31
- 24,400 Chinook; 168,000 coho (trawls)

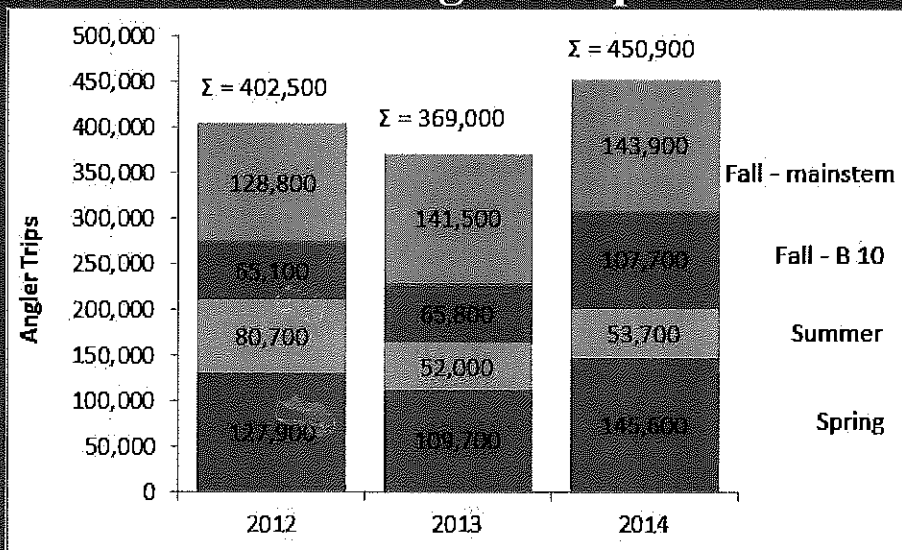
Youngs Bay Control Zone

- Implemented in 2014 per SB 830 statutory requirements.
- Aug 1 - Sep 15.
- Final stock composition estimates of B10 and SAFE catches pending.

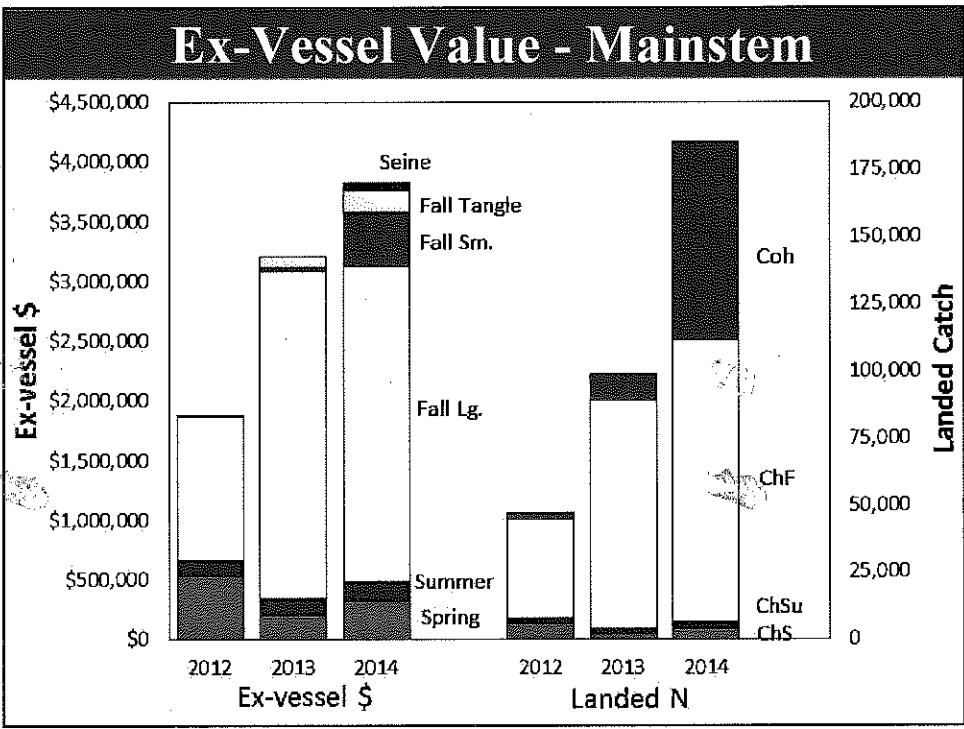
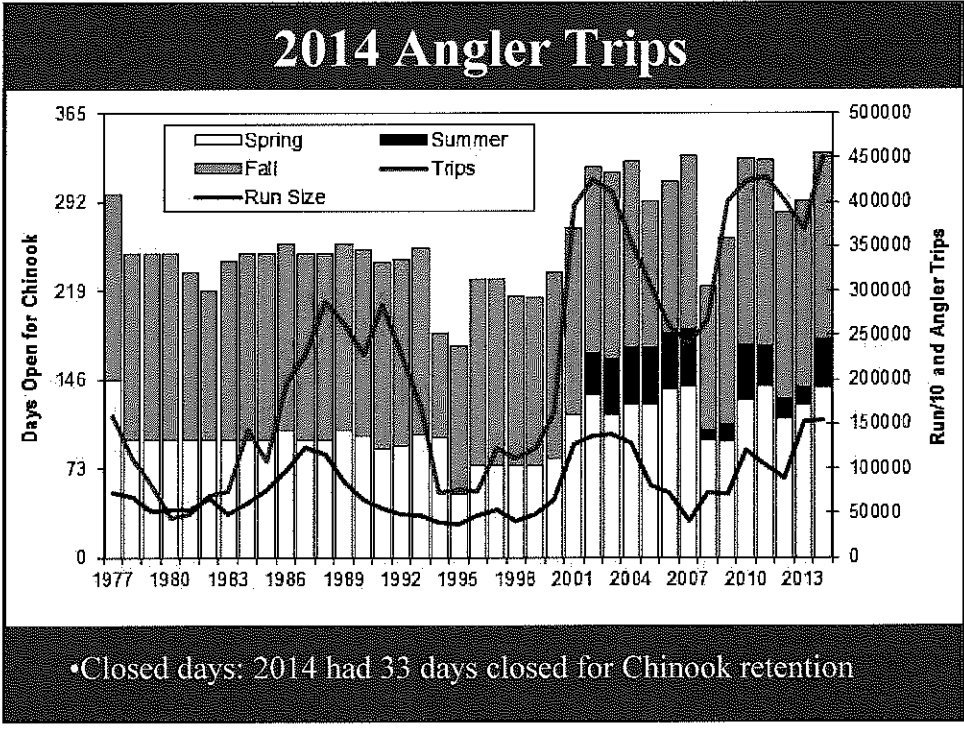
Economic Assessments

- Total angler trips and ex-vessel landed value
- "Multipliers" can be applied, but are not applied for this presentation.

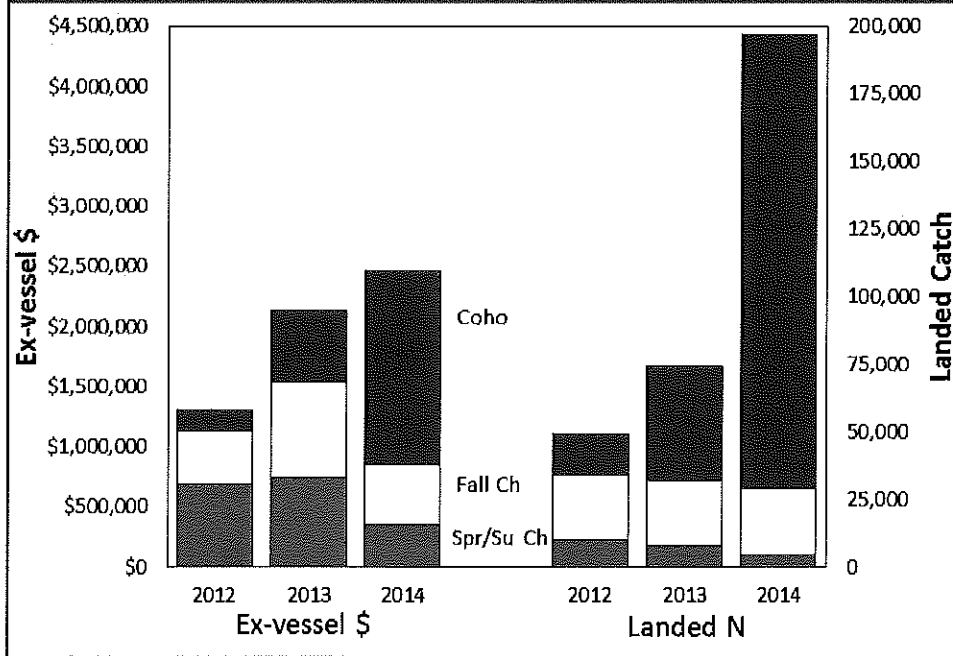
2014 Angler Trips



•2014 total salmon/steelhead angler trips is a record high.



Ex-Vessel Value – Select Area

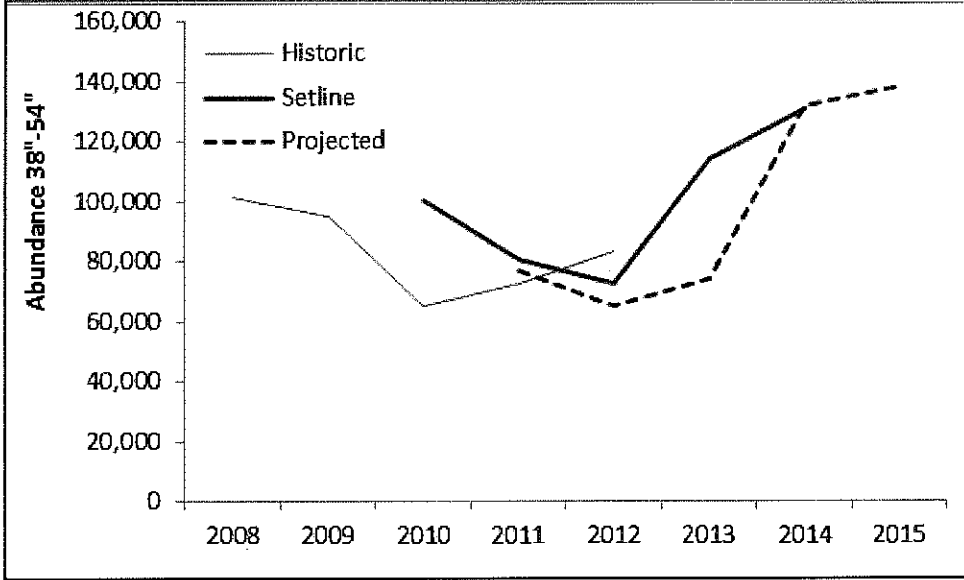


White Sturgeon Stock Status

- **Positive indicators:**
 - increased abundance of 34-54 cm legal fish
 - increased abundance of 44-52 cm fish (previously collected areas with lower abundances)
- **Cautionary signs:**
 - no indicators of significantly improved juvenile recruitment
 - uncertainty in magnitude and effects of predation

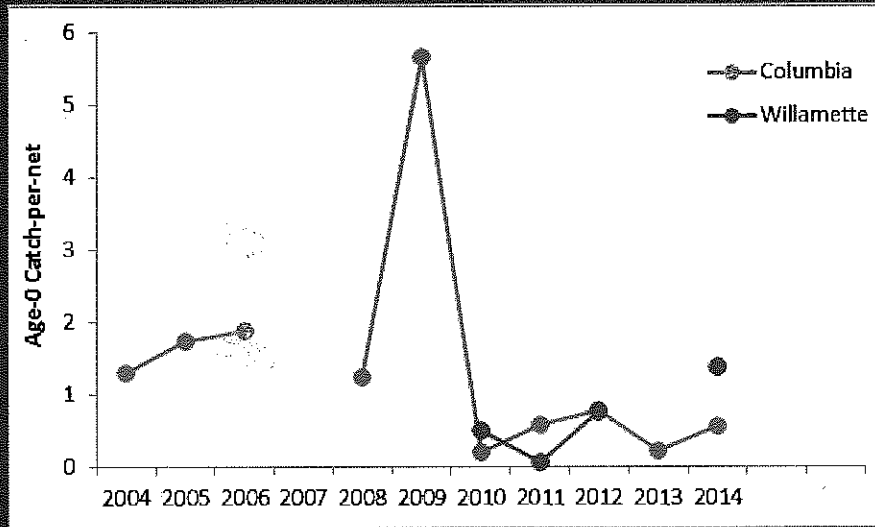
White Sturgeon Stock Status

Abundance trends:



White Sturgeon Stock Status

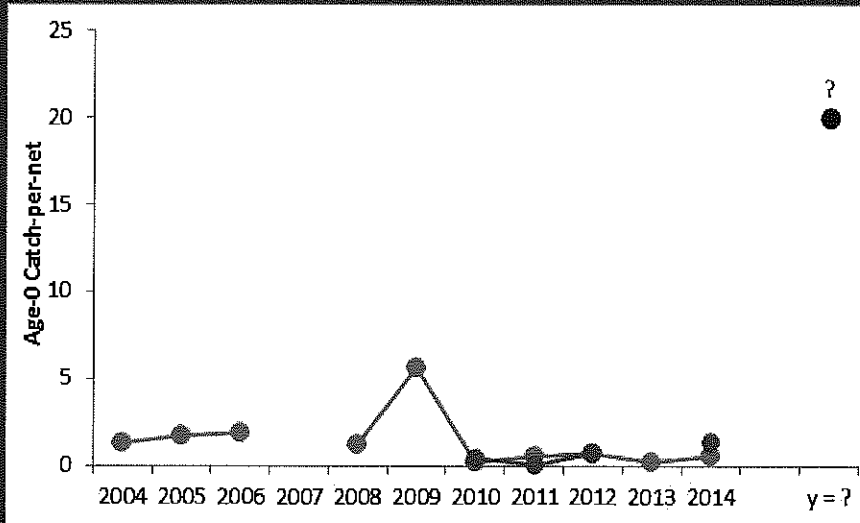
Age-0 recruitment trends:



• Surveys measure density of fish in survey areas, not abundance.

White Sturgeon Stock Status

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White Sturgeon Stock Status

Adult abundance:

- Conservation Plan "Conservation Criteria" for Adult abundance is ~3,000 fish (3-yr running average).
- Adult abundance over the last 3-yr-average is below 1,000.

QUESTIONS?