

# NE of McNary Columbia River Salmon & Steelhead

- Welcome/Introductions
- Purpose of Meeting
- 2018 Returns & 2019 Forecasts
- Management Objectives & Fishery Options

Northeast of McNary Meetings – March 26–28, 2019  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

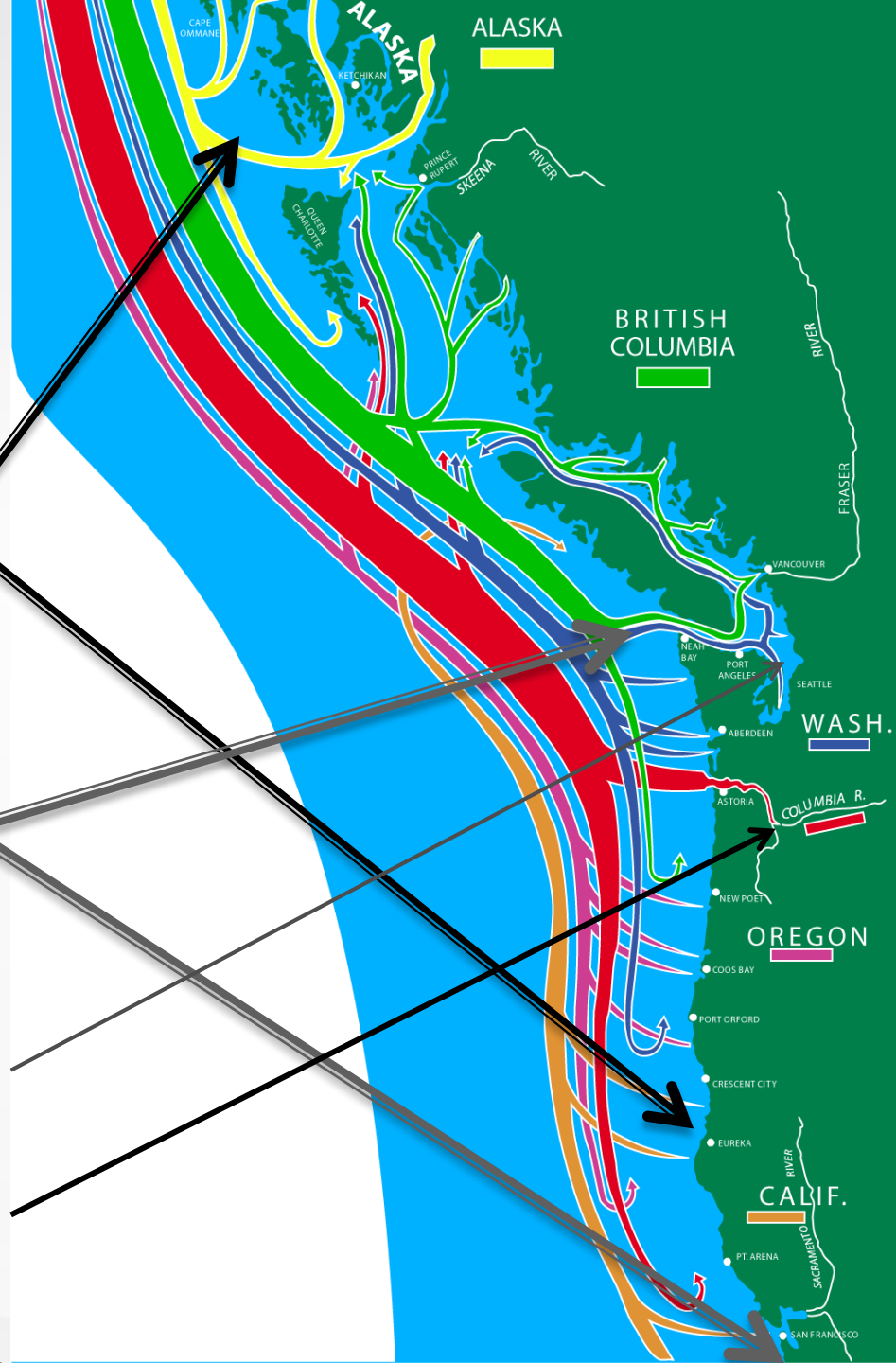
# Complex, multi-jurisdictional processes

Pacific Salmon Treaty

Pacific Fishery Management Council

U.S. v Washington

U.S. v Oregon



# 2019 PFMC/NOF Schedule

## East of McNary – Mid/Upper Columbia River, 6–8 pm

- ▶ March 26 – Wenatchee @ Douglas PUD
- ▶ March 27 – Kennewick @ Kennewick Irrigation District
- ▶ March 28 – Clarkston @ Walla Walla Community College

## Columbia River & Ocean

- ▶ April 2, 10 am – 3 pm
- ▶ Ridgefield WDFW

## Puget Sound

- ▶ April 3, 9:30 am – 5 pm (*live streamed*)
- ▶ Lynnwood Embassy Suites

## Pacific Fishery Management Council

- ▶ Final salmon seasons set
- ▶ April 11–15
- ▶ DoubleTree by Hilton Sonoma
- ▶ Rohnert Park, California



## Fishing & Shellfishing

Fishing regulations

Shellfishing regulations

Fishing and stocking reports

Places to go fishing

**Managing fish populations**

Commercial fishing

Fishing & shellfishing basics

Tribal fishing

Fishing contests

# North of Falcon

Each year state, federal and tribal fishery managers gather to plan the Northwest's recreational and commercial salmon fisheries. This series of meetings – involving representatives from federal, state and tribal governments and recreational and commercial fishing industries – is known as the North of Falcon process.

### Public meeting schedule

Numerous public meetings are held throughout the North of Falcon process.

### State-tribal meeting schedule

These meetings are government-to-government negotiations and are closed to the public.

### North of Falcon frequently asked questions

Learn more about the North of Falcon process with this FAQ.

### Preseason forecasts

See the latest preseason forecasts for a variety of salmon species.

### Public input

Submit public comments on the North of Falcon salmon season proposals.

# Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead

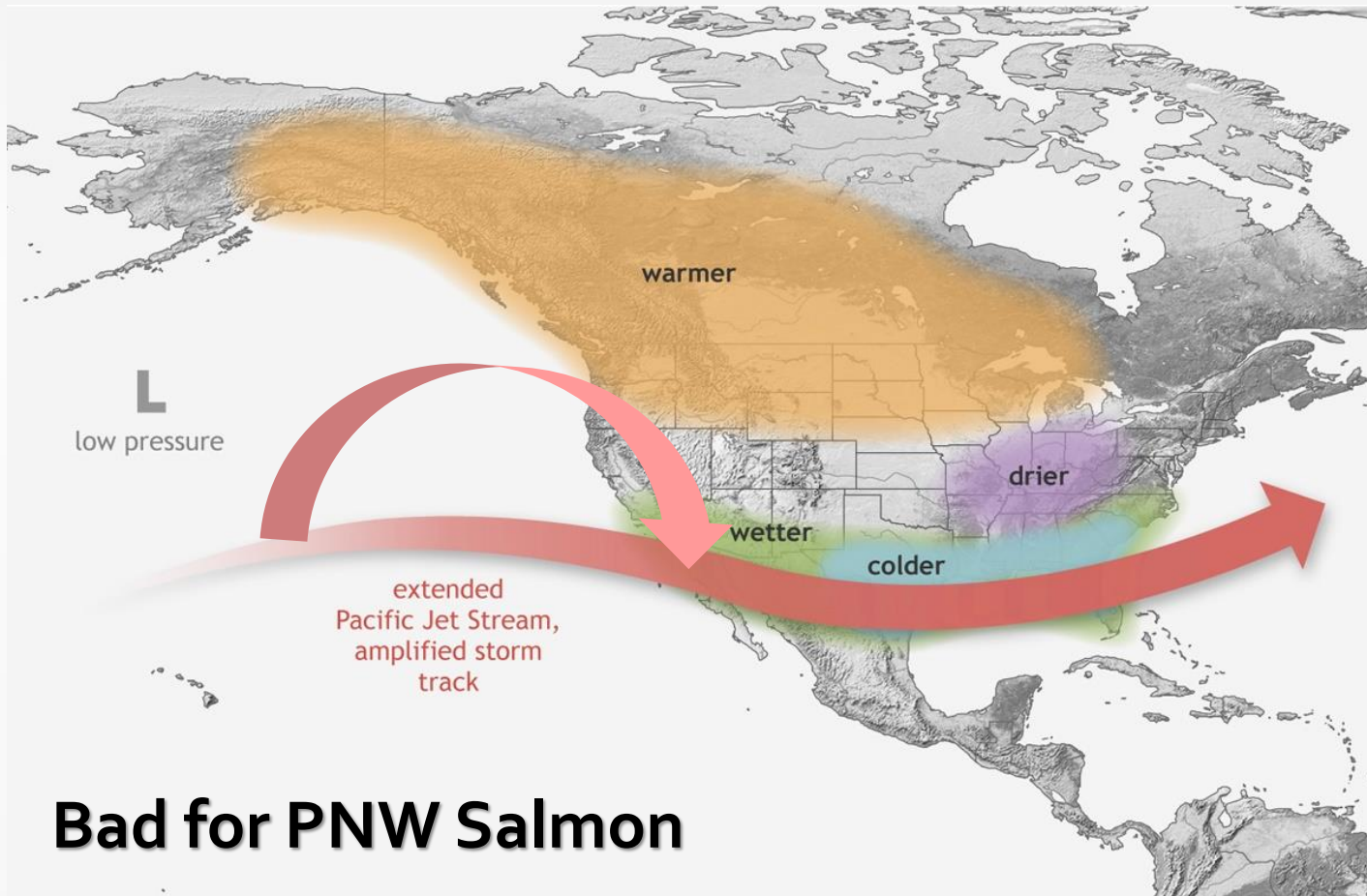
## 2018 Returns and 2019 Forecasts

Northeast of McNary Meetings – March 26 – 28, 2019  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

# Environment Conditions Affecting Returns

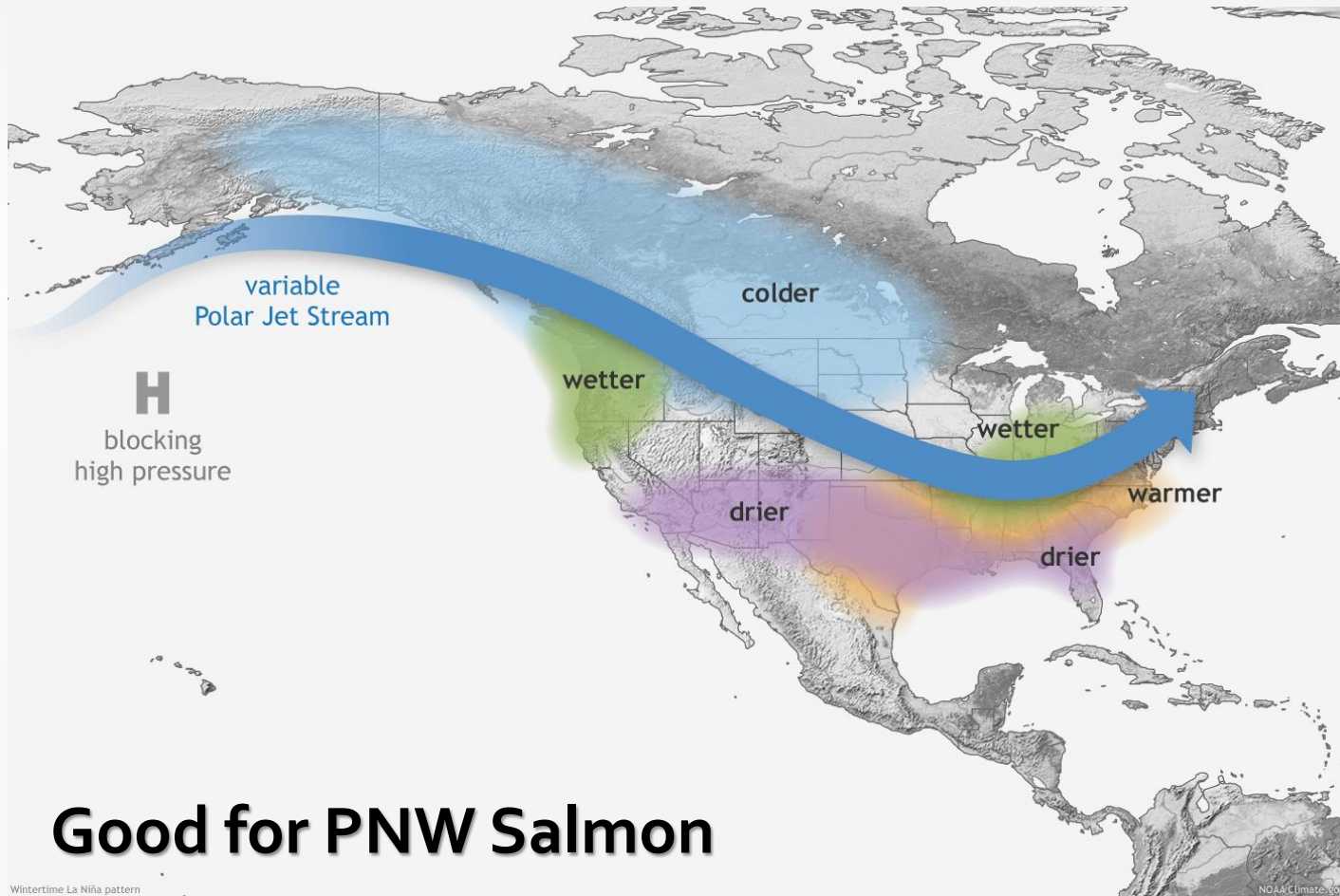
- Sea surface temperatures (SSTs) cooled following “The Blob”, ushering in weak La Niñas
- Return of warm SST anomalies to the North and South in Fall 2018
- Projections are for a weak El Niño through spring 2019
- Cooling in 2018 and return to “normal”ish conditions (upwelling/copepods) may lead to better survival

# Typical El Niño Pattern





# Typical La Niña Pattern





# Salmon Indicators: **Bad** -> **Fair** -> **Good**

Basin-scale physical indices

Regional physical indices

Regional biological indices

Ecosystem Indicators	Year																				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
PDO (Sum Dec-March)	18	6	3	13	7	20	12	16	14	9	5	1	15	4	2	8	10	21	19	17	11
PDO (Sum May-Sept)	10	4	6	5	11	17	16	18	12	14	2	9	7	3	1	8	19	21	20	15	13
ONI (Average Jan-June)	20	1	1	7	14	16	15	17	9	12	3	11	18	4	6	8	10	19	21	13	5
46050 SST (°C; May-Sept)	16	9	3	4	1	8	21	15	5	17	2	10	7	11	12	13	14	20	18	6	19
Upper 20 m T (°C; Nov-Mar)	20	11	8	10	6	15	16	12	13	5	1	9	17	4	3	7	2	21	19	18	14
Upper 20 m T (°C; May-Sept)	17	12	14	4	1	3	21	19	7	8	2	5	13	10	6	18	20	9	15	11	16
Deep temperature (°C; May-Sept)	21	6	8	4	1	10	12	16	11	5	2	7	14	9	3	15	20	18	13	17	19
Deep salinity (May-Sept)	19	3	9	4	5	16	17	10	6	1	2	14	18	13	12	11	20	15	8	7	6
Copepod richness anom. (no. species; May-Sept)	19	2	1	7	6	14	13	18	15	10	8	9	17	4	5	3	11	20	21	16	12
N. copepod biomass anom. (mg C m <sup>-3</sup> ; May-Sept)	19	14	10	11	3	16	13	20	15	12	6	9	8	1	2	4	5	17	21	18	7
S. copepod biomass anom. (mg C m <sup>-3</sup> ; May-Sept)	21	2	5	4	3	14	15	20	13	10	1	7	16	9	8	6	11	18	19	17	12
Biological transition (day of year)	18	8	5	7	9	14	13	19	12	2	1	3	16	6	10	4	11	21	21	17	15
Ichthyoplankton biomass (mg C 1,000 m <sup>-3</sup> ; Jan-Mar)	21	12	3	8	10	19	18	15	17	16	2	13	5	14	11	9	20	6	7	1	4
Ichthyoplankton community index (PCO axis 1 scores; Jan-Mar)	10	13	2	7	5	11	20	18	3	12	1	14	15	8	4	6	9	19	21	17	16
Chinook salmon juvenile catches (no. km <sup>-1</sup> ; June)	19	4	5	16	8	12	17	20	11	9	1	6	7	15	3	2	10	13	18	21	14
Coho salmon juvenile catches (no. km <sup>-1</sup> ; June)	19	8	13	6	7	3	16	20	17	5	4	10	11	15	18	1	12	9	14	21	2
Mean of ranks	17.9	7.2	6.0	7.3	6.1	13.0	15.9	17.1	11.3	9.2	2.7	8.6	12.8	8.1	6.6	7.7	12.8	16.7	17.2	14.5	11.0
Rank of the mean rank	21	5	2	6	3	15	17	19	11	10	1	9	13	8	4	7	13	18	20	1	12

Ecosystem Indicators not included in the mean of ranks or statistical analyses

Physical Spring Trans. UI based (day of year)	3	7	20	17	4	13	15	21	13	1	6	2	8	11	18	9	19	10	5	16	11
Physical Spring Trans. Hydrographic (day of year)	18	15	16	17	13	15	18	16	10	2	6	12	9	7	5	11	19	21	17	14	
Upwelling Anomaly (April-May)	16	15	16	17	13	15	18	16	10	2	6	12	9	7	5	11	19	21	17	14	
Length of Upwelling Season UI based (days)	16	15	16	17	13	15	18	16	10	2	6	12	9	7	5	11	19	21	17	14	
SST NH-5 (°C; May-Sept)	9	6	5	4	1	3	21	16	10	18	2	19	11	7	14	13	15	12	17	8	20
Copepod Community Index (MDS axis 1 scores)	20	3	4	8	1	13	15	18	16	10	2	6	12	9	7	5	11	19	21	17	14
Coho Juv Catches (no. fish km <sup>-2</sup> ; Sept)	11	2	1	4	3	6	12	14	8	9	7	15	13	5	10	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**1998 = Worst Score**

**2005 = 3<sup>rd</sup> Worst Score**

**2016 = 2<sup>nd</sup> Worst Score**

**2018 = improving**

Table SF-01. Ocean ecosystem indicators of the Northern California Current.

Colored squares indicate positive (green), neutral (yellow), or negative (red) conditions for salmon entering the ocean each year. In the two columns to the far right, colored dots indicate the forecast of adult returns based on ocean conditions in 2018 (coho salmon) and 2017 (Chinook salmon).

	Juvenile Migration Year				Adult Return Outlook	
	2015	2016	2017	2018	coho 2019	Chinook 2019
Large-scale ocean and atmospheric indicators						
<a href="#">PDO (May - Sept)</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">ONI (Jan - Jun)</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
Local and regional physical indicators						
<a href="#">Sea surface temperature</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Deep water temperature</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Deep water salinity</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
Local biological indicators						
<a href="#">Copepod biodiversity</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Northern copepod anomalies</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Biological spring transition</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Winter ichthyoplankton biomass</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Winter ichthyoplankton community</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Juvenile Chinook salmon catch – June</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
<a href="#">Juvenile coho salmon catch – June</a>	■	■	■	■	●	●
Key						
■ good conditions for salmon	■	■	■	■	● good returns expected	●
■ intermediate conditions for salmon	■	■	■	■	● intermediate returns expected	●
■ poor conditions for salmon	■	■	■	■	● poor returns expected	●

# Predation

- Northern Pikeminnow/bird management
- Pinnipeds – Marine Mammal Protection Act (modification via S. 3119)
  - Increases state and tribal managers flexibility to proactively remove sea lions
    - Increases geographic area
      - Mouth to McNary Dam and tributaries
  - Adds Steller sea lions
  - Allows tribes to receive a permit
  - Allows lethal removal in Willamette River



# Stocks primarily originating upstream of Bonneville Dam

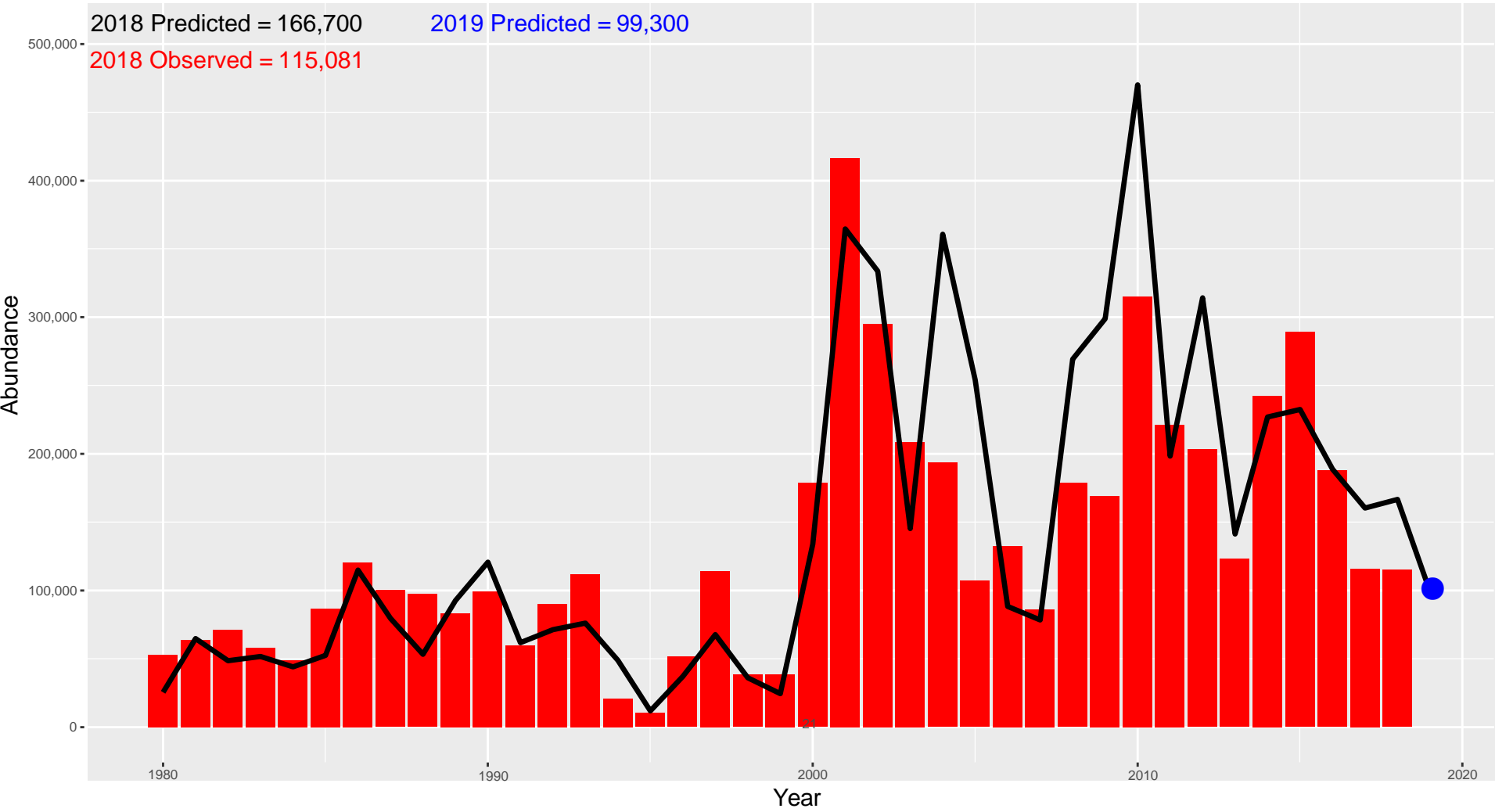


# Upriver Spring Chinook

2018 Predicted = 166,700

2019 Predicted = 99,300

2018 Observed = 115,081

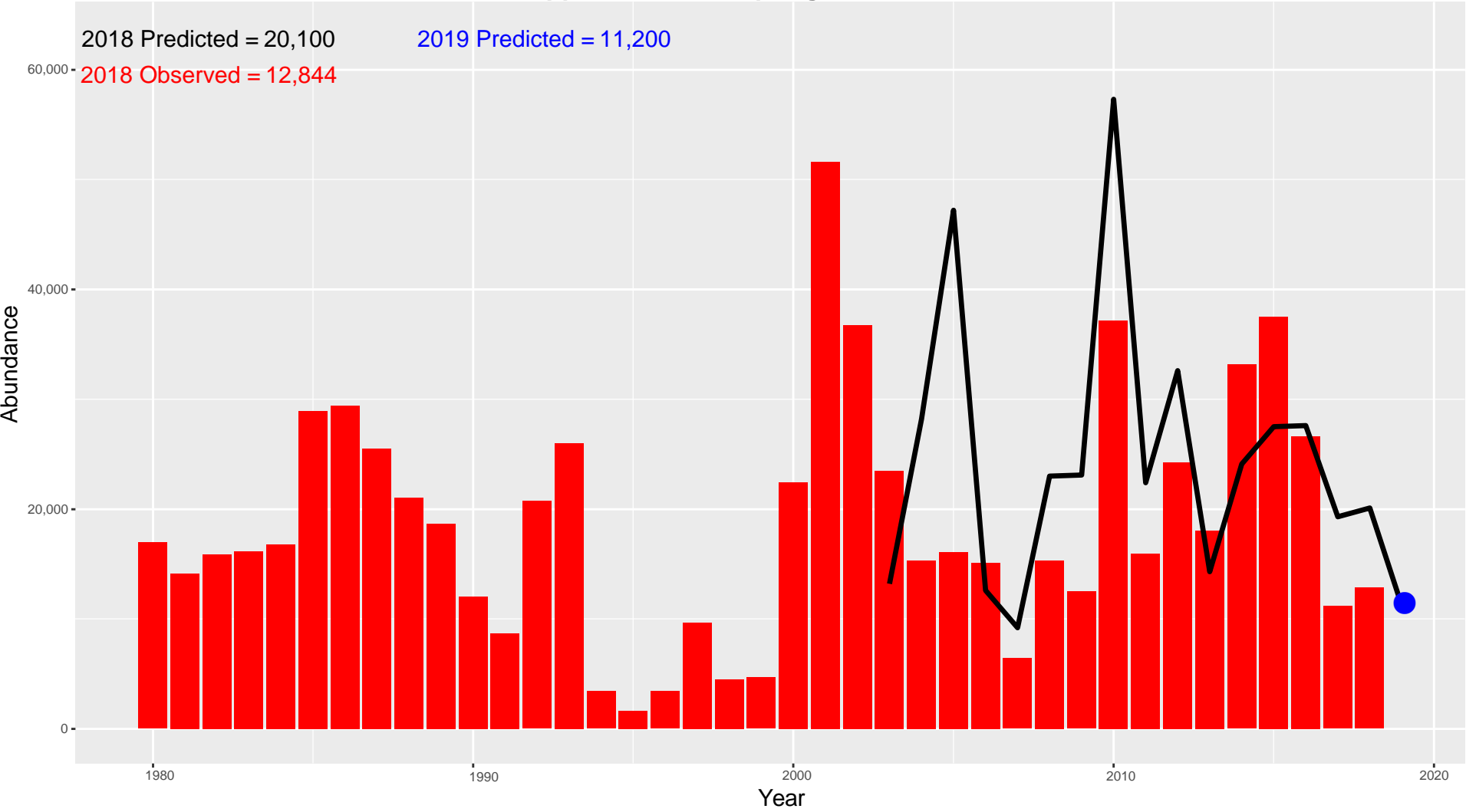


# Upper Columbia Spring Chinook

2018 Predicted = 20,100

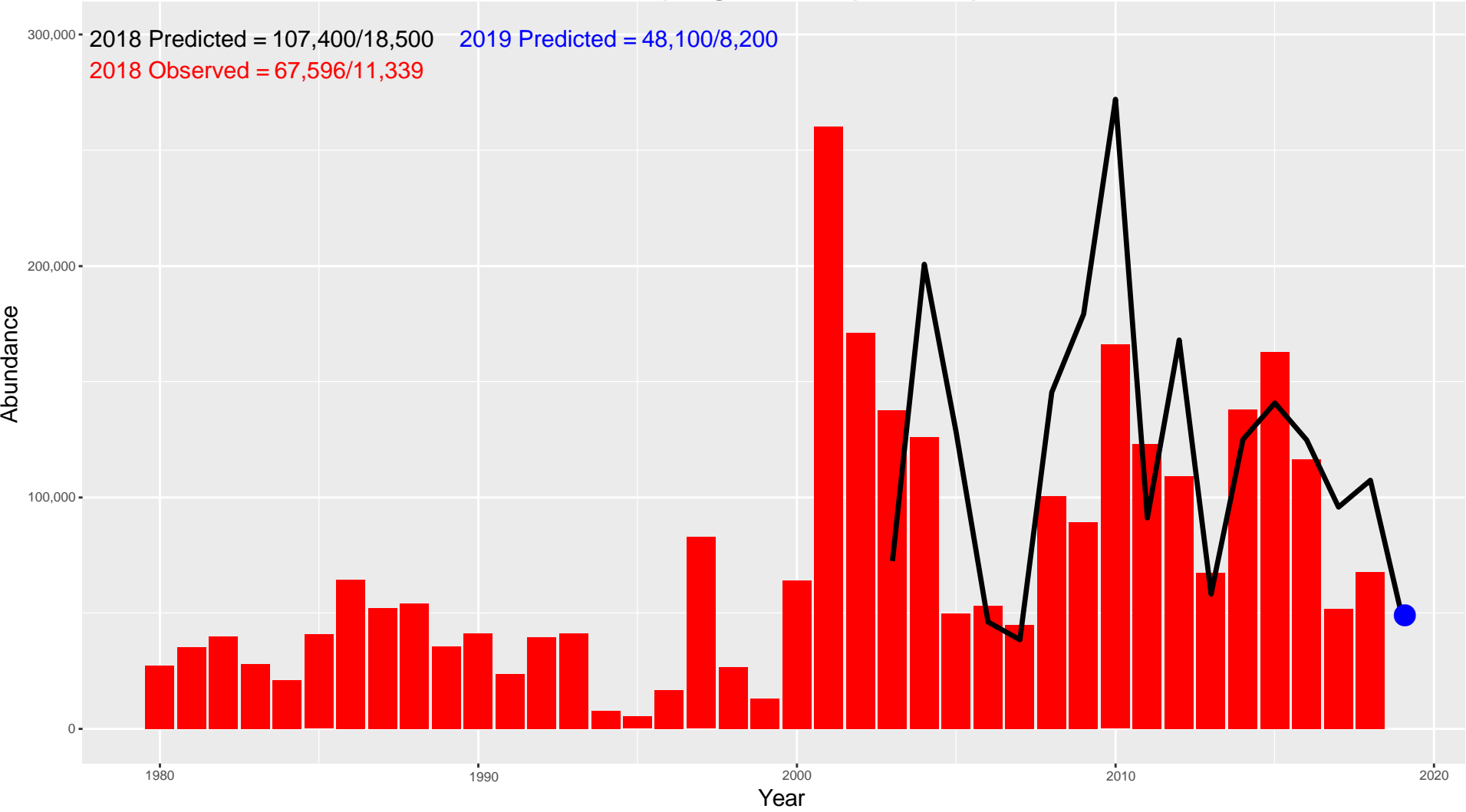
2019 Predicted = 11,200

2018 Observed = 12,844



### Snake River Spring Chinook (total/wild)

2018 Predicted = 107,400/18,500    2019 Predicted = 48,100/8,200  
2018 Observed = 67,596/11,339



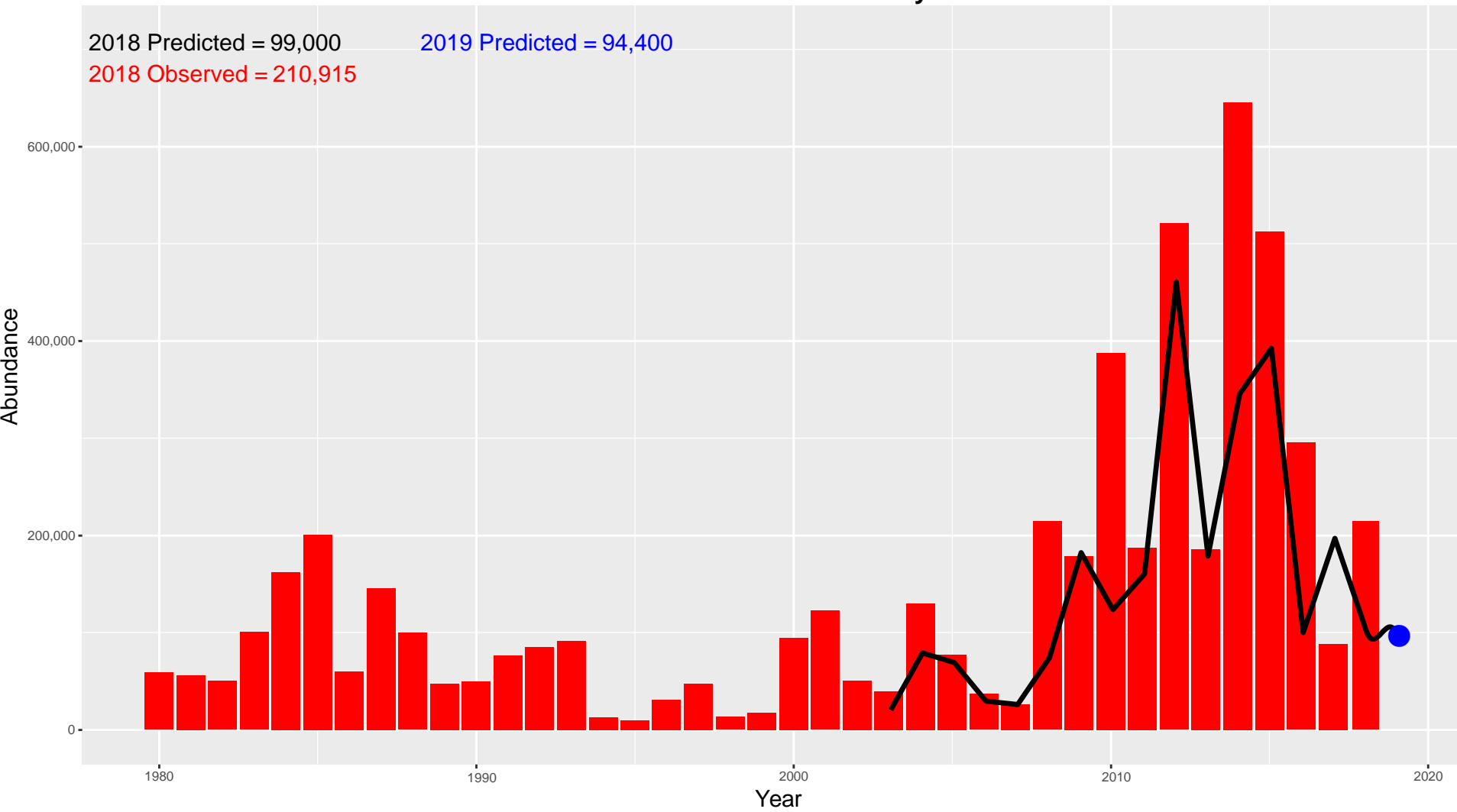


# Columbia River Sockeye

2018 Predicted = 99,000

2019 Predicted = 94,400

2018 Observed = 210,915

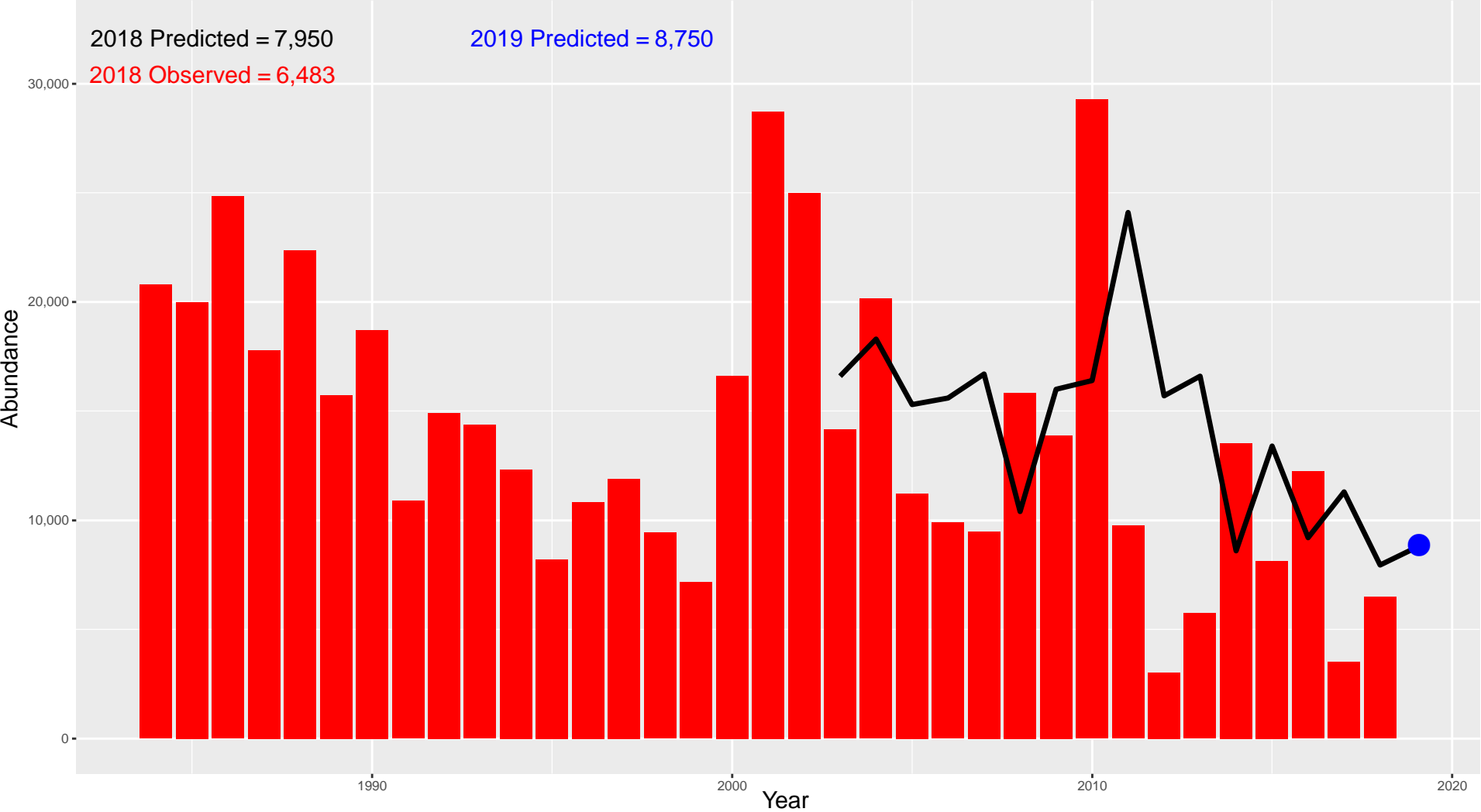


# Skamania Summer Steelhead

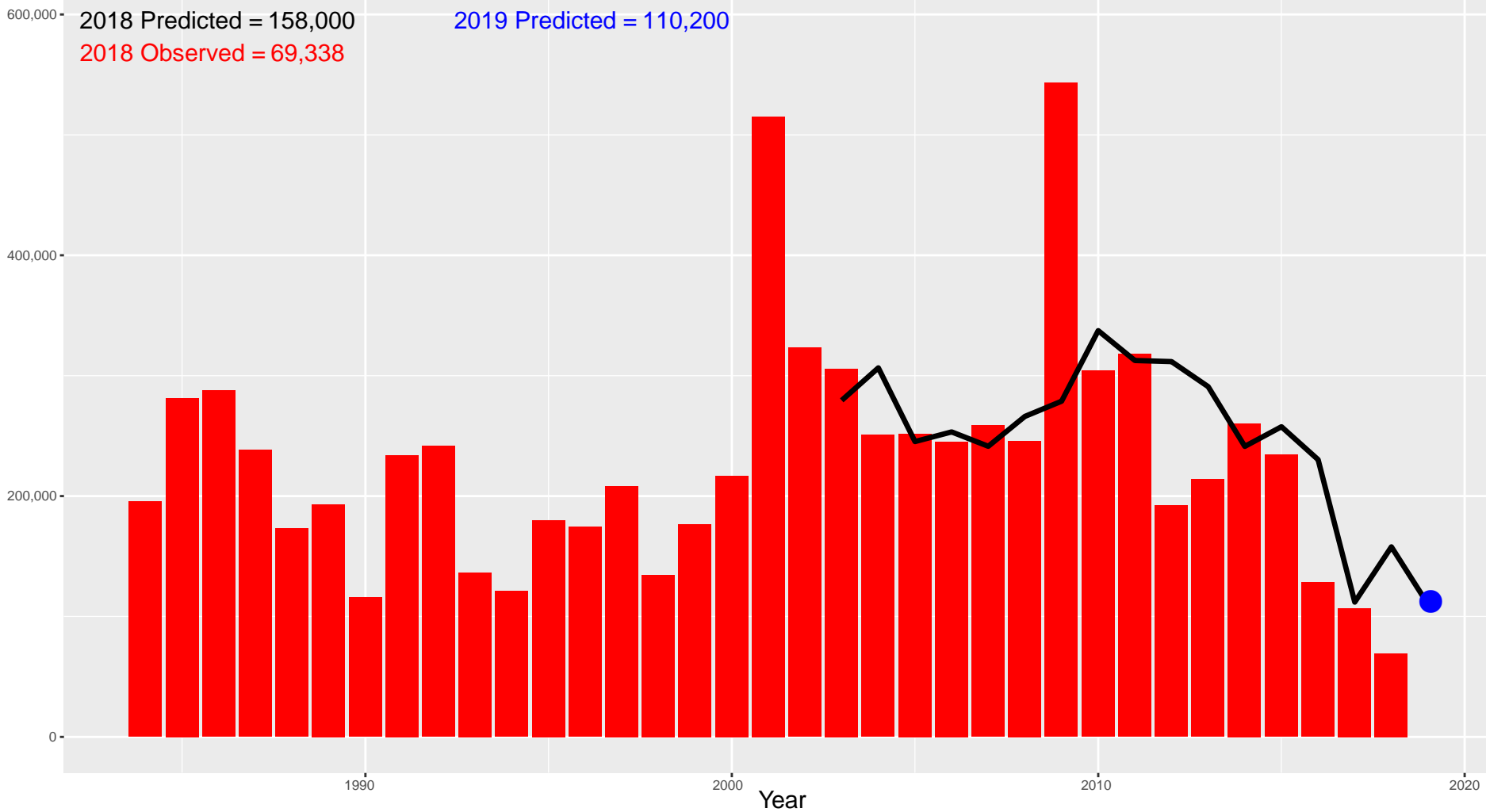
2018 Predicted = 7,950

2019 Predicted = 8,750

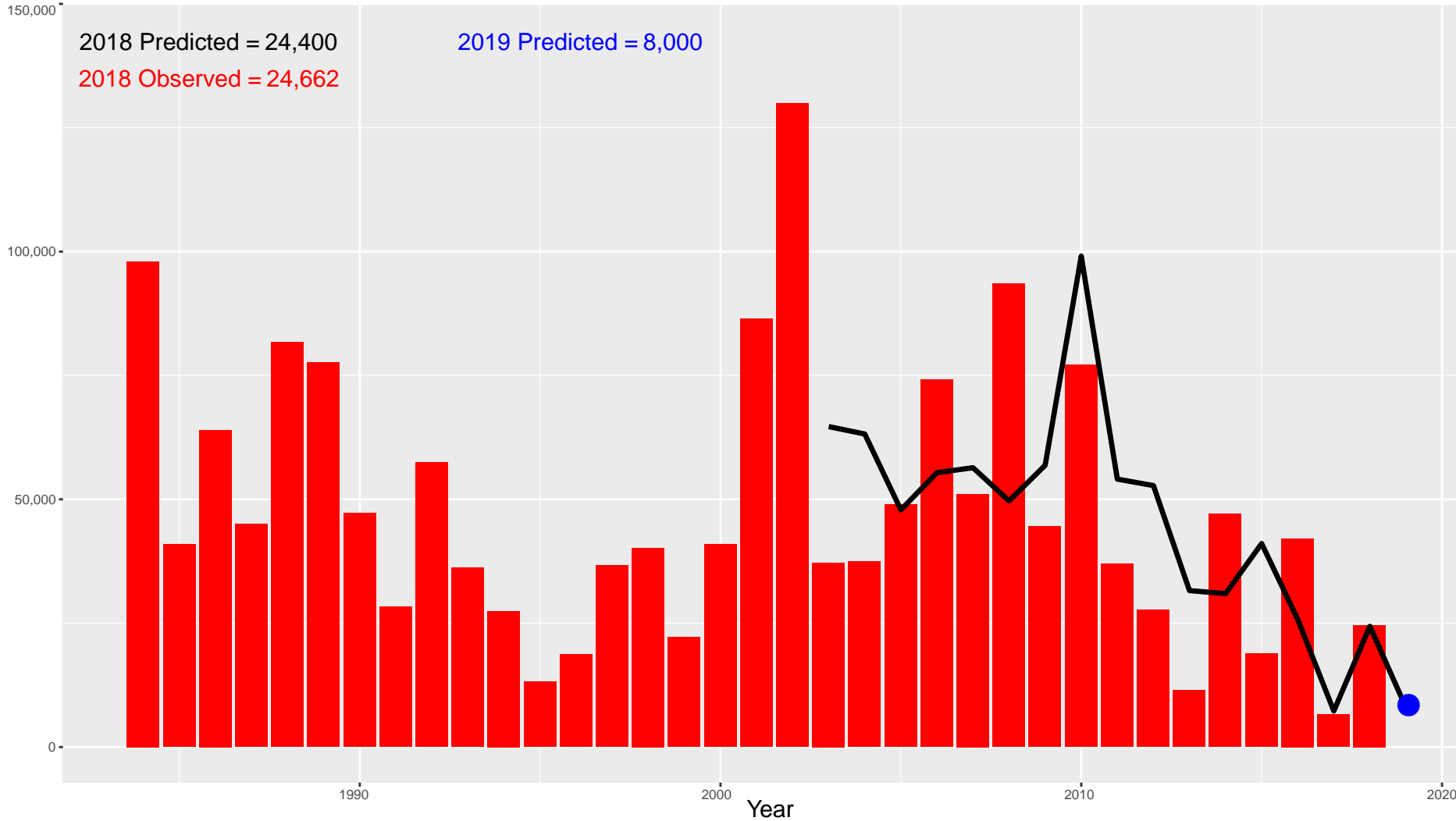
2018 Observed = 6,483



# A-index Summer Steelhead



# B-index Summer Steelhead

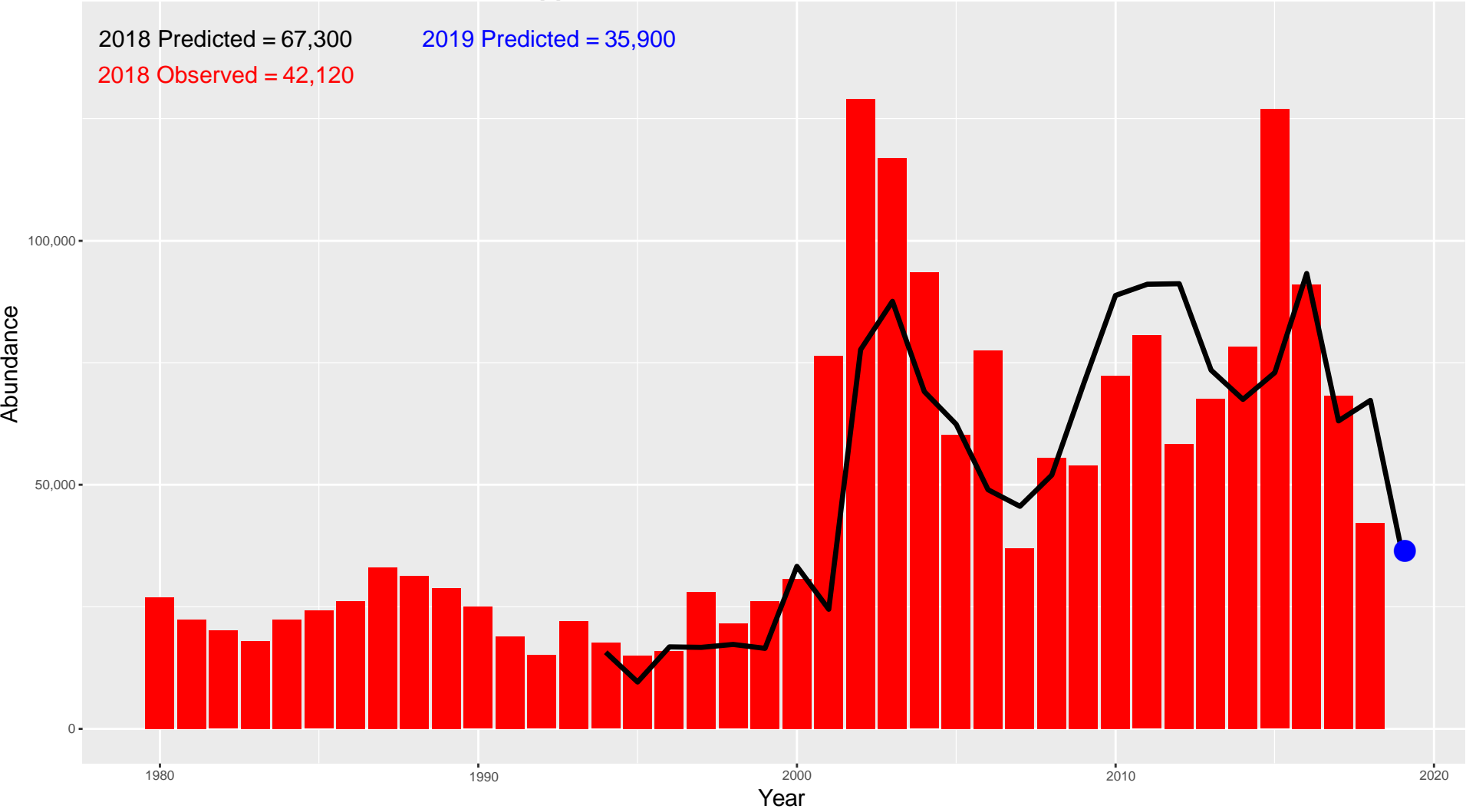


# Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

2018 Predicted = 67,300

2019 Predicted = 35,900

2018 Observed = 42,120

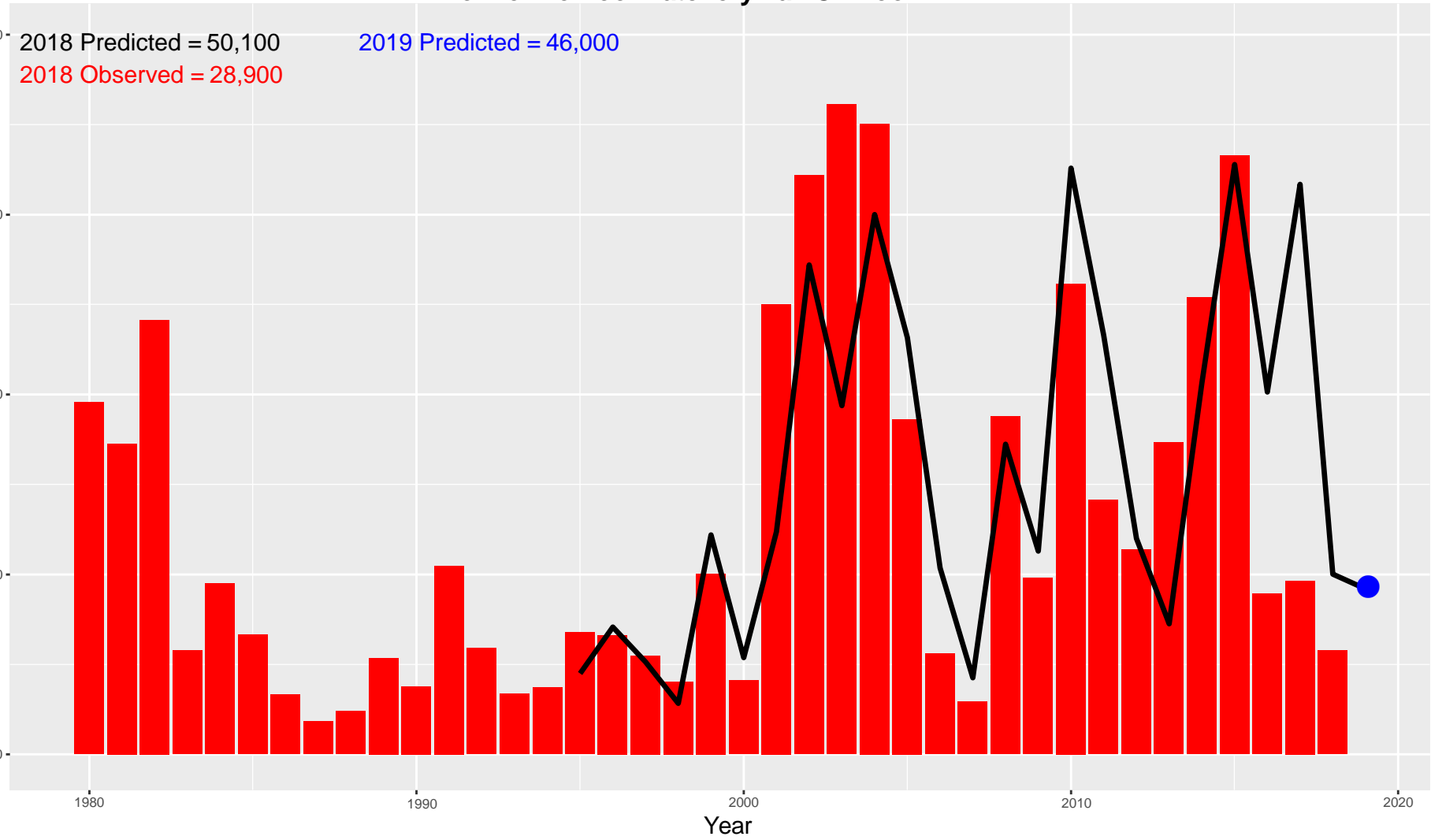


# Bonneville Pool Hatchery Fall Chinook

2018 Predicted = 50,100  
2018 Observed = 28,900

2019 Predicted = 46,000

Abundance



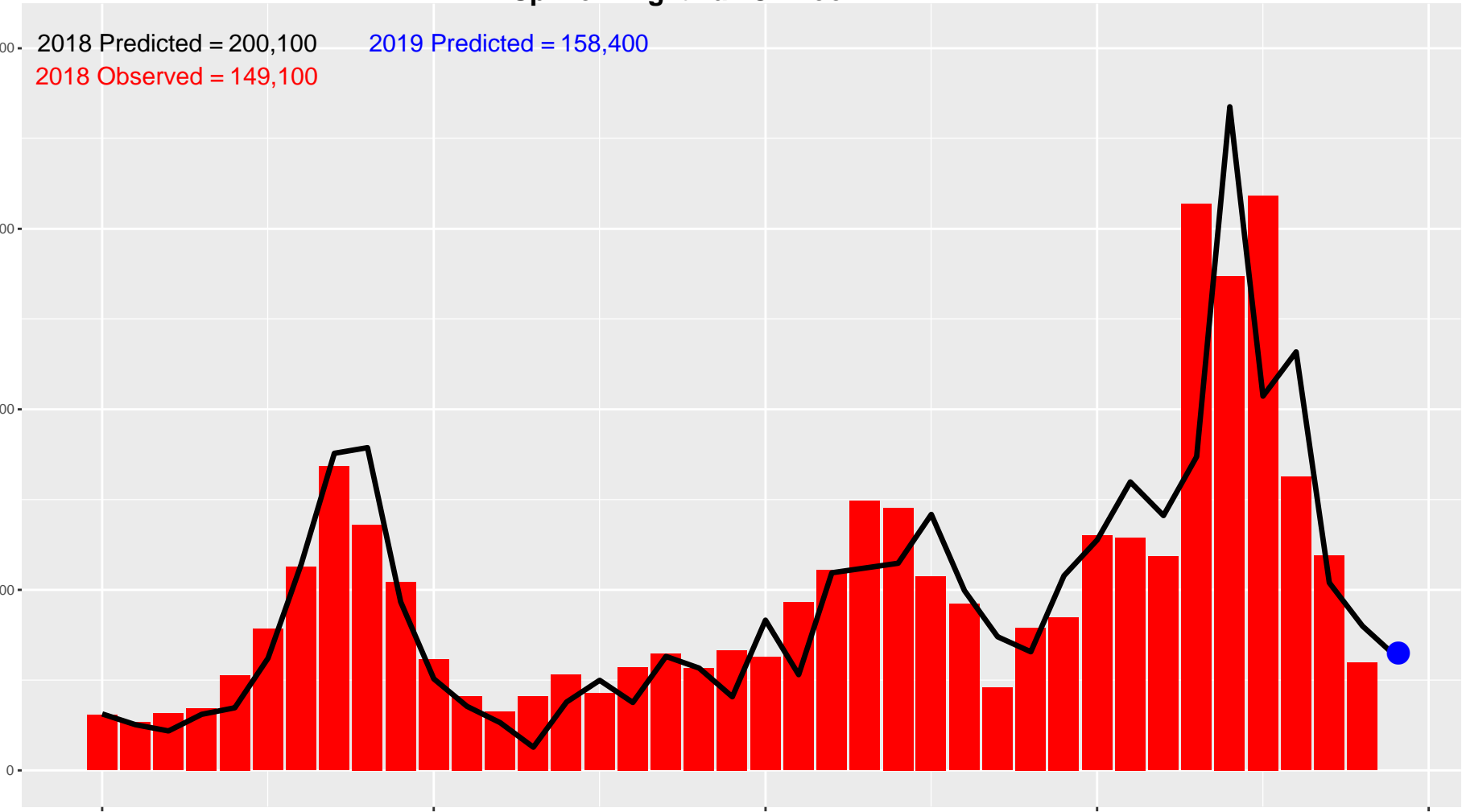
# Upriver Bright Fall Chinook

1,000,000

2018 Predicted = 200,100  
2018 Observed = 149,100

2019 Predicted = 158,400

Abundance



Year

2020

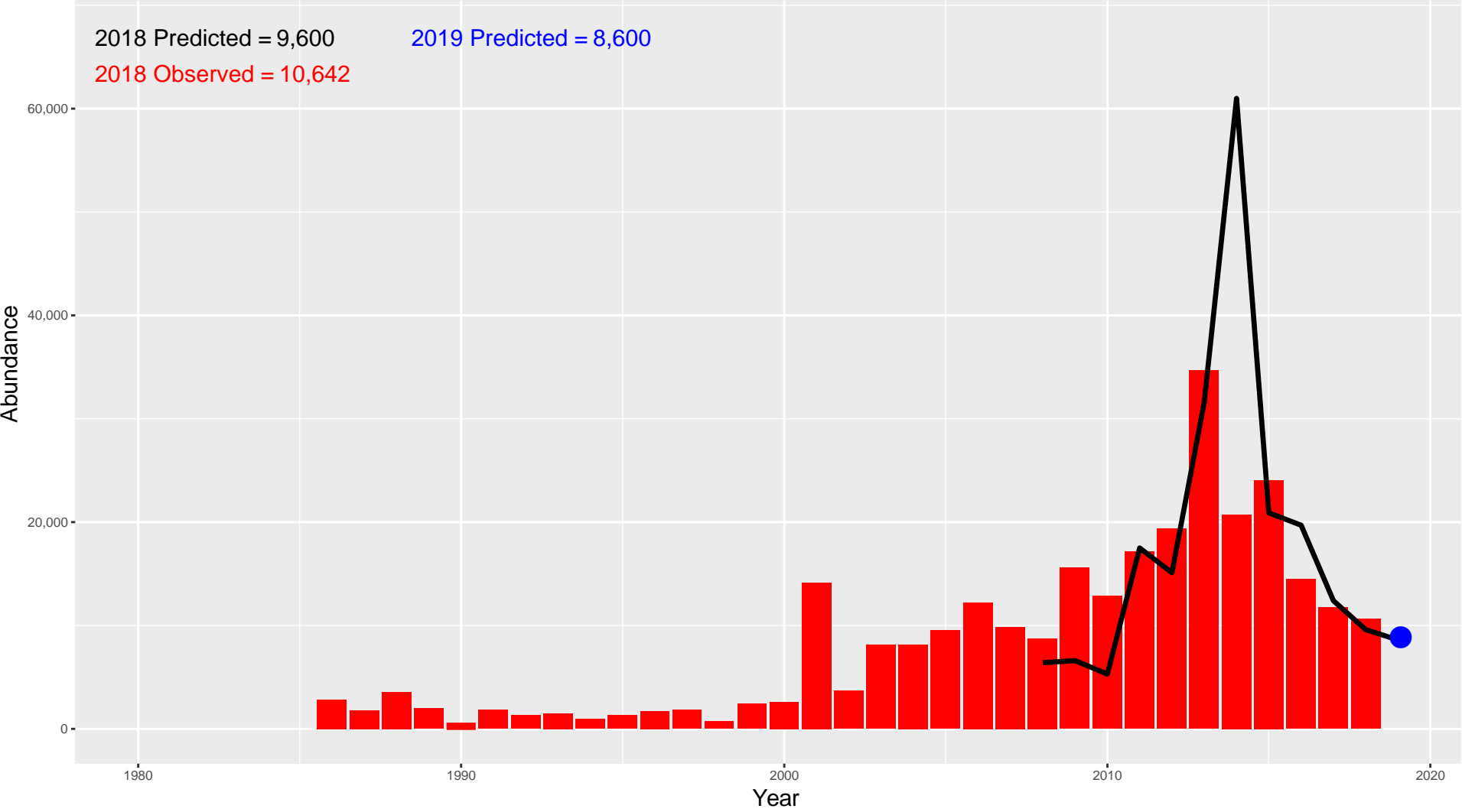


# Snake River Wild Fall Chinook

2018 Predicted = 9,600

2019 Predicted = 8,600

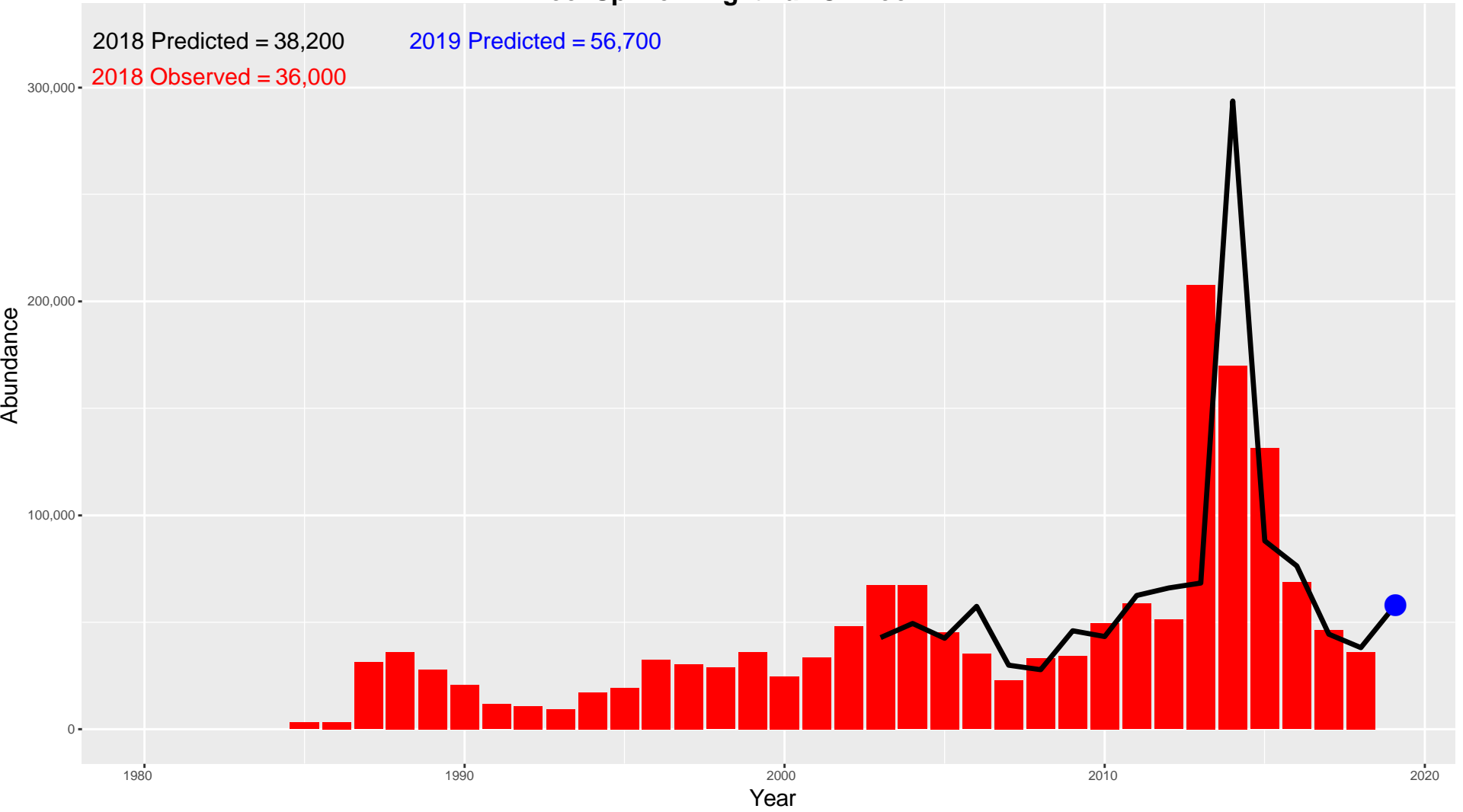
2018 Observed = 10,642



# Pool Upriver Bright Fall Chinook

2018 Predicted = 38,200  
2018 Observed = 36,000

2019 Predicted = 56,700

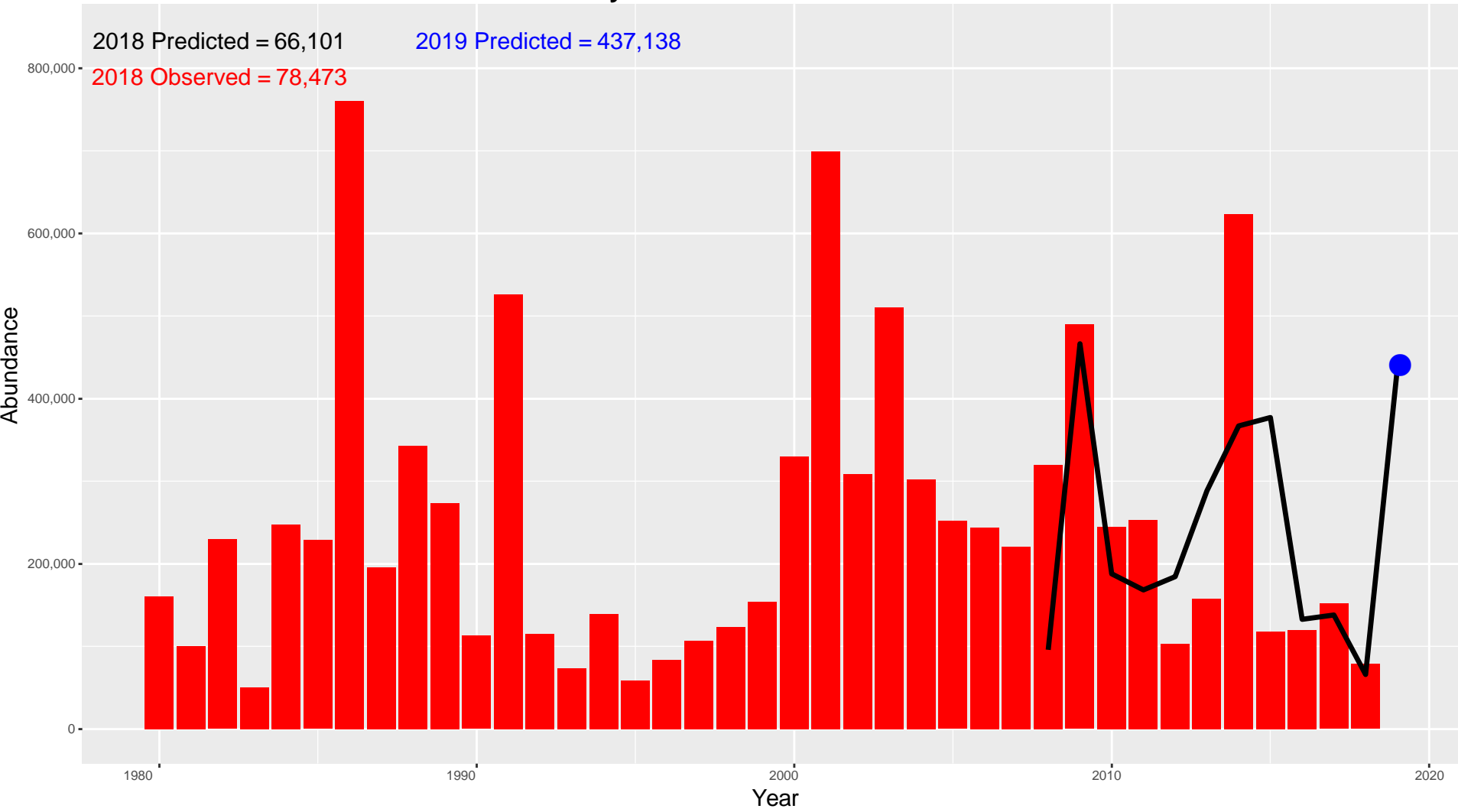


# Early Columbia River Coho

2018 Predicted = 66,101

2019 Predicted = 437,138

2018 Observed = 78,473

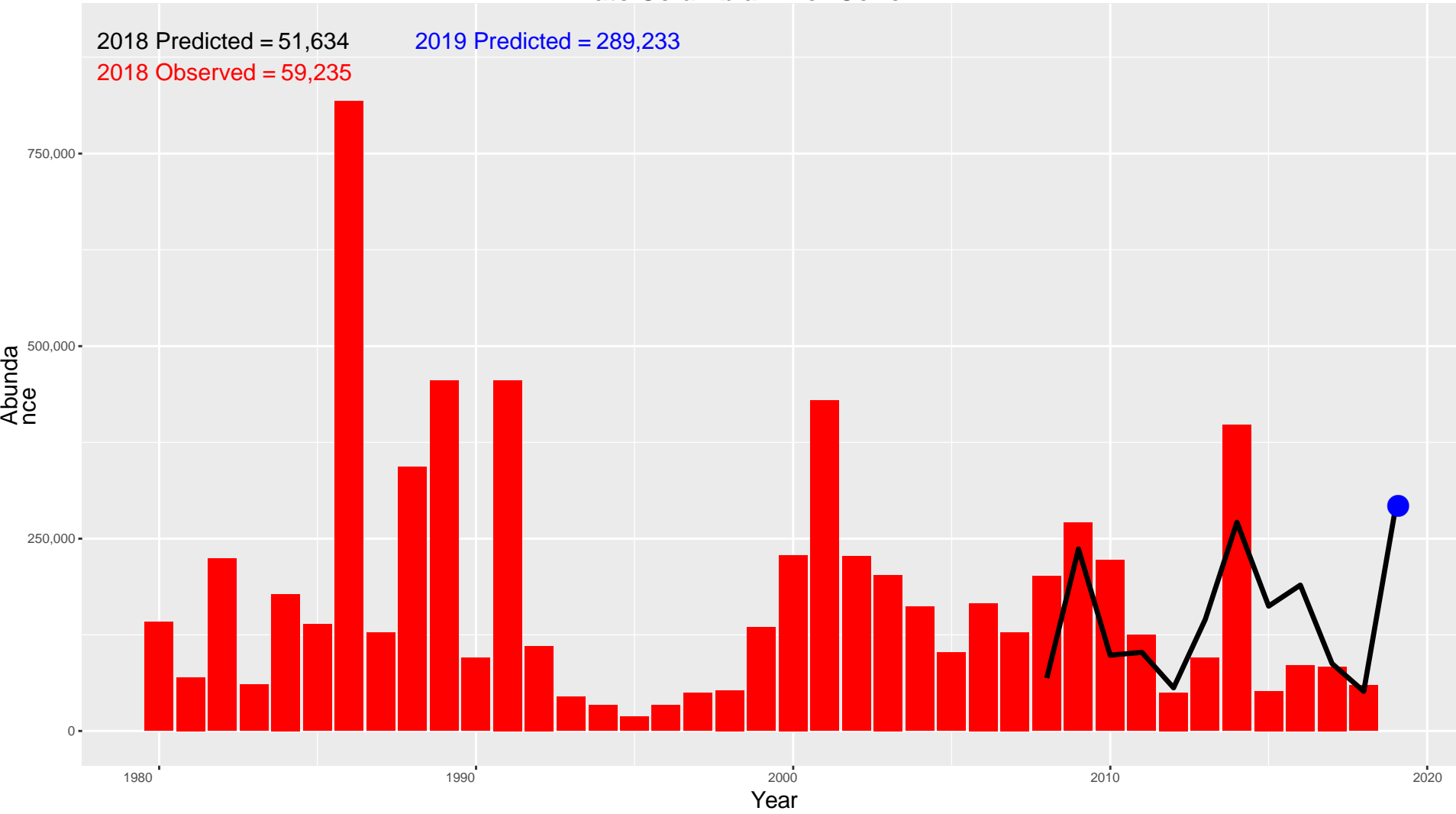


# Late Columbia River Coho

2018 Predicted = 51,634

2019 Predicted = 289,233

2018 Observed = 59,235



# Fishery Management



# 2019 Upriver Spring Chinook Management Guidelines

- ▶ ***U.S. v Oregon (2018–2027) Management Agreement***
  - Preseason: 1.5% ESA impact limit (*2.0% in 2018*)
  - 30% buffer in place until run size update
  - Catch Balance more constraining than impacts
  
- ▶ **Commission Policy C–3620**
  - Sport and commercial buffers in place prior to run update
  - Sport/comm % impact-sharing at 80%/20%, unless run is >129% of forecast, then 70%/30%
  - 25% of the sport catch allocation above BON
    - 15% Snake and 10% Bonneville–OR/WA state line

# 2019 Spring Chinook Fisheries

## ▶ **Below Bonneville**

- Season: Jan 1 – Apr 10, closed below Warrior Rock line
- Catch allocation: 3,689 upriver (4,050 total) prior to a run update

## ▶ **Bonneville to WA/OR border above McNary**

- Season: April 1 – May 5, 1 chinook bag limit
- Catch allocation: 492 upriver prior to a run update

## ▶ **Yakima River, Snake River (357 upriver catch), & Icicle River**

- Addressed later in presentation

▶ *includes release mortalities*



# Snake River Fishery Structure

- Generally open in late April (late compared to downriver)
  - fisheries timed concurrent with increased Dam passage
- Fisheries really heat up in early May
  - Chinook abundance is reaching peak
- Limited areas open
  - this allows intensive monitoring, extends duration of fisheries & distributes opportunity (~18 miles if all four areas are open)

# 2018 Snake River Fishery

- Preseason forecast of 166,700
- Preseason impacts on buffered run of 116,690 of 920 (883 harvest and 37 release mortalities)
- Three sections open 2d/wk beginning Apr. 20
- Run was downgraded on 21 May to 116,500 near the buffered run.
- New impacts for 116,500 were 912 (886 harvest and 26 release mortalities)

# 2018 Snake River Fishery

- Fishery continued for two additional periods and then closed because of ESA impacts.
- Anglers harvested 742 adults and released 308 wild adults in 28,205 hours of effort.

# 2018 Snake River Fishery

FINAL 2018 Snake River Spring Chinook Expanded Effort and Catch Estimates

Dates open	Section	Angler Effort			Salmon Kept			Salmon Released					Ave Catch Rate (hrs/fish kept)		
		Peak # observed	Peak # observed	Total	H Adults	H Jacks	Total	W Adults	W Jacks	H Adults	H Jacks	Total	Shore	Boat	"Wall"
		Shore Anglers	boat anglers	Angler hrs											
Apr 20-21	<b>IHR 1</b> (Fri-Sat)	5	7	135.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
Apr 27-28		10	4	56.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
May 4-5		7	15	191.5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	60.9	34.2	
May 11-12		53	69	2,074.1	39	2	41	8	0	0	0	8	29.4	185.6	
May 18-19		81	82	3,045.4	58	4	62	23	0	0	2	25	56.3	43.3	
May 25-26		56	83	2,083.6	20	3	23	2	0	0	0	2	652.1	43.5	
June 1-2		38	50	1,704.1	21	2	23	10	2	0	0	12	40.6	105.1	
June 8-9		69	61	2,798.4	57	8	65	35	2	0	0	37	30.3	258.7	
<b>Sum</b>				<b>12,088.5</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>84</b>			
Apr 22-23	<b>LGO 2</b> (Sun-Mon)	9	5	196.0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	163.0	0.0	0.0
Apr 29-30		22	0	429.9	2	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	126.1	0.0	0.0
May 6-7		34	3	808.0	7	0	7	1	0	0	0	1	149.4	0.0	52.8
May 13-14		68	10	1,629.6	63	3	66	8	0	0	0	8	23.7	0.0	18.5
May 20-21		128	18	2,916.8	92	2	94	14	0	0	0	14	30.8	0.0	20.5
May 27-28		117	10	3,186.6	45	10	55	13	0	0	0	13	52.8	0.0	294.7
June 3-4		95	12	2,541.3	202	21	223	66	2	0	0	68	12.2	0.0	8.7
June 10-11		113	3	2,613.8	94	9	103	103	3	0	0	106	24.9	0.0	27.1
<b>Sum</b>				<b>14,322.0</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>211</b>			
Apr 22-23	<b>Clarkst 3</b> (Sun-Mon)	0	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
Apr 29-30		0	0	30.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
May 6-7		0	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
May 13-14		0	12	100.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
May 20-21		2	16	230.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	
May 27-28		0	11	225.4	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	57.0	
June 3-4		1	37	711.3	27	0	27	19	0	0	0	19	0.0	26.3	
June 10-11		1	39	496.9	5	0	5	5	0	0	0	5	0.0	105.7	
<b>Sum</b>				<b>1,794.6</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>			
<b>Snake R. Totals</b>				<b>28,205.1</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>319</b>			

# 2019 Snake River Fishery – expectations

- Preseason Impact Estimate = 357 (342 harvest and 15 release mortalities)
- Open Little Goose Saturday and Sunday
- Expected opening May 4
- Goal: Provide 2-4 fishing events
- Bag limit of **1 adult/day & 2 days/week**
- WDFW will monitor harvest & ESA impacts

# 2019 Snake River Fishery – expectations

	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tues
IHR						
LGO						
LGR						
Clark						

# Grande Ronde River Fisheries

- 2019 Fishery
  - Low returns are forecasted for 2019 and there are currently no plans for a Grande Ronde spring Chinook fishery.

# Yakima River Spring Chinook

	<b>2018</b>		<b>2019</b>
	<b>Forecast</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Forecast</b>
<b>Total Run</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>3,160</b>	<b>2,970</b>
Total Wild/Natural	4,460	1,520	1,250
Total CESRF	2,540	1,640	1,720
<b>Harvest</b>			
Yakama Nation		<b>225</b>	
Sport Fishery		<b>245</b>	



# 2019 Yakima Spring Chinook Fishery

- Lower river section from Hwy. 240 Bridge to SR 241 Bridge (Mabton–Sunnyside Rd)
- Upper river section from I-82 at Union Gap to Roza Dam
- Likely open in early to mid-May and run to late June
- Two-poles allowed with endorsement
- Fishing conditions will likely be poor at times because of above normal snowpack runoff

# Icicle River Spring Chinook

## 2018 Regulations:

- **Icicle:** Closed initially via emergency regulation due forecasted returns not high enough to meet hatchery broodstock needs.
- **Broodstock:** barely made egg take goals

- **2019 Regulations:**

**Icicle:** Currently in pamphlet (May 15–July 31)

**Note:** Forecasted abundance is same as 2018 (very low). *High likelihood the Icicle River fishery may close or open late.*

# 2019 Sockeye Forecast & Fisheries

- ▶ **Forecast:** 94,400
- ▶ **Tentative Proposal:** close sockeye recreational retention from mouth to Chief Joseph Dam (and tributaries)
  - Similar scenario as last year.
- ▶ **Conservation:** return as many sockeye to the spawning grounds as possible
  - Lake Wenatchee not forecasted to meet escapement needs
- ▶ **In-Season Updates:** if return improves (similar to 2018) fisheries will open via emergency regulation

# 2019 Summer Chinook

- ▶ Harvest Guidelines 3-tiered:
  - U.S. v Oregon Management Agreement: reserves spawning escapement/broodstock needs (29,000) & treaty/non-treaty allocation
  - Policy C-3620: allocates non-treaty share (e.g., above/below Priest Rapids Dam, below PRD recreational/commercial)
  - WDFW-CCT Harvest Share Agreement: allocates harvestable share between WDFW/CCT
    - At very low runs maintains CCT ceremonial & subsistence fishery

# 2019 Summer Chinook

- ▶ Columbia River mouth forecast: 35,900
- ▶ *U.S. v Oregon*: subtract spawning escapement/broodstock, treaty allocation, and ocean harvest
  - Pre-season in-river non-treaty share is 464
- ▶ C-3620: 90% (418) and 10% (46) to fisheries upstream and downstream of PRD, respectively
  - No WDFW in-river summer chinook fisheries.
  - Minimal incidental mortalities from steelhead fisheries
- ▶ WDFW/CCT Agreement: 293 (CCT), ~105 (WDFW), and ~20 Wanapum

# 2019 Summer Chinook

**CR Mouth to Chief Joseph Dam (including tributaries):**  
closed fishing

**Mouth to Hwy 395:** allocation used for non-retention mortalities during steelhead fisheries

**Hwy 395 to CJD:** evaluate run in-season and if possible open via emergency regulation

Potential for limited fishing in above PRD if run comes at or above forecast

Options: entire river (reduced time), select areas (e.g., Entiat, Chelan, Brewster), reduced daily limit (e.g., 1)

# 2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

Columbia River mainstem – Low A and B–index steelhead forecasts will cause rolling block closures similar to 2017.

## ➤ **Bonneville Dam to The Dalles Dam**

- **through June:** Daily limit 2, when open
- **July:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **August:** Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **September+:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

## ▶ **The Dalles Dam to John Day Dam**

- **through June:** Daily limit 2, when open
- **July–August:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **September:** Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- **October+:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

# 2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

## ▶ John Day Dam to McNary Dam

- through June: Daily limit 2, when open
- July–August: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- September–October: Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- November+: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

## ▶ McNary Dam to 395 Bridge in Pasco

- through June: Daily limit 2, when open
- July–September: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- October–November: Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
- December+: Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

## ▶ 395 Bridge in Pasco upstream

- Ringold Area fishery under consideration



# 2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

## Columbia River Below Bonneville Tributaries

- Cowlitz River (downstream of Lexington Drive/Sparks Road bridge)
- Lewis River (downstream of the confluence with the East Fork Lewis River)
  - **July:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
  - **August:** Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
  - **September+:** Daily limit 1 or 2, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead

# 2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

## Columbia River Above Bonneville Tributaries

- Wind River (downstream of Shipherd Falls)
- Drano Lake
- White Salmon River (downstream of the county road bridge)
- Klickitat River (downstream of Fisher Hill bridge)
  - **July:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
  - **August:** Closed to retention, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead
  - **September+:** Daily limit 1, closed to night fishing for salmon/steelhead, Drano closed to retention during September.

# 2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

## Snake River

- ▶ **Mouth to Couse Creek boat ramp**
  - August 1–March 31: Daily limit 1, must be less than 28 inches in length.
- ▶ **Couse Creek boat ramp to WA/ID/OR state line**
  - August 1–March 31: Daily limit 1

# 2019 Steelhead Fisheries – options

## Other options

- ▶ Release all steelhead 28 inches in length or longer
- ▶ Closed to salmon/steelhead fishing in time/area instead of non-retention when salmon are not present
- ▶ Extend length and area of non-retention blocks
- ▶ Closed at night to all fishing

# 2019 Fall Chinook Fisheries

- ▶ **Policy guidance: no more than 70% sport/no less than 30% commercial.**
  - **Below Bonneville** – reduced fisheries to levels similar to 2018
    - 8.25% vs 15% harvest rate
    - Fisheries constrained by Snake River Wild Chinook and B-index steelhead
    - Reserve impacts for abundant coho return (liberal coho limits, i.e., in Buoy 10)
  - **Bonneville to Highway 395**
    - Fishery constrained by Snake River Wild Chinook and B-index steelhead
- ▶ **Priest Rapids Dam to Rock Island Dam** – Non-mark selective, September 1–October 15, daily limit 6 (no more than 2 adult chinook, release sockeye and coho)
- ▶ **Above Rock Island** – Evaluate in-season (unlikely given forecast)

# 2019 Snake River Fall Chinook Fisheries

- Opened all of Snake River beginning in 2011
- Will use CRC for harvest estimates
- Plan to open all areas again in 2019 (Mid August or first of September to October 31)
- Opened by emergency rule, expecting similar limits and restriction as in 2018
- Continuing work on a joint state Fall Chinook FMEP



# 2018–2019 Hanford Reach Fall Fishery

# 2018 Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Fishery

**September 13: Buoy 10 to Hwy 395 Closed to all fishing for salmon & steelhead**

**September 15: In-season estimate = 36,779 / Quota = 5,740 adults  
E-rule: 1 adult limit in Hanford Reach**

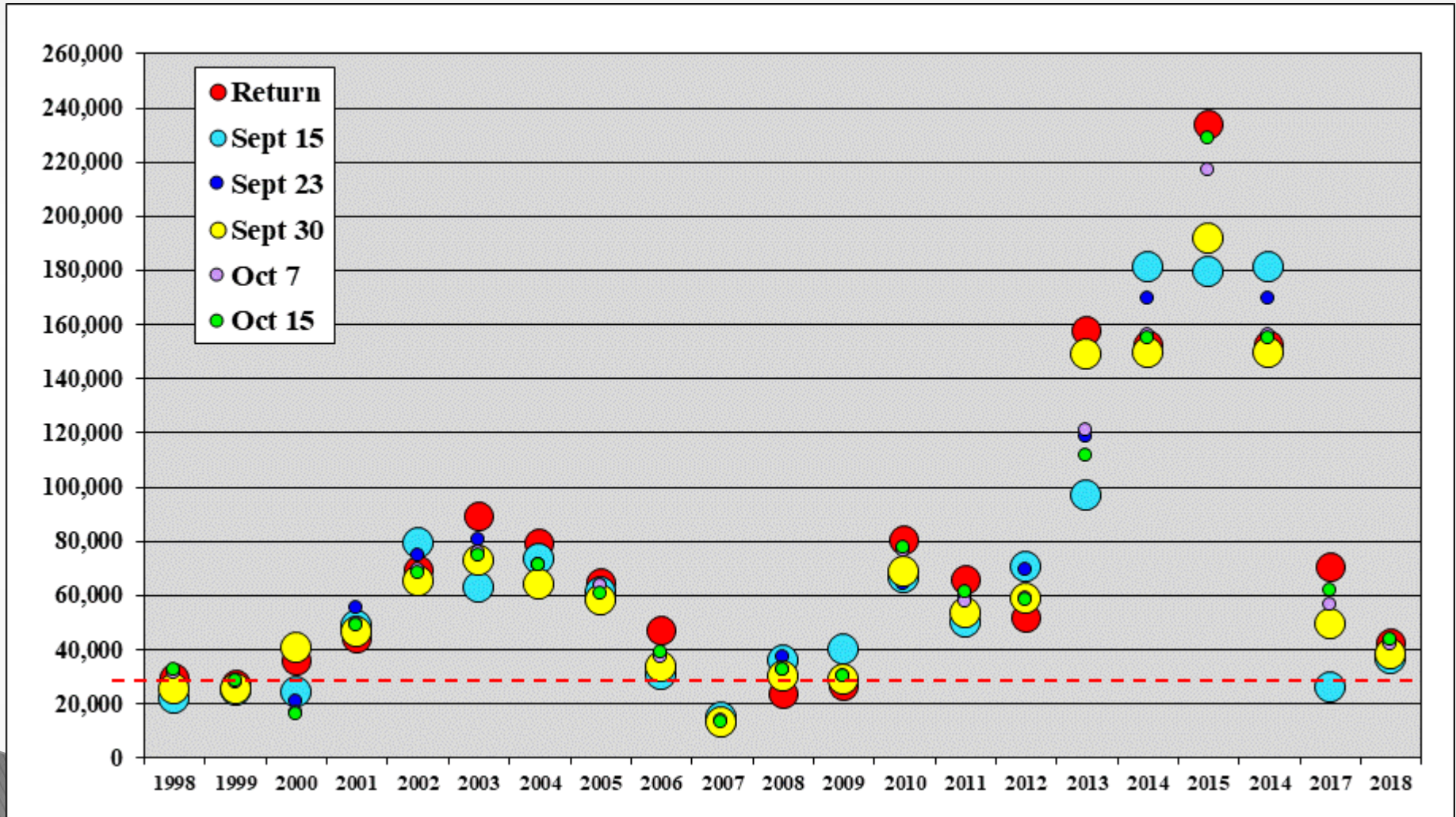
**October 15: Closure of Hanford Reach fishery**

<b>In-season Natural Origin Return Estimate</b>					
<b>Date</b>	<b>Sep 15</b>	<b>Sep 23</b>	<b>Sep 30</b>	<b>Oct 07</b>	<b>Oct 15</b>
<b>In-season Return Estimate</b>	<b>36,779</b>	<b>37,105</b>	<b>38,326</b>	<b>41,686</b>	<b>43,758</b>
<b>Harvest allocation</b>	<b>5,740</b>	<b>5,903</b>	<b>6,513</b>	<b>8,193</b>	
<b>Harvest</b>	<b>1,097</b>	<b>2,368</b>	<b>4,411</b>	<b>6,703</b>	<b>8,488</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>4,643</b>	<b>3,535</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>1,490</b>	

**Harvest = 8,672 adult & 1,072 jack**

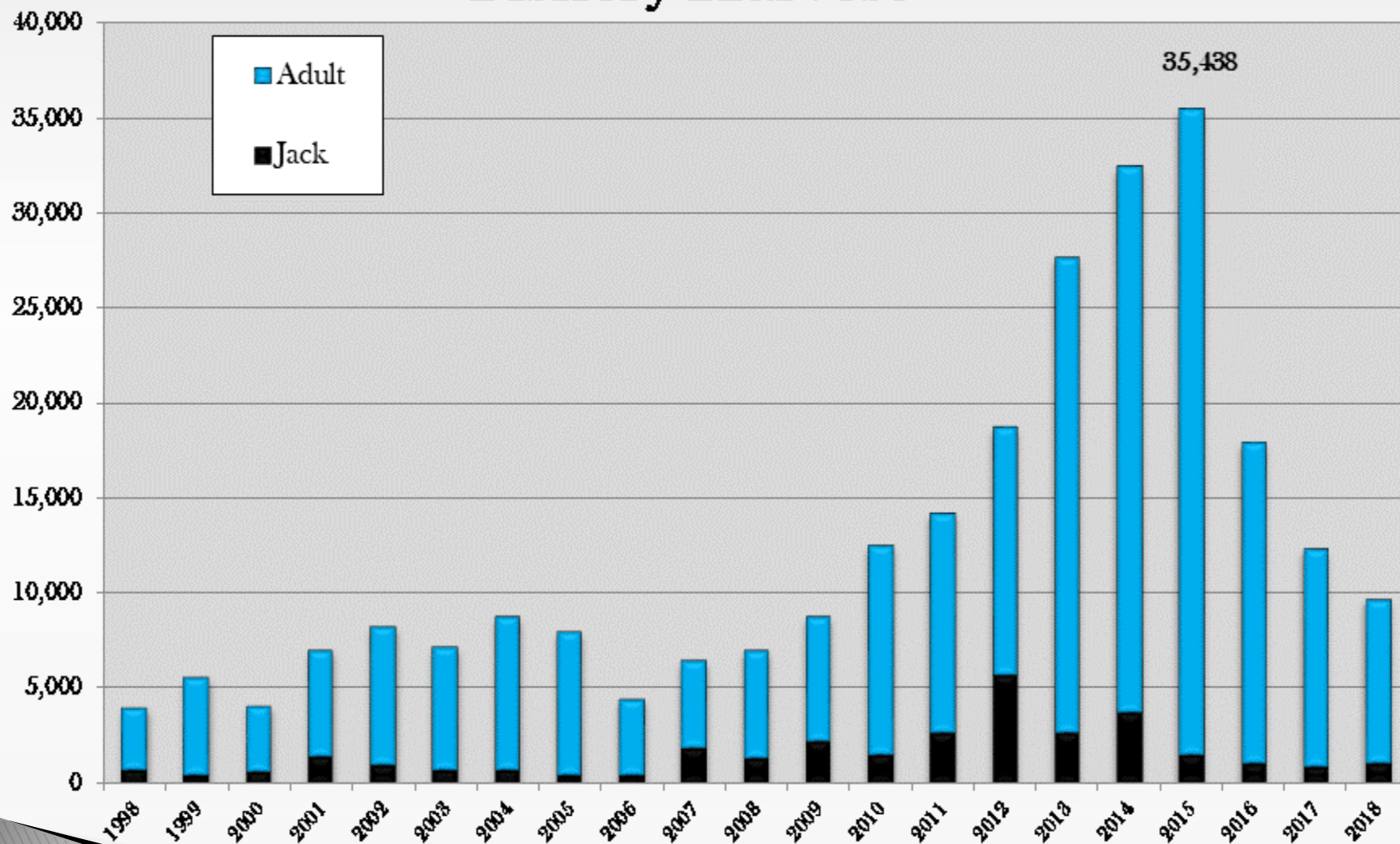


# Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Harvest Management Plan

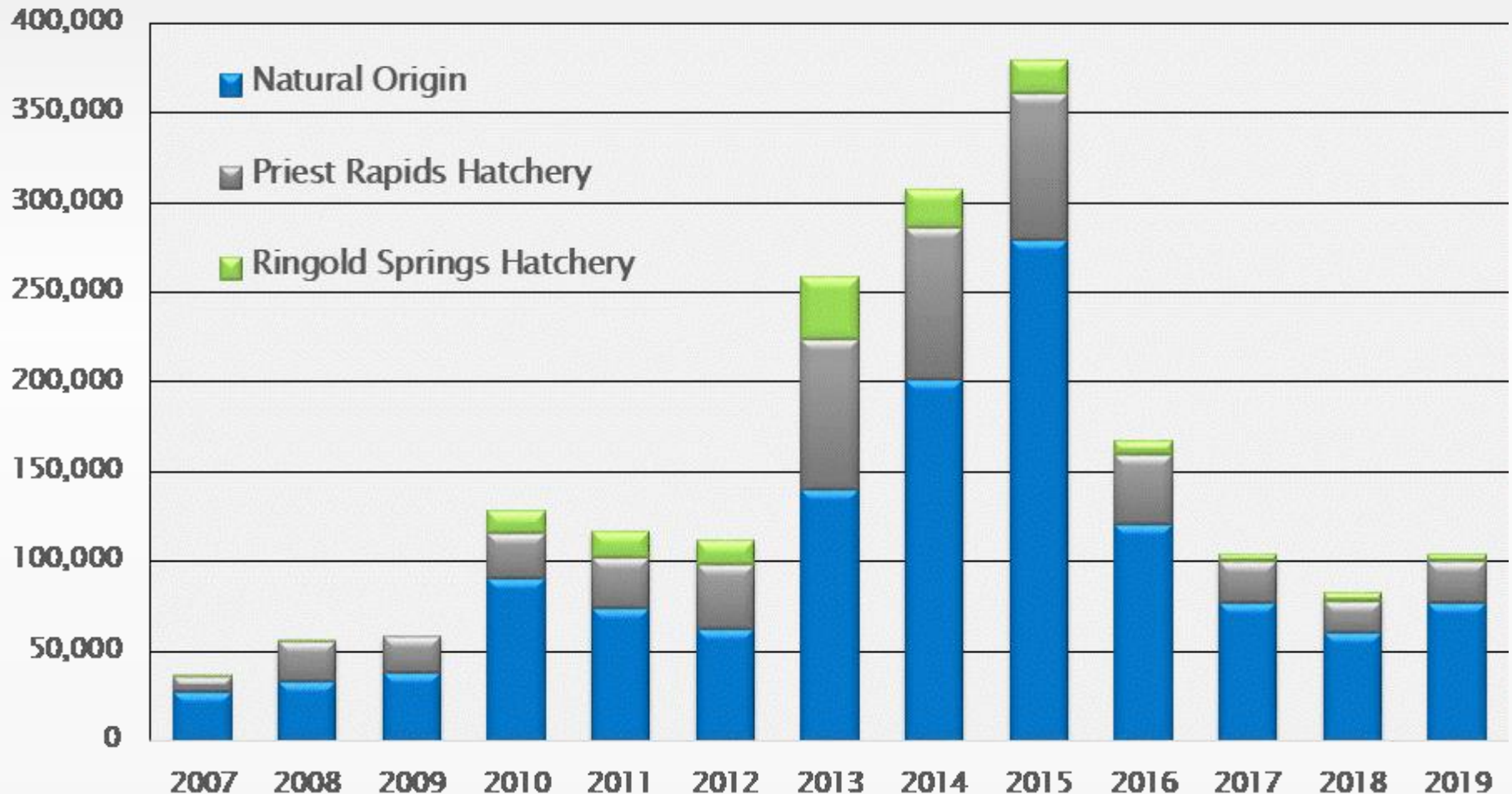


Escapement Goal = 31,110

# Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Sport Fishery Harvest



# 2019 Hanford Reach Fall Fishery



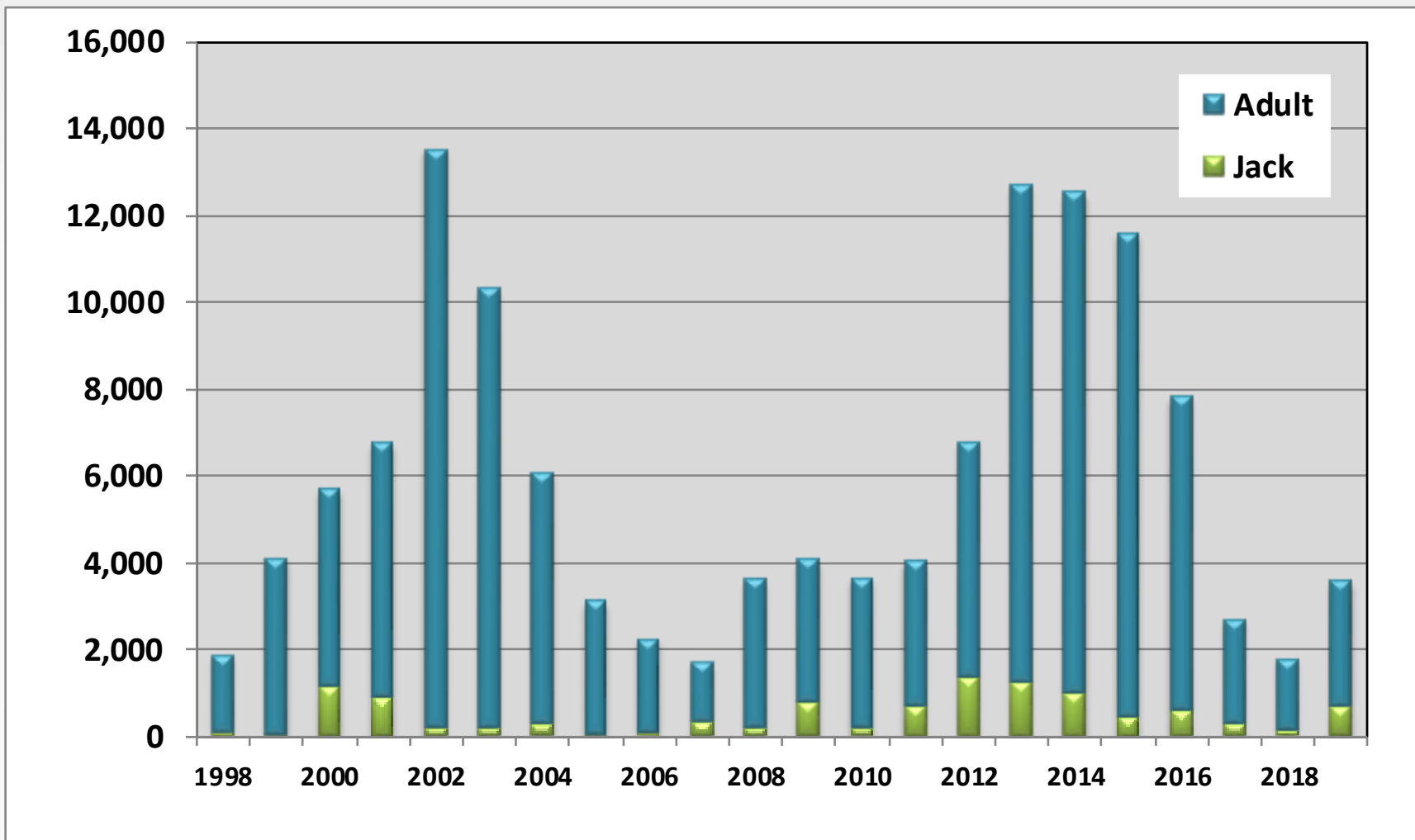
**2018 Return = 71,612**

**2019 Forecast = 98,170**

# 2019 Hanford Reach Fall Chinook Fishery

- ▶ Highway 395 bridge to Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers (534, 535)  
Aug. 16 - Oct. 31
- ▶ Old Hanford townsite wooden powerline towers to Priest Rapids Dam (536)
  - Aug. 16 - Oct. 15
- ▶ Daily limit 6. Up to 2 may be adults. Chinook or coho.
- ▶ Use of two poles permitted with endorsement.

# Yakima River Fall Chinook Forecast



Age	Age 2	Age 3	Age 4	Age 5	Age 6	Total	Adults
2019 Forecast	679	607	1,957	309	7	3,559	2,880

**Strong return of coho expected in 2019**

# 2019 Yakima River Fall Salmon Fishery Regulations

Highway 240 Bridge (Richland) to Grant Avenue Bridge  
(Prosser)

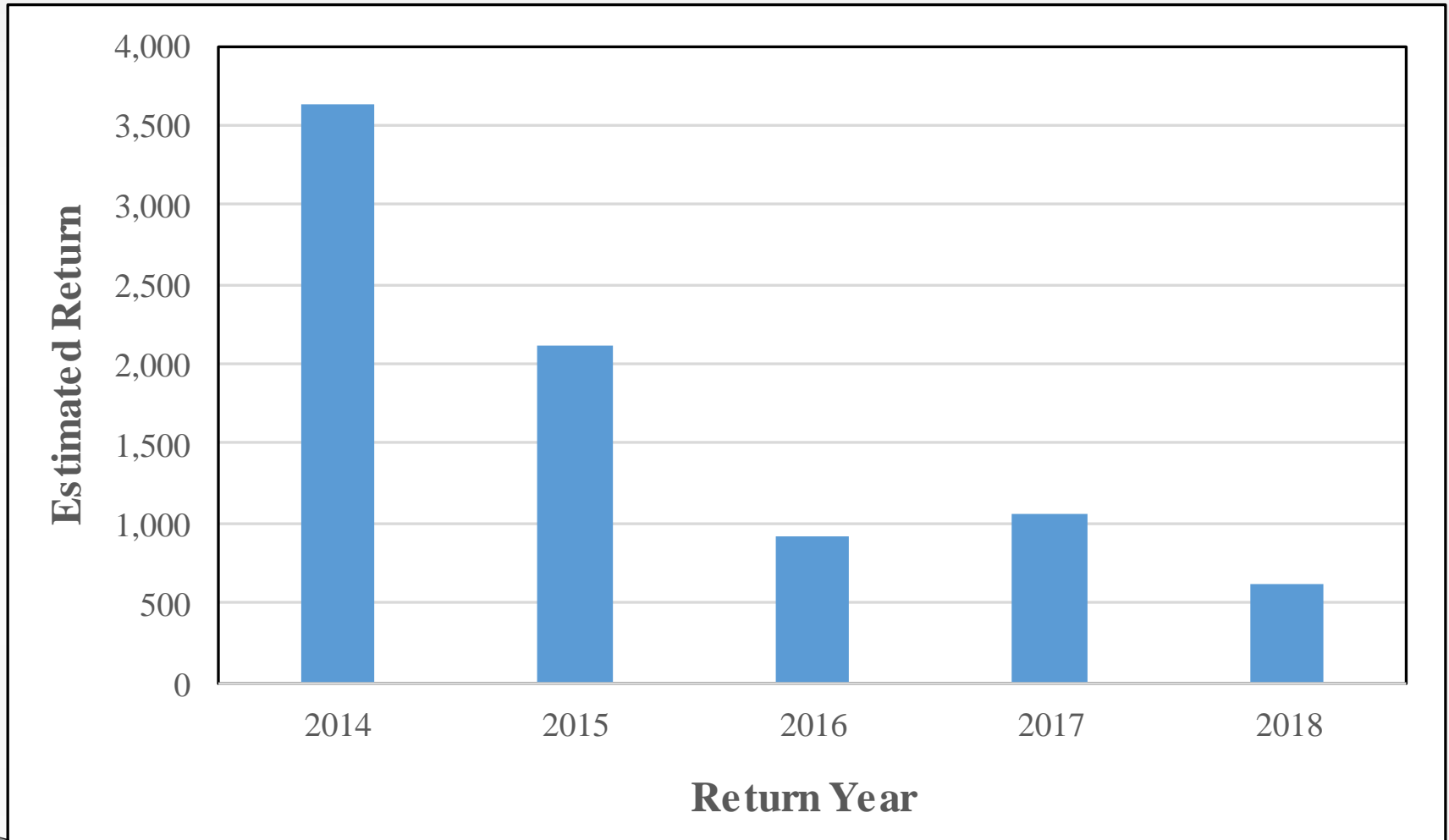
Sept 1 - Oct 31. Daily limit 6. Up to 2 may be adults.

Night closure

Use of two poles permitted with endorsement.

**Potential for Early Closure**

# Ringold Springs Hatchery Steelhead Returns



Population estimates are generated in mid-November from mark recapture of steelhead transported from RSH trap to Richland



# 2019–20 Ringold Springs Hatchery Summer Steelhead Regulations

October 1 – 31 Daily limit 2 hatchery steelhead with both adipose fin clipped and ventral fin clipped.

Nov. 1 – Mar 31 Daily limit 2 hatchery steelhead.

April 1 – 15, 2020 Ringold area bank fishery



# Recreational Rule Simplification

- Rationale
  - Concurrency with Idaho/Oregon
  - Consider implications at a population level versus individual fish level
  - Reduce complexity
  - Eliminate layered gear restrictions
  - Standardize season dates and daily limits
  - Decouple salmon and steelhead limits
  - Reason for a regulation is outdated
  - Enforceability

# Recreational Rule Simplification

- Can reduce (or increase) opportunities
- Tribal co-manager agreement
- Concurrent waters of the Columbia River requires discussion with other state managers.
  - ODFW/WDFW have initiated discussions.

# Recreational Rule Simplification

- Concurrency, fishery constraints, insufficient sampling (and resources) for inseason need: Salmon/steelhead night fishing closures from Buoy 10 to:
  - McNary Dam?
  - OR/WA state line, Hwy 395 at Pasco, or further?
- Commission guidance (C-3620 modification) for Columbia River basin: Rescind barbless hook rule with intention to make effective by no later than June 1:
  - Columbia River and tributaries to OR/WA state line
  - Upstream of OR/WA state line (and tributaries)
  - Potential exceptions where federal permits specify barbless hooks are required for ESA-coverage

Questions?

