

# Salmon Recovery in Washington State

Jeremy Cram

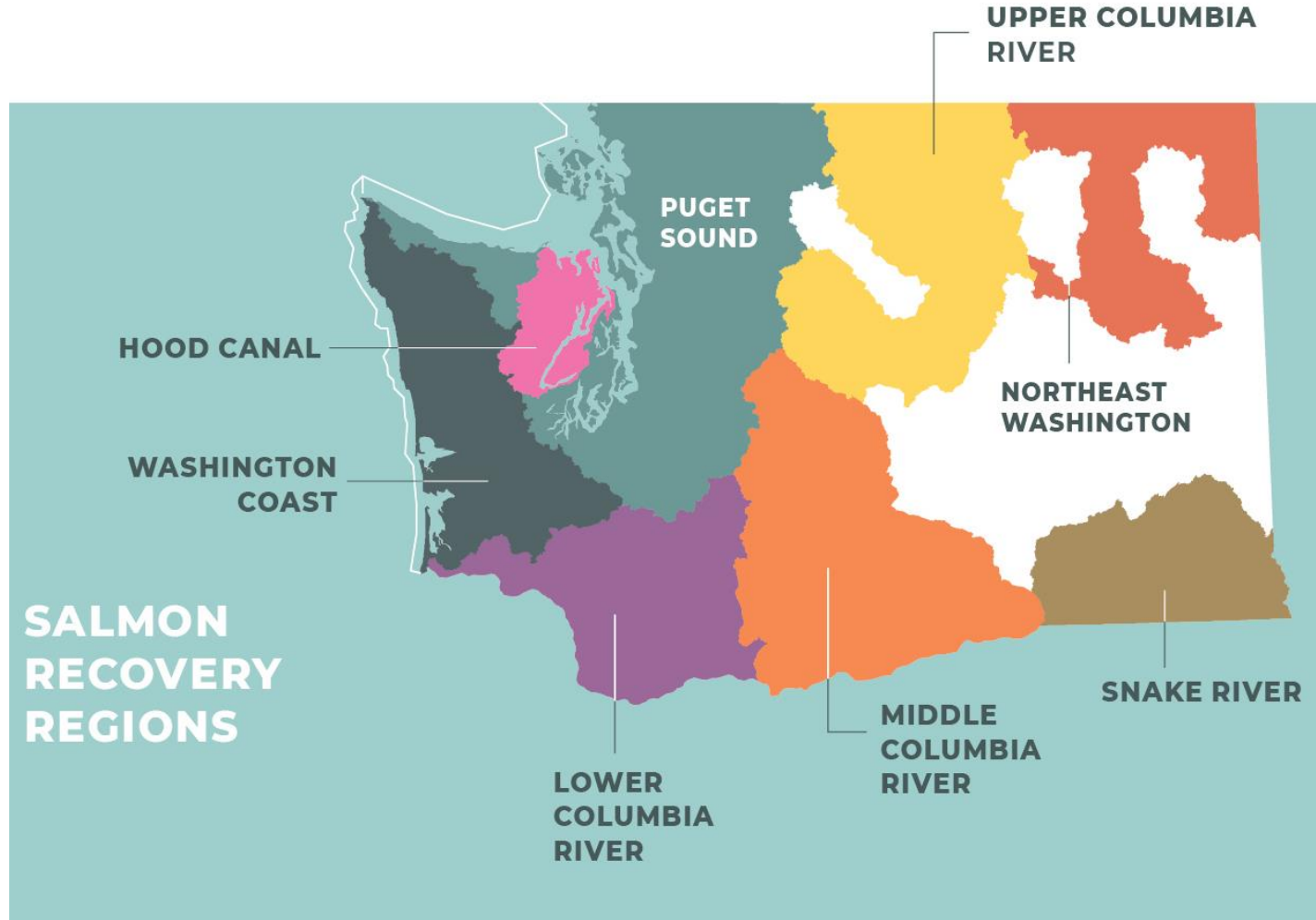
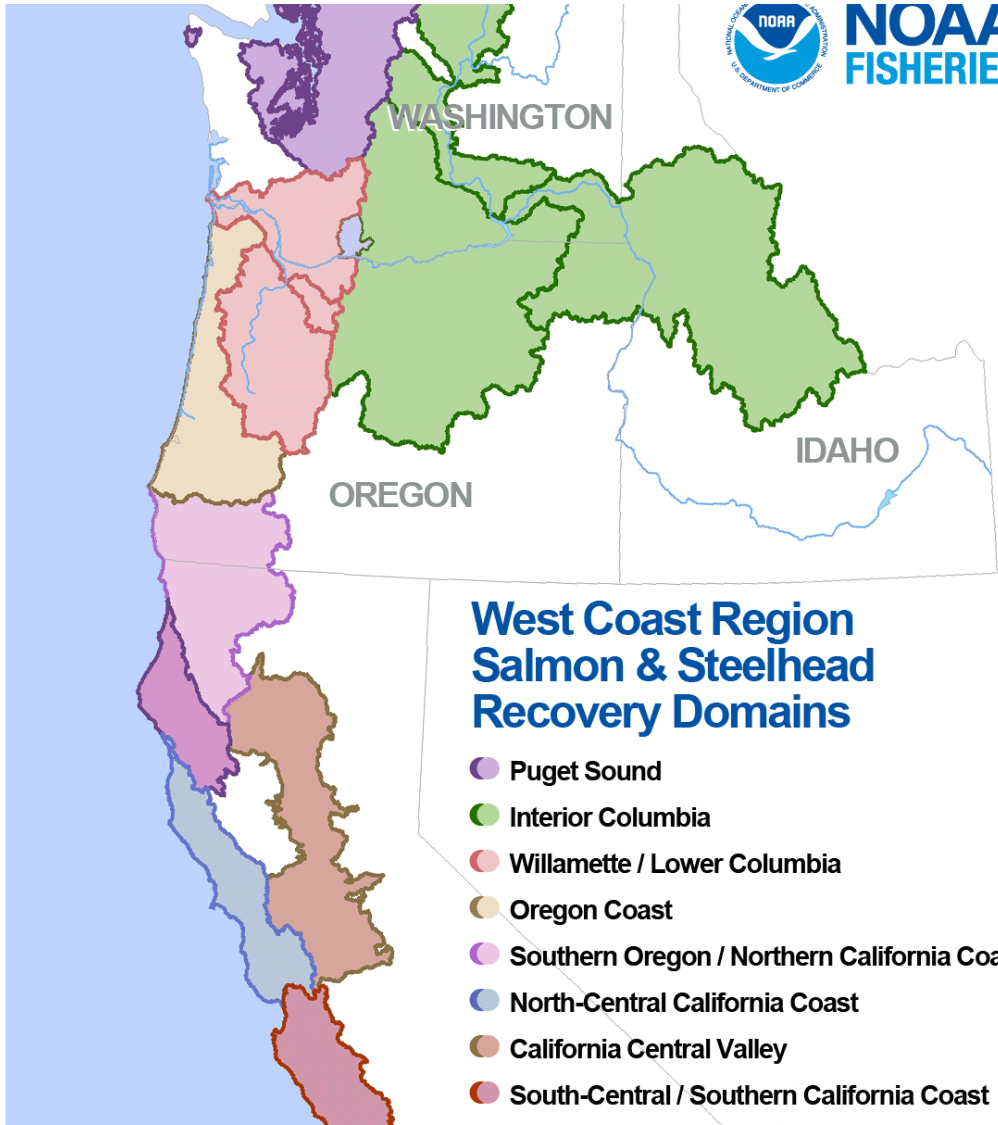
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Washington  
Department of  
**FISH &  
WILDLIFE**



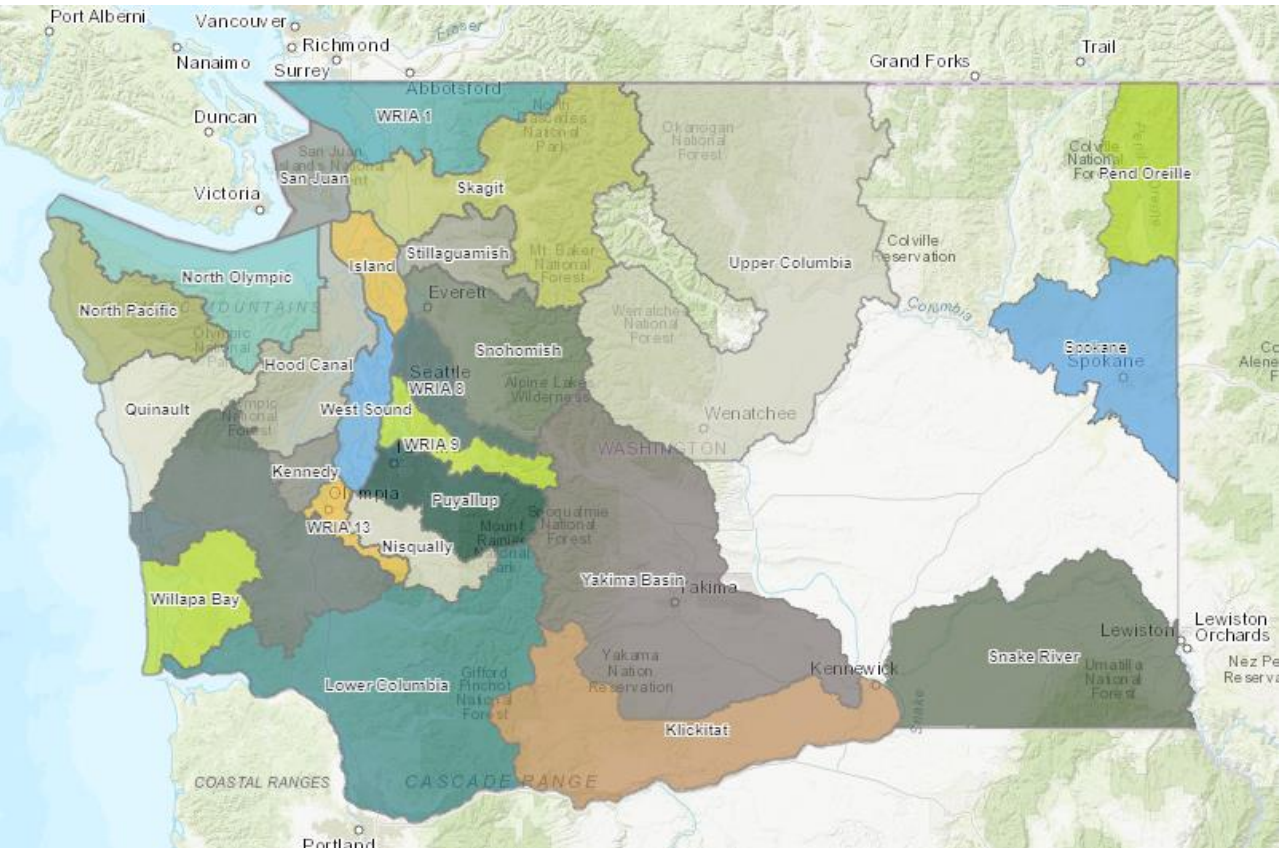
# Lead Entities and Salmon Recovery

## Lead Entity Watersheds

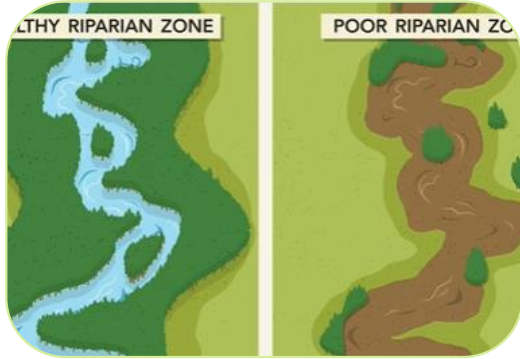
- Develop watershed-scale recovery actions
- Build partnerships and trust
- Local science and community priorities
- Prioritize projects to maximize public's investments

## Local Implementing Partners

- Conservation Districts, Regional Fish Enhancement Groups (RFEs), Land Trusts, Local Governments, etc.
- Secure grants, implement projects, and build local partnerships and volunteer networks



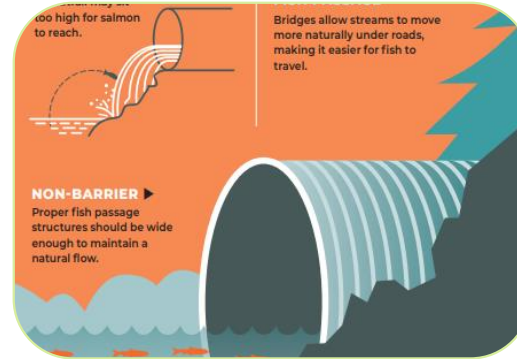
# SALMON STRATEGY PRIORITIES



Protect & restore vital salmon habitat



Invest in clean water infrastructure



Correct fish passage barriers & restore access



Build climate resiliency



Align harvest, hatcheries, & hydropower



Address predation & food web issues



Enhance commitments & coordination across programs



Strengthen science, monitoring, & accountability

## IN CRISIS

## NOT KEEPING PACE

## MAKING PROGRESS

## APPROACHING GOAL

SNAKE RIVER  
SPRING/SUMMER  
CHINOOK



PUGET  
SOUND  
CHINOOK



SNAKE  
RIVER BASIN  
STEELHEAD



LOWER  
COLUMBIA RIVER  
CHINOOK



LOWER  
COLUMBIA  
RIVER  
COHO



LOWER  
COLUMBIA RIVER  
STEELHEAD



HOOD CANAL  
SUMMER  
CHUM



SNAKE  
RIVER FALL  
CHINOOK



LAKE OZETTE  
SOCKEYE



UPPER COLUMBIA  
RIVER SPRING  
CHINOOK



UPPER  
COLUMBIA RIVER  
STEELHEAD



MIDDLE  
COLUMBIA RIVER  
STEELHEAD



PUGET SOUND  
STEELHEAD\*



COLUMBIA  
RIVER  
CHUM \*



### SHIFTS FROM 2020 TO 2022:

**Snake River Basin Steelhead** shifted from  
“Making Progress” (2020) to “Not Keeping Pace” (2022)

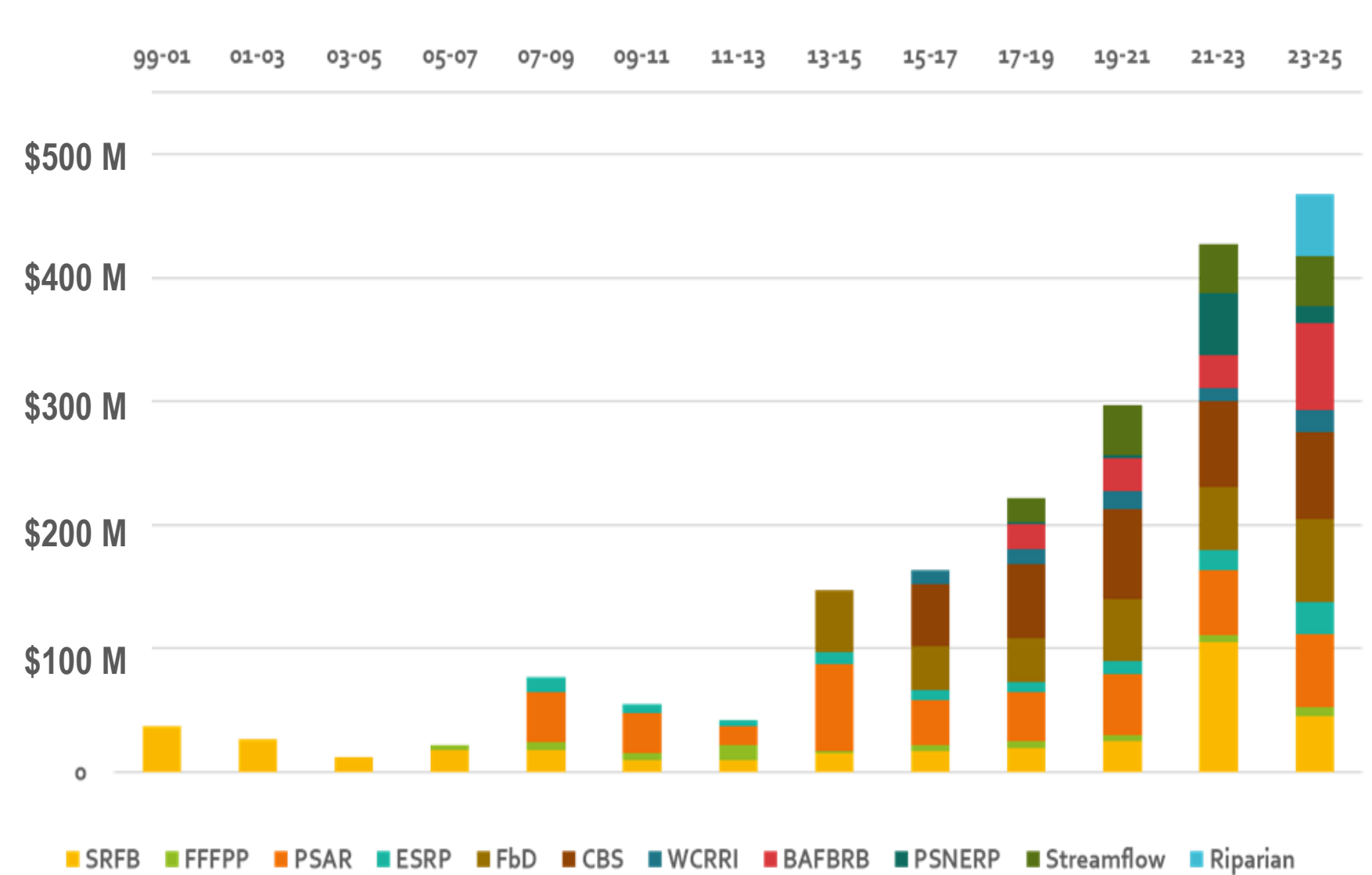
**Lower Columbia River Coho** shifted from  
“Not Keeping Pace” (2020) to “Making Progress” (2022)

\* Lacks complete data

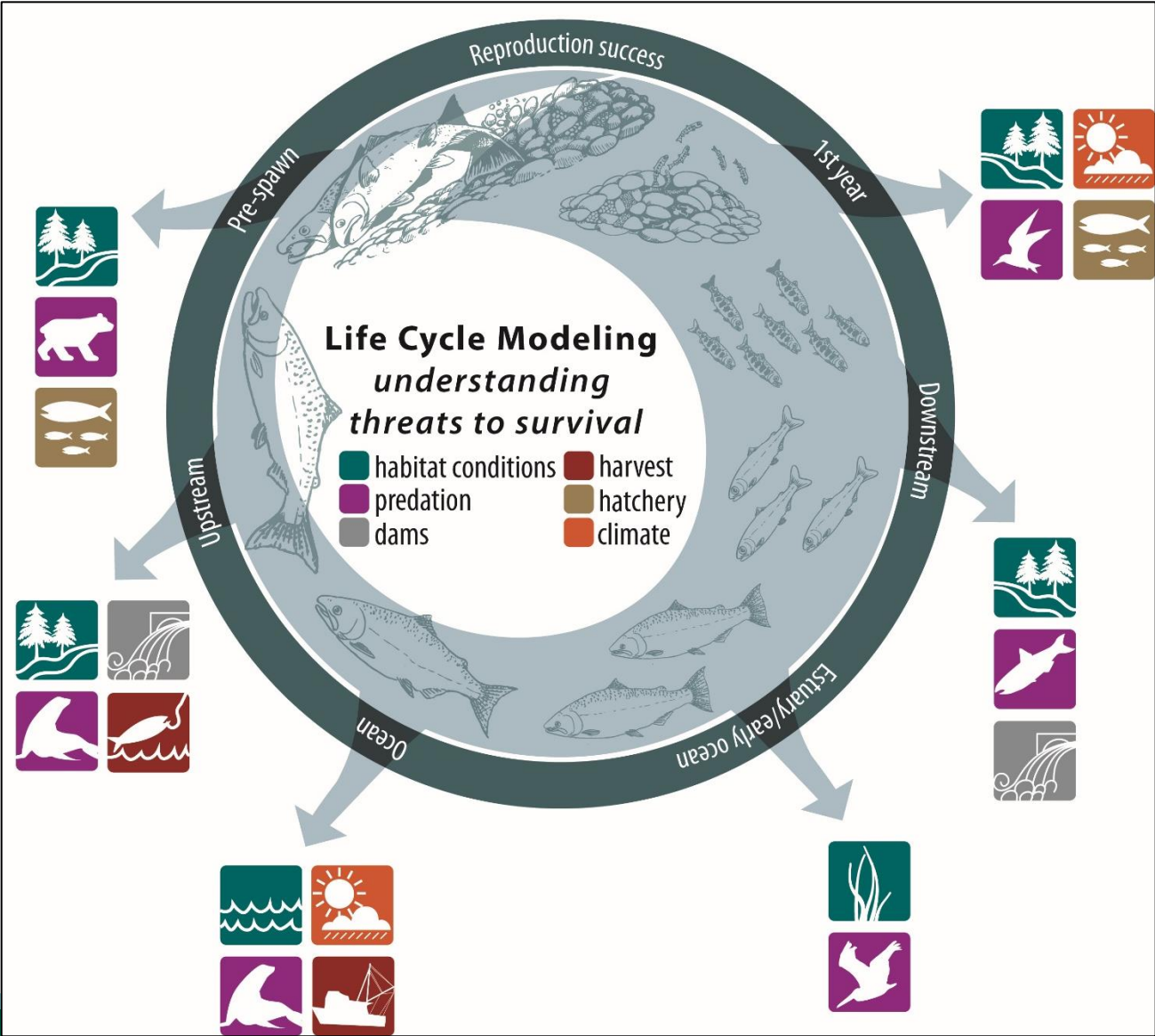
Data and analysis by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

# Biennial Funding for Habitat Restoration

Voluntary incentive salmon restoration programs



# Salmon Recovery Priorities



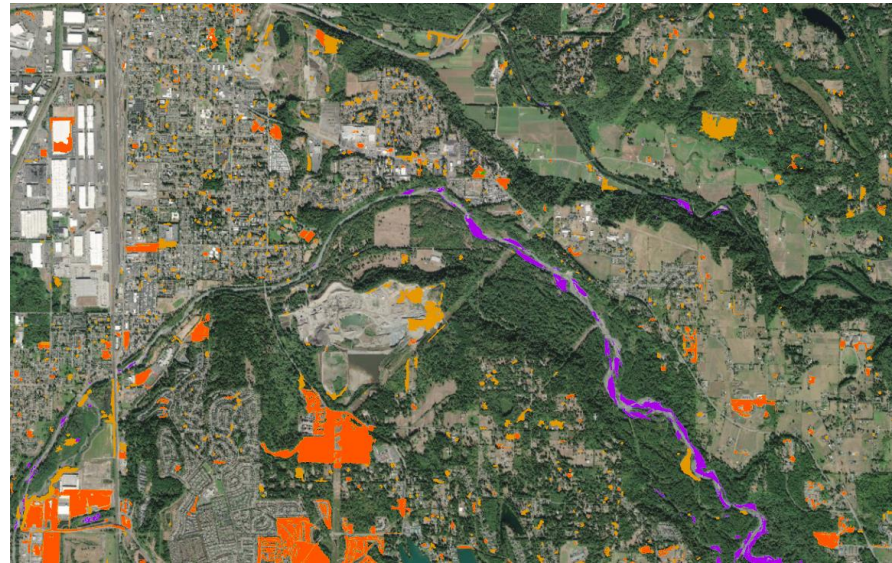
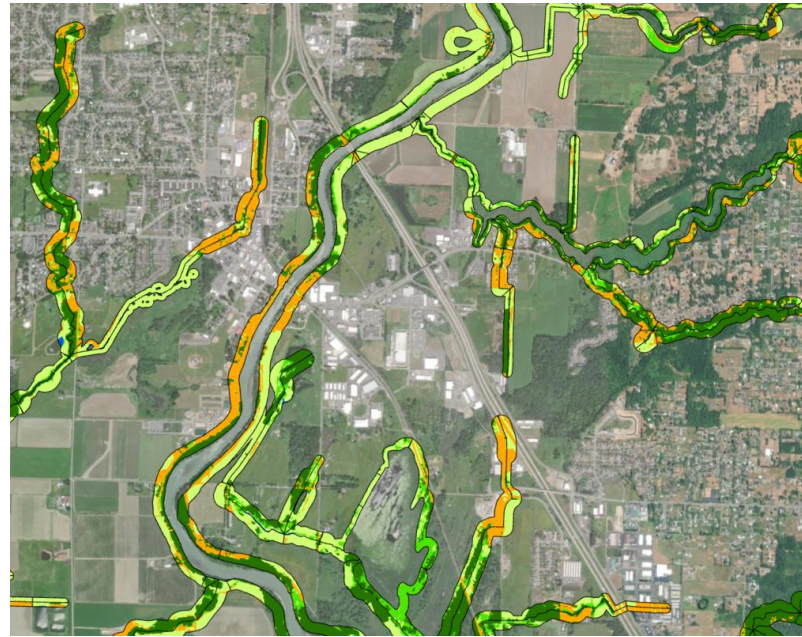
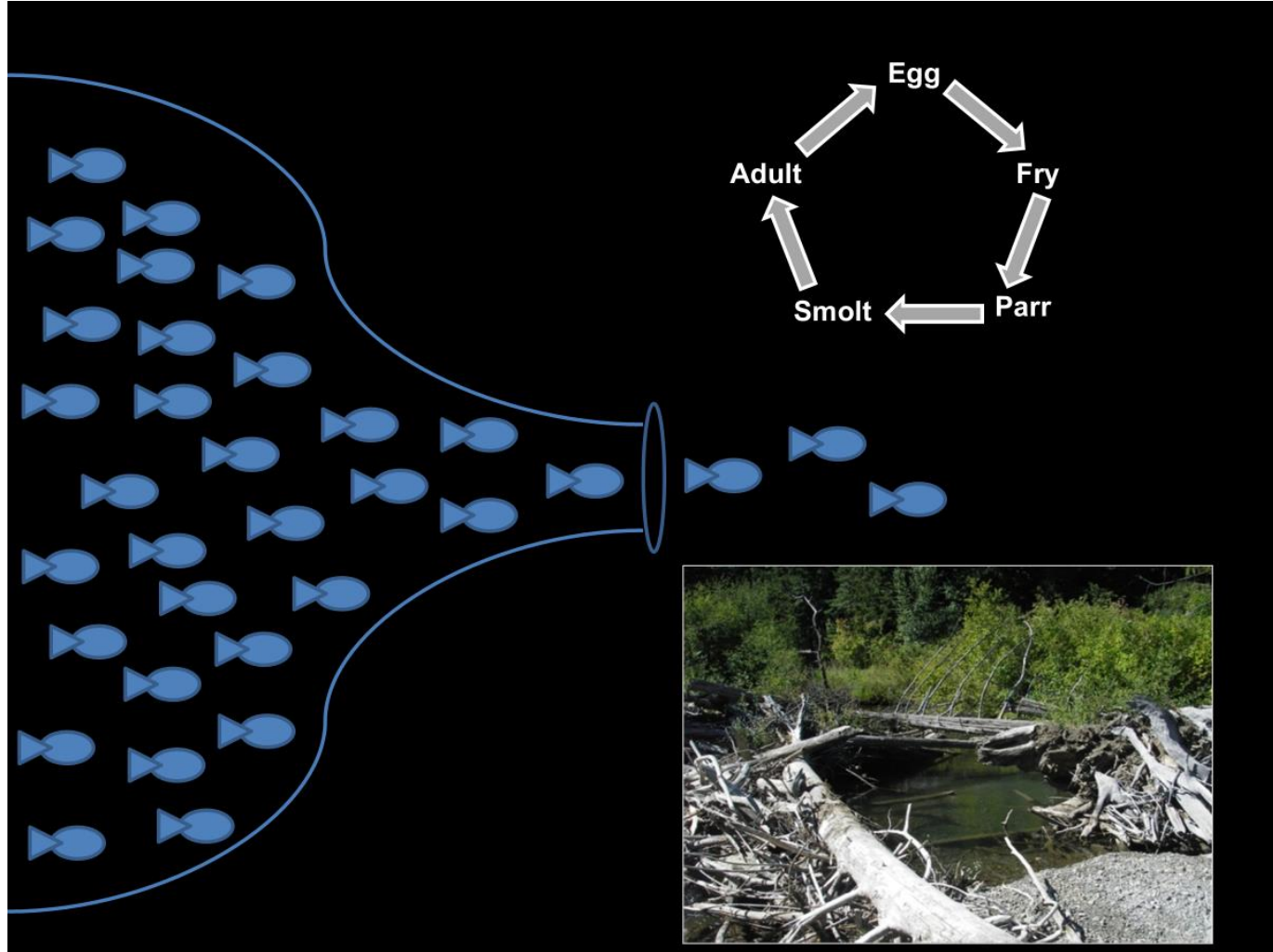
# WDFW Salmon Recovery Priorities

- Fish population monitoring
- Fishery and hatchery reform
- Population viability modeling
- Collaboration with external partners
- Emerging threats
  - Toxics
  - Food web issues
- Climate change
- Fish passage and survival at dams
- Habitat restoration, protection, and monitoring

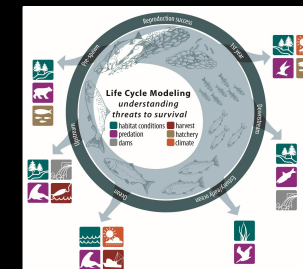
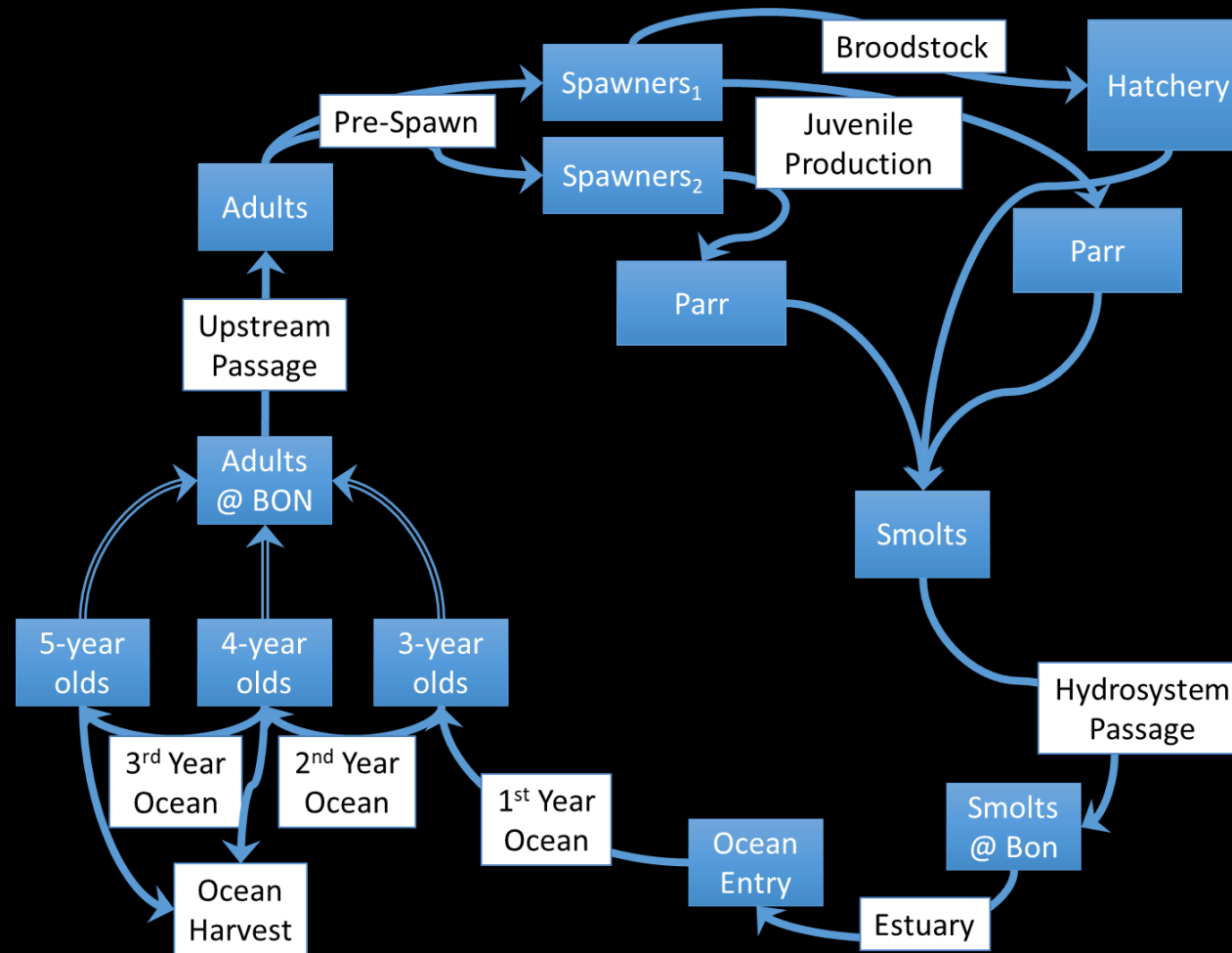




# Strengthen Science, Monitoring, and Accountability



# Using a Life Cycle Model to Identify Survival Bottlenecks



b. Viability Curve including minimum population threshold of 1,000 spawners for use with Large- sized chinook populations.

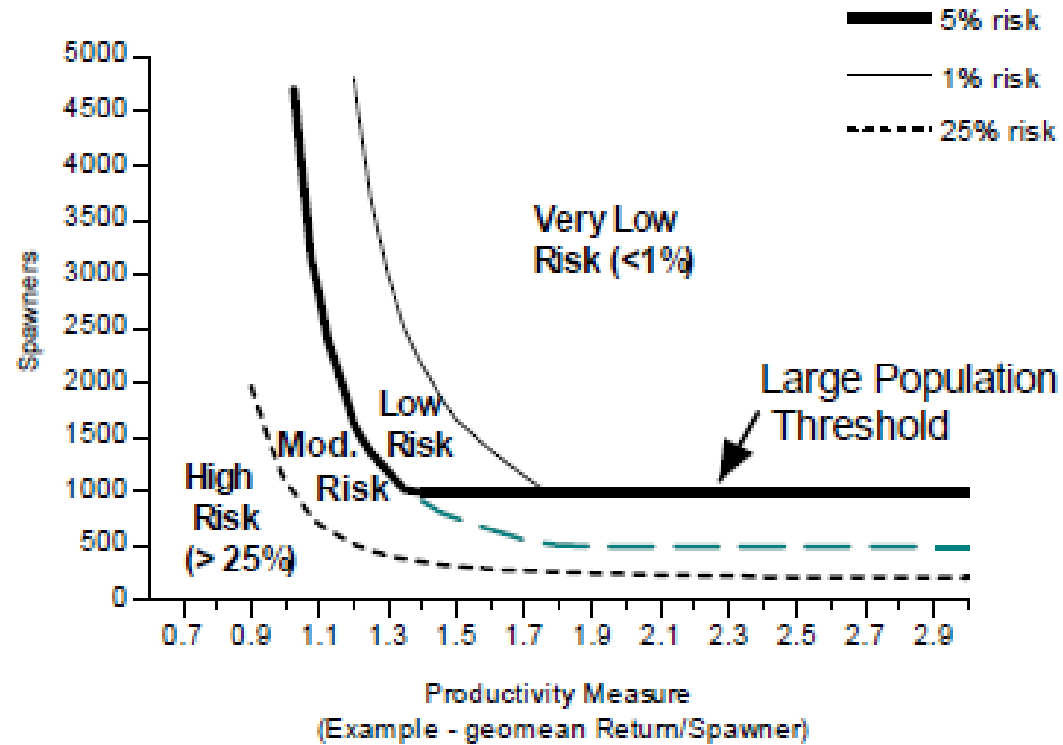


Figure 1. Matrix of possible Abundance/Productivity and Spatial structure/Diversity scores for application at the population level. Percentages for abundance and productivity (A/P) scores represent the probability of extinction in a 100-year time period. Cells that contain a “V” are considered viable combinations; “HV” indicates Highly Viable combinations; “M\*” indicates combinations that can be regarded as candidates for “maintained.” The darkest cells represent combinations of A/P and SSD at greatest risk.

|                                    |                       | Spatial Structure/Diversity Risk |     |          |      |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----|----------|------|
|                                    |                       | Very Low                         | Low | Moderate | High |
| Abundance/<br>Productivity<br>Risk | Very Low<br>(<1%)     | HV                               | HV  | V        | M*   |
|                                    | Low<br>(1-5%)         | V                                | V   | V        | M*   |
|                                    | Moderate<br>(6 – 25%) | M*                               | M*  | M*       |      |
|                                    | High<br>(>25%)        |                                  |     |          |      |

# Fish and Habitat Science



# Co-Managing Sustainable Fisheries

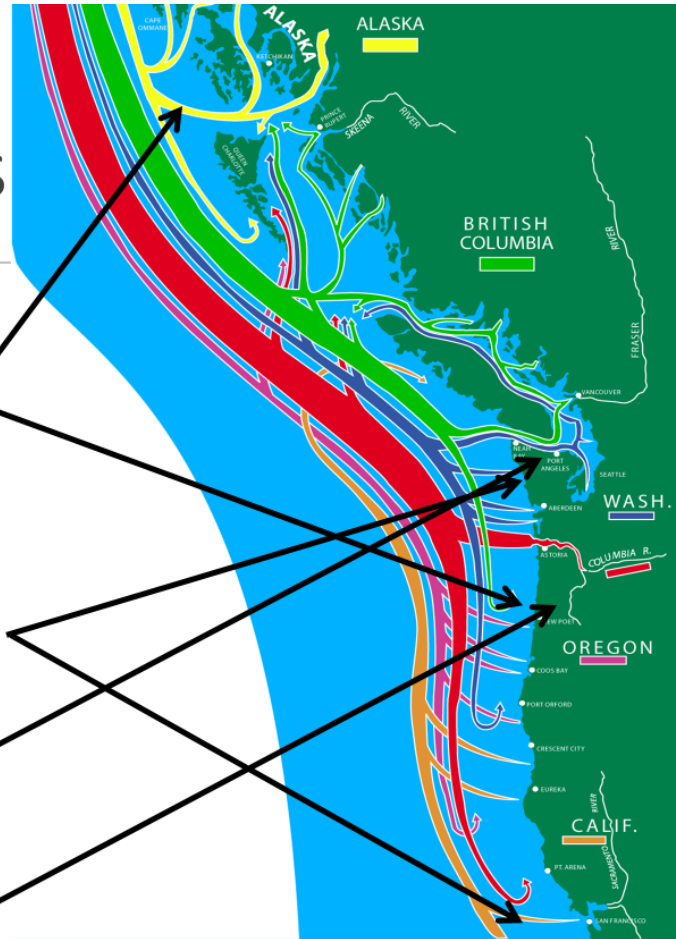
Complex, multi-jurisdictional processes

Pacific Salmon Treaty

Pacific Fishery Management Council

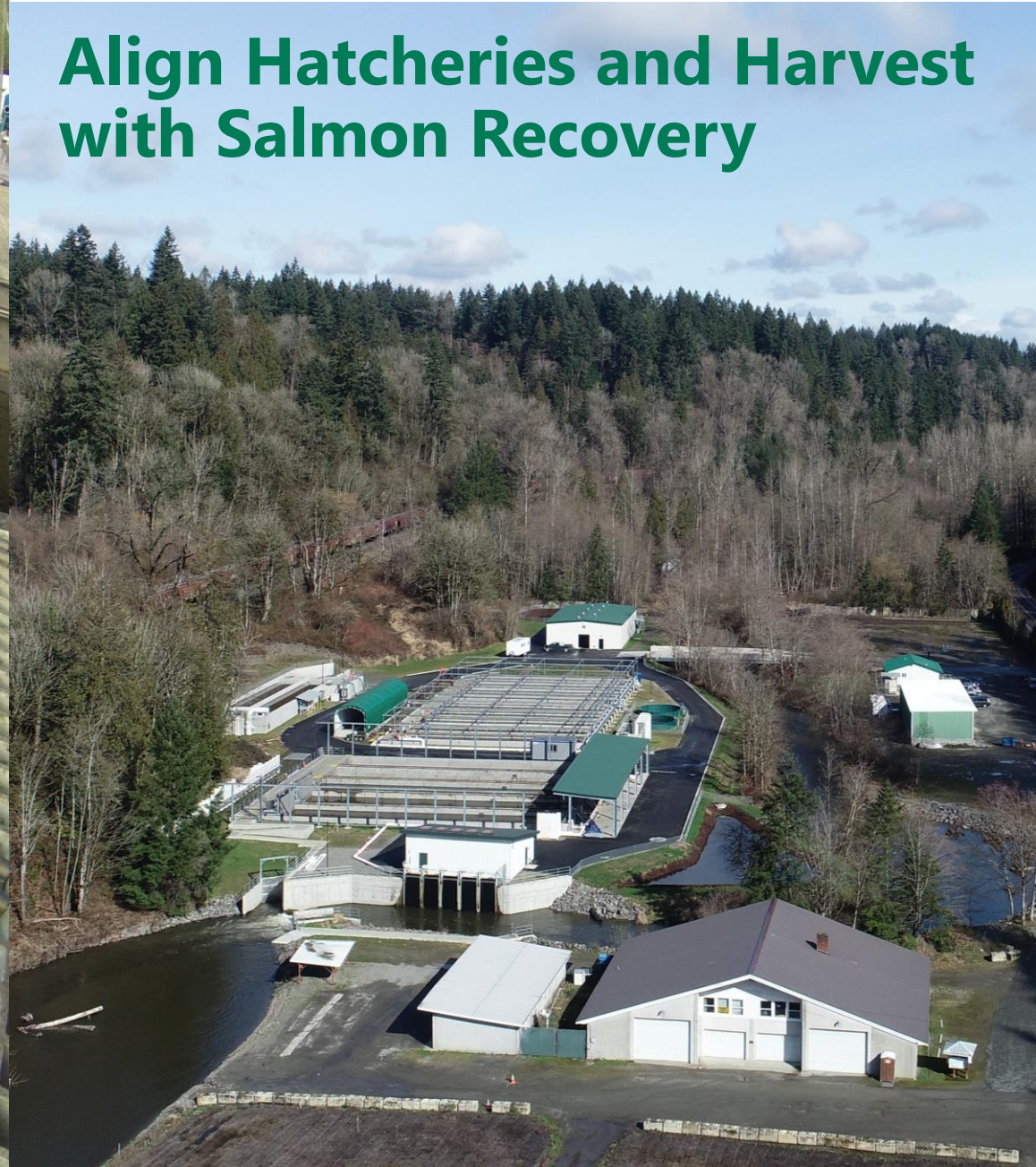
U.S. v Washington

U.S. v Oregon



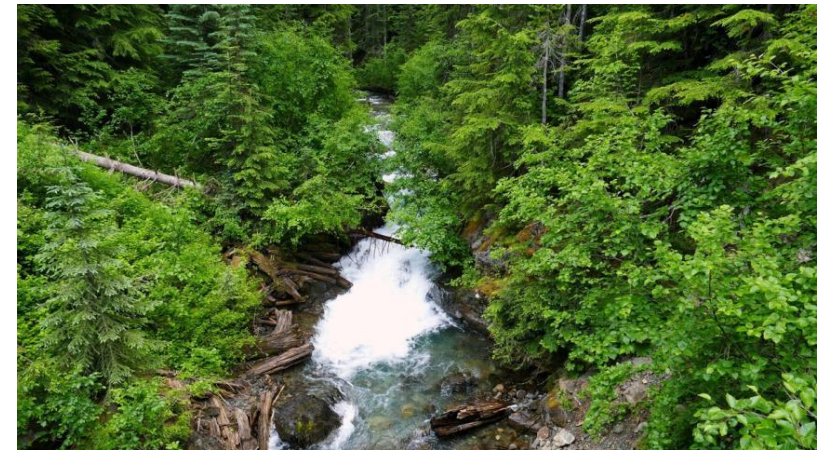
- Comanagement of fisheries in WA with Treaty Tribes
  - Pre-season negotiations and in-season management
  - Conservation goals
  - SRKW
- Modernizing data systems and reporting
- ESA-compliant fishery modeling
- Sustainable commercial and recreational opportunities

# Align Hatcheries and Harvest with Salmon Recovery



# Protect and Restore Vital Salmon Habitat

- Priority Habitats and Species
- Riparian science and policy
- Water science and policy
- Net Ecological Gain proviso
- Technical guidance for local governments
- Restoration implementation and guidance
- Synthesizing data for evaluation and prioritization





# Fish Passage

Brian Abbott Fish Barrier  
Removal Board

Compliance with the  
culvert injunction

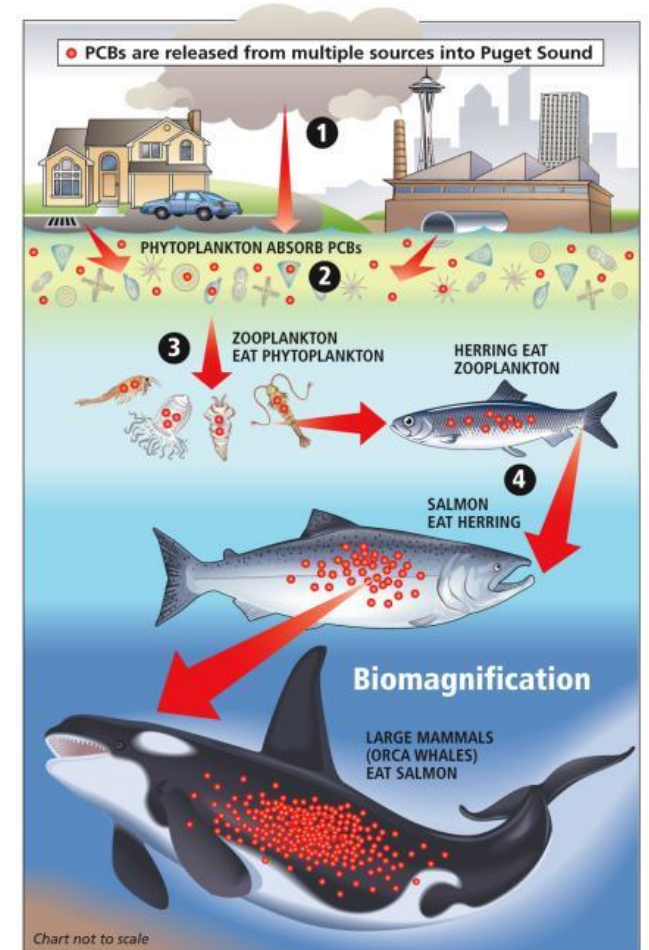
Reintroduction in the  
Upper Columbia

Statewide Fish Passage  
Strategy

# Invest in Clean Water Infrastructure

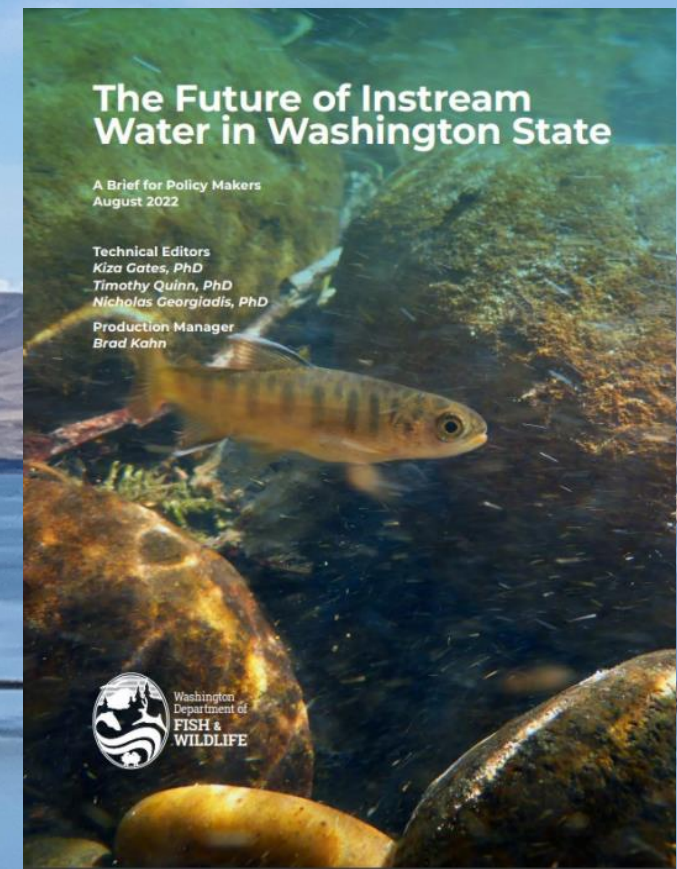


- Where are toxics affecting salmon and salmon habitat?
- How well are remediation efforts working?
- What are the effects on salmon population viability?



# Build Climate Resiliency

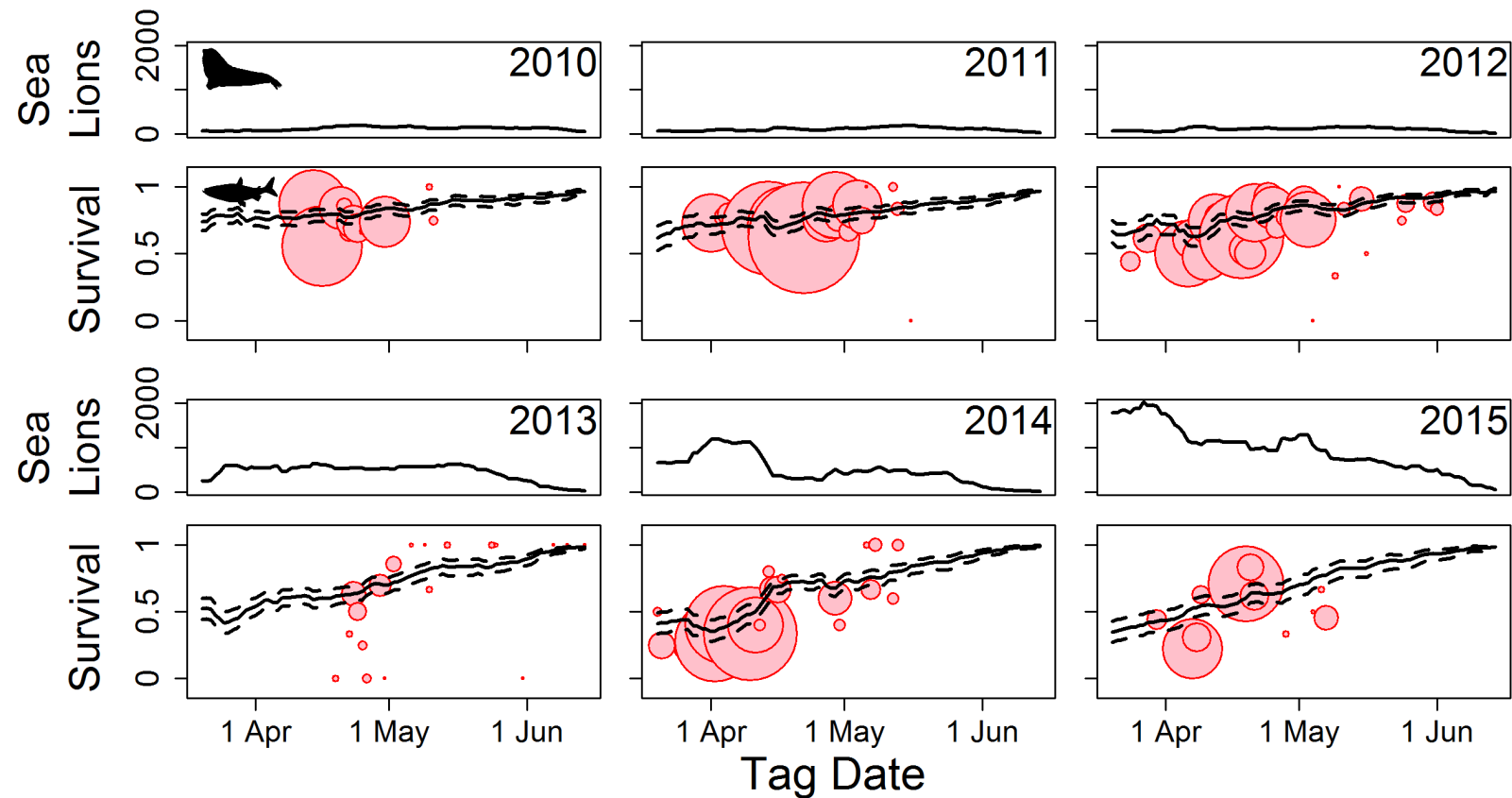
- Restore streamflow
- Drought response preparedness
- Climate resilient hatcheries
- Climate resilient watersheds



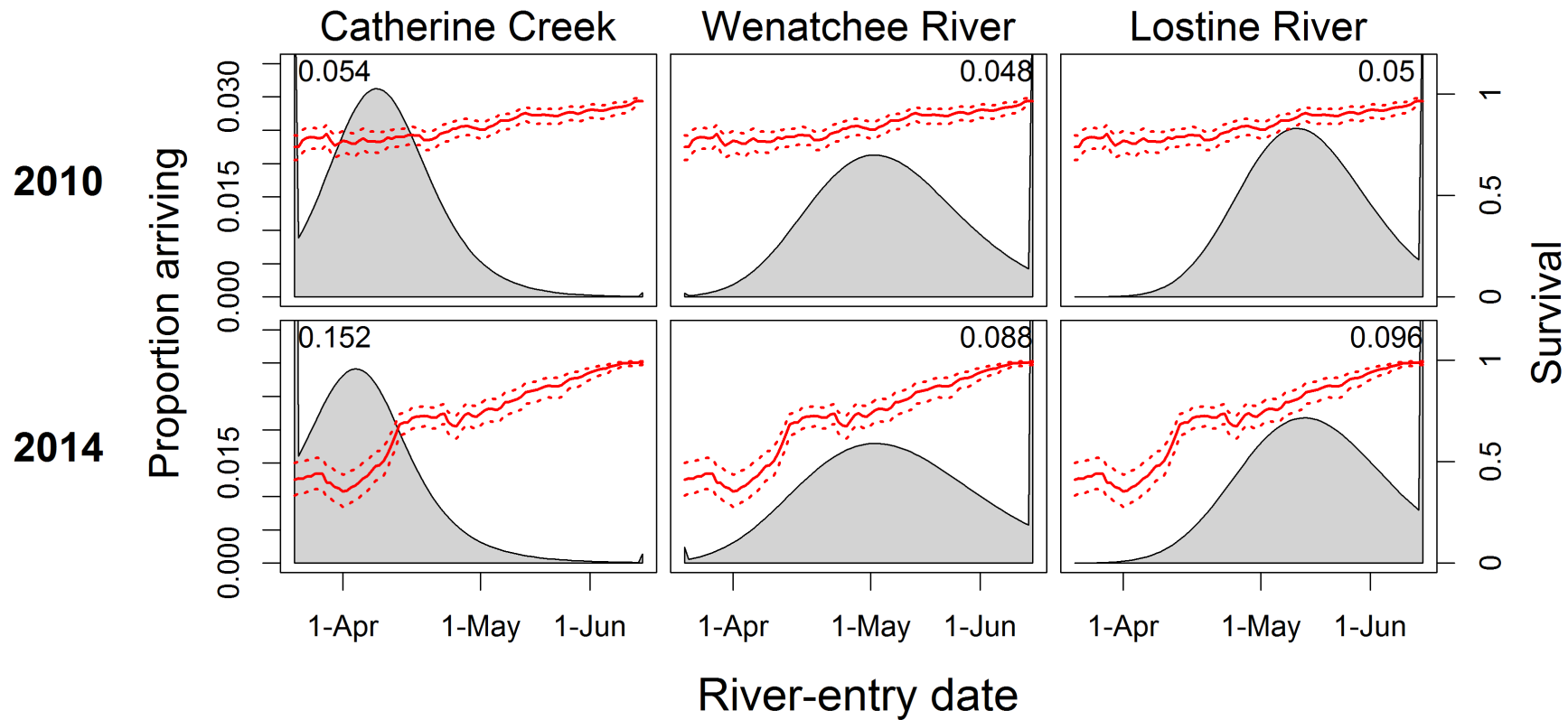
# Address Predation and Food Web Issues



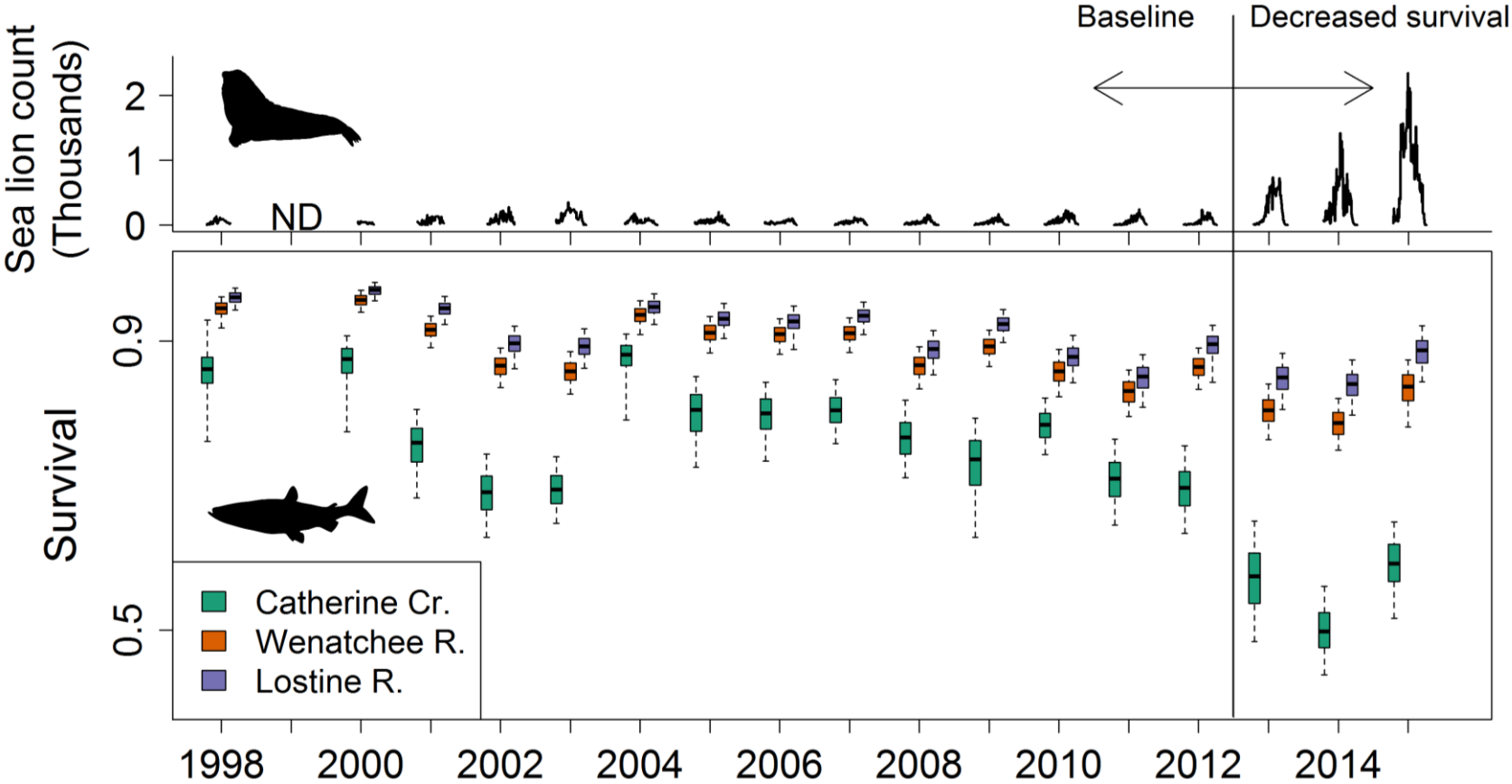
# Survival of adult spring-summer Chinook upstream from Astoria to passing Bonneville 2010–2015



# Assessing how population-specific migration timing affects survival



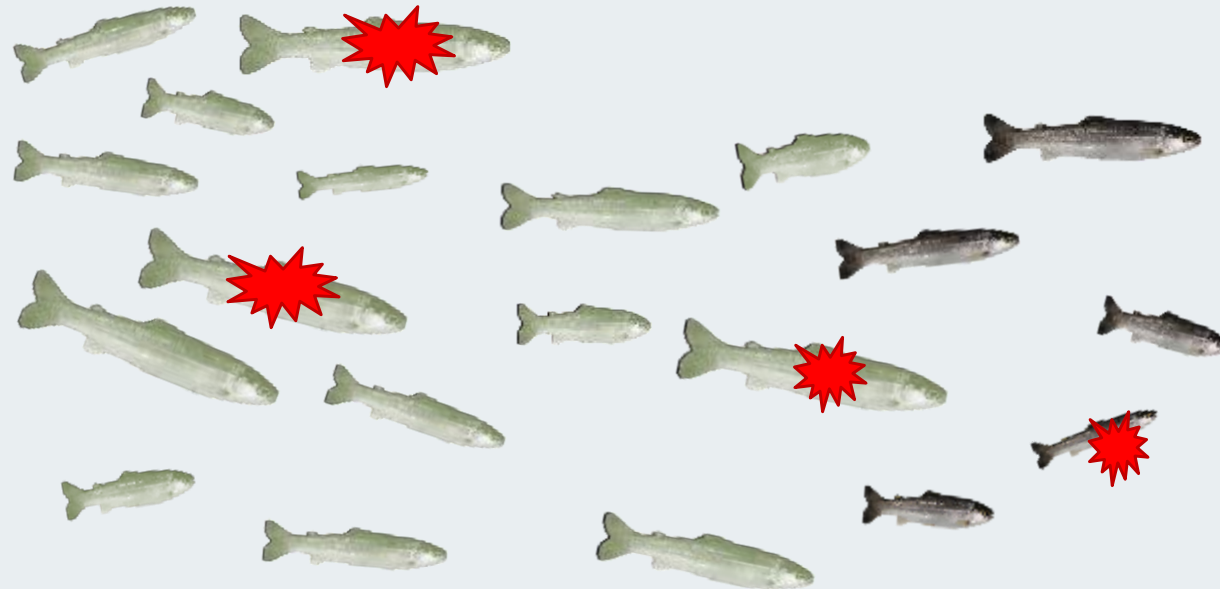
# Predicted population-specific annual survival



# Compensatory vs. Additive Mortality

What proportion would have died anyway

- Assume:
  - 20 STHD released from RIS
  - Without terns, 25% will survive
  - Breeding terns need 4 fish (i.e. 25%)
    - Target fish more or less at random => partially additive ( $a=0.25$ )
- With a “random sample” survival rate = additivity rate
- On a long enough timeline, additivity necessarily goes to zero







THAT SALMON YOU'RE EATING MAY BE COMING OFF SOMEONE ELSE'S PLATE...