



Connecting the Pieces

How the Region's Efforts Fit Together to Foster Fish Recovery

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Substantial progress has already been made to improve conditions in the Columbia and Snake River basins for salmon, steelhead, bull trout, Kootenai River white sturgeon and other fish listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Efforts to recover threatened and endangered fish populations continue to build momentum.

Guided by the Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy, also called the All-H Paper, federal agencies have been changing the way they operate dams in the Federal

Columbia River Power System (FCRPS), improving fish passage systems at the dams, protecting and repairing important habitat, changing hatchery practices and better managing harvest activities. They are working together to set up monitoring systems and research programs to evaluate these efforts and determine the

best use of scientific know-how and dollars.

But the federal agencies are not going it alone. Just as the All-H Paper was created with extensive input from states, tribes and

natural systems affecting fish.

One challenge these agencies face is coordinating all of these activities. If we think of the regional recovery effort as a puzzle with hundreds of inter-

locking pieces, we can more readily understand how these many efforts—both localized and wide scale—connect to the “big picture” and play a critical role in achieving success. So, just what are the pieces of this puzzle? And how do they fit together?

Following the listing of 12 species of Columbia Basin salmon and steelhead, and the later

addition of bull trout and Kootenai River white sturgeon, the Federal Caucus (see page 3 box) kicked into high gear. In December 2000, the Caucus released the All-H Paper, and NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) released their FCRPS Biological Opinions (BiOps).

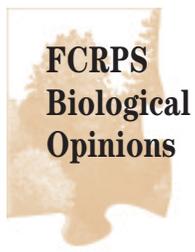
other interested stakeholders, the actual recovery process depends on the integrated efforts of many parties to be successful. States, tribes, environmental groups, river users and other groups and individuals are pulling together to do what they can to redress human impacts on





These documents provide a jump start for recovery efforts, while the more arduous task of individual species recovery planning gets under way.

When species are listed under the ESA, the law stipulates that the responsible federal agencies must develop detailed plans for their recovery. These plans include objective, measurable criteria for “de-listing” each species, site-specific actions, and estimates of time and costs needed for implementation. The law also places special requirements on actions permitted, carried out, or funded by federal agencies.



Issued by NOAA Fisheries (for salmon and steelhead) and USFWS (for bull trout and sturgeon), the BiOps

were prepared in consultation with the three federal Action Agencies responsible for managing federal dams in the FCRPS. These agencies are the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation. The BiOps recommend over 200 actions to avoid jeopardizing ESA-listed fish. The actions include fish passage improvements and operations such as spilling water for fish at the dams, as well as offsite measures such as selective fishing methods, hatchery plans and habitat protection and restoration. The combination of actions is expected to result in

Judge Redden finds NOAA Fisheries’ Biological Opinion Flawed

On May 7, 2003, Judge James A. Redden of the Federal District Court of Oregon issued an opinion ruling in favor of a coalition of environmental groups in National Wildlife Federation et al. v. National Marine Fisheries Service et al. This case challenged NOAA Fisheries’ 2000 BiOp, which guides operation of the FCRPS for salmon and steelhead. The judge determined that the BiOp didn’t meet certain legal requirements to document salmon-saving actions.

Mainly, Judge Redden’s concern is that NOAA Fisheries improperly relied on basinwide, offsite measures, for which there either was not sufficient consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, or, for the non-federal actions, that were not “reasonably certain” to occur. The offsite measures are those in the habitat, harvest and hatcheries arenas that are meant to make up for hydro system fish losses.

In a May 16 hearing, Judge Redden remanded, or handed back, the BiOp to NOAA Fisheries to correct deficiencies within one year. He also called for status reports and conferences every 90 days. Judge Redden subsequently rejected the plaintiffs’ request that the court invalidate the entire BiOp while it’s being fixed. He ruled instead that it should stay in place while its deficient parts are being rewritten. The Action Agencies will continue actions to restore listed salmon and steelhead as the federal agencies work together to respond to the judge’s instructions.

survival improvements throughout the life cycle that will reduce extinction risk and increase the likelihood of recovery.

The Action Agencies develop an implementation plan each year—a rolling “big picture” five-year plan, including a more-detailed plan for the first year—to translate the BiOps into action. These plans guide operations of 14 federally owned dams in the Columbia River Basin as well as the offsite mitigation activities such as habitat and hatchery improvements undertaken by the Action Agencies.



This Federal Caucus document provides a framework for the BiOps and species recovery planning

and addresses steps to be taken by federal agencies. It approaches recovery from the perspective of the fish life cycle: integrating BiOps requirements with other measures to improve hydro system passage and hatchery operations, protect and restore habitat and encourage selective harvest. The strategy prioritizes actions with the best chance of producing measurable near-term benefits and establishes ways to gauge success and factor in new scientific findings.



Federal Caucus: Agencies Play Key Roles in Recovery

The Federal Caucus includes the federal agencies with natural resource responsibilities under the ESA. These agencies have different authorities and jurisdictions for salmon recovery:

- The National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) – has ESA jurisdiction over anadromous fish and a role regulating fisheries. (Previously referred to as NMFS.)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) – operates and administers the National Fish Hatchery System and the National Wildlife Refuge System; has ESA jurisdiction over fish, wildlife and plant species, except for some marine species that are the responsibility of NOAA Fisheries.
- The Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Action Agencies – The Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) markets electricity from federal dams and plays a key role in funding fish and wildlife mitigation programs, while the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) operate federal dams in the system. While addressing dam impacts on listed species, the agencies are also responsible for operating the river system to serve multiple purposes, including irrigation, flood control, power, navigation, etc.
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – implements and enforces the Clean Water Act.
- U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) – manage public forest and rangelands that provide critical spawning and rearing habitat for listed species.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) – trustee for tribal and individual Indian lands and resources held in trust. Columbia Basin Tribes have management authority for fish, water and wildlife resources passing through their lands.



Subbasin Planning

Concurrent with BiOps and basinwide strategy implementation, the four-state Northwest Power and

Conservation Council (formerly Northwest Power Planning Council) has begun a process through its Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Program to develop individual plans in each of 62 subbasins in the Columbia River Basin. Collectively, these subbasin plans will make up a significant portion of the recovery puzzle. Under the BPA-funded Subbasin Planning Initiative, local planning groups comprising local, state, regional, tribal and federal partners are developing the subbasin plans. The plans will include an inventory of what fish use particular subbasins, an assessment of current and future conditions and ultimately a management plan providing a vision statement, goals and biological objectives for the subbasin.

When completed by June 2004 and adopted by the Council by the beginning of 2005, each subbasin plan will provide a blueprint for how local recovery efforts will target listed species and other natural resource and management concerns. Each plan will identify and help direct dollars to specific actions needed—e.g., protection of key habitats, replanting of biologically important riparian lands, installation of culverts to reconnect streams—to recover listed fish in tributary and estuary habitats. Subbasin plans will help guide actions under the All-H

Regional Recovery Efforts

While the basinwide strategy takes a comprehensive approach to all aspects of the ecosystem, it recognizes that recovery will require extensive coordination of federal actions with those of regional groups, states, tribes and local entities—other important pieces of the recovery puzzle.



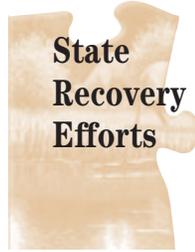
Paper and help prioritize offsite mitigation actions under the BiOps. In addition, these subbasin plans can provide building blocks for species recovery plans. In the interim as the plans come together, the Council's established Provincial Review process, which brings together scientists and federal agencies to evaluate and fund projects benefiting fish, has been used to select projects now under way.

Hatchery and Harvest Improvements

Several states and tribes are working with NOAA Fisheries and USFWS to develop hatchery and harvest reforms to help recovery of listed fish in the basin. One initiative is to develop and implement Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans that will incorporate new, biologically based, artificial propagation strategies to enhance conservation of listed species throughout the region. Complementing this effort is the Council's Artificial Production Review and Evaluation process, which is an inventory and evaluation of salmon, steelhead and resident fish production programs in the basin.

Another initiative involves developing Fisheries Management and Evaluation Plans to conserve listed species while allowing sport angling. These plans include measures for selective harvest of hatchery fish and non-native, warm water fish to reduce competition with wild fish, as well as gear and handling restrictions to ensure listed fish are not harmed. These initiatives play key roles in

the implementation of hatchery and harvest actions called for under the BiOps, and in development of individual subbasin plans.



Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana have authority over fish, wildlife and water resources within their respective jurisdictions. State water resource agencies, for example, control how much water is withdrawn from streams and reservoirs for irrigation, municipal and industrial water supply and other purposes. Some states have developed their own management and recovery plans for Columbia Basin fish and wildlife resources. Coordination with basinwide recovery efforts is ensured through participation of key state representatives in regional groups.

Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds

The Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds is the state framework for implementing state activities that benefit listed fish within the Oregon portion of the river basin. Success depends on implementing and integrating four key parts of the plan—agency actions, voluntary restoration actions, monitoring, and science oversight—that together provide innovative solutions to support recovery of native fish, improve water quality and restore watersheds. Under the plan, Oregon is:

- Developing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

standards for water quality-impaired waterways throughout the state. TMDLs specify the maximum amounts of pollutants a water body may receive and still meet water quality standards

- Replacing culverts to increase salmon access to habitat
- Developing agricultural water quality management plans
- Implementing new native fish conservation and hatchery management policies that focus on recovery and sustainability of native fish species. Conservation plans will be developed in coordination with subbasin planning and ESA recovery planning
- Refining water use allocations through water right transfers and allocation of conserved water
- Continuing to fund local and private habitat initiatives and provide technical support.

Washington's Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon

Washington's 1998 Salmon Recovery Planning Act provided the framework for developing and funding habitat protection and restoration projects. The Statewide Strategy to Recover Salmon guides programs to improve the habitat of listed species and assist in recovery planning such as:

- Financing local salmon recovery projects to



Thinking Regionally—Acting Locally

Highlights of “On-The-Ground” Efforts Taking Place in the Basin’s Willamette/Lower Columbia Region

The Willamette/Lower Columbia (W/LC) region is defined by the 146 Columbia River miles from The Dalles Dam to the Pacific Ocean, the tributaries in Washington and Oregon that feed into the Columbia below The Dalles Dam, and the entire Willamette River Basin. This region includes the Cowlitz and Lewis watersheds, along with numerous smaller tributaries that begin on the slopes of the Cascade and Coast Range Mountains. Urbanization, dams, varied topography and elevations, and a Pacific Coast–influenced climate all affect the diverse biological communities native to this area. Here are some examples of how this region is approaching salmon recovery, and how these efforts are supported by state, tribal, regional or federal efforts.

Portland Residents Work Together to Improve Two Watersheds

The city of Portland, Oregon, through its River Renaissance Program, is leveraging federal funds and entering into a partnership with local businesses, environmental groups, school districts and neighborhood volunteers to help restore two important watersheds. These activities support the concepts of the Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy and demonstrate how local groups are moving forward with restoration projects.

Johnson Creek Watershed Activities

Johnson Creek is an important habitat for threatened steelhead, coho and chinook salmon and cutthroat trout. Over the past five years, more than 50 properties along the creek and its tributaries have been planted



At Kelley Creek in Oregon, students learn the importance of using native plants for habitat restoration.

with native vegetation and have undergone other improvements through a partnership between the Johnson Creek Watershed Council and the cities of Portland, Milwaukie and Gresham, and Multnomah and Clackamas counties.

Three thousand native trees (willow, ash and Douglas fir) and shrubs were planted. Blackberry vines, ivy and other invasive species were replaced with native plants that will shade the creek, provide cover and nutrients for aquatic species, and decrease erosion.

Neighborhood volunteers recently restored native plants

along 300 feet of the stream bank at Tideman. Milwaukie High School students helped restore the stream bank at Johnson Creek Park. At Westmoreland, the city is partnering with the Corps to restore a quarter-mile stretch of Crystal Springs. A quarter mile of this tributary, now lined with concrete, will be rebuilt as a natural riparian corridor and three fish-blocking culverts will be replaced to provide young salmon access



A Johnson Creek Watershed Council volunteer helps with a revegetation project.

to the restored area of the park and high quality habitat farther upstream.

Twenty acres of bramble-covered fields were converted into a natural wetland designed to store flood water, filter and clean storm runoff, stabilize Johnson Creek's banks and improve habitat for wildlife and listed fish. Portions of Johnson and Kelley creeks will have natural meanders restored with the help of federal and state funding. Meanwhile, students from nearby David Douglas School District have adopted the site, where they have planted and intend to maintain 3,000 native trees and shrubs.

Columbia Slough Watershed Activities

The city of Portland, the Multnomah County Drainage District and the Corps are working to restore Columbia Slough. The project involves building wetland "benches" that create a mini-flood plain in the slough's channel, increasing habitat and improving water quality by filtering out storm-water pollutants. In addition, five culverts will be lowered, so the slough flows more evenly, preventing ponds of stagnant water and algae growth. Unique habitat on the slough's eastern end will also be restored and protected.

The city of Portland's Watershed Revegetation Team cleared and replanted a five-acre site along the nearby Peninsula Crossing Trail with Oregon ash, black cottonwood, red osier dogwood, snowberry and other native plants. Volunteers then finished the job by planting an additional half acre, and restored native vegetation along a new, 2,500-foot section of trail.

Skamania Residents Initiate Dam Removal on Duncan Creek

In 2001, residents in Skamania, Washington, sponsored a project to improve salmon spawning habitat in local Duncan Creek. Accomplished with the help of the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office, Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and other agencies, the dam removal project supported the regional goal of recovering listed native chum salmon in the Columbia River.

Historically, Duncan Creek provided critical habitat for more than 500 spawning chum salmon until a dam built in 1964 totally blocked fish passage. In 1999, a breached dike destroyed a nearby spawning area, magnifying the importance of restoring fish passage to Duncan Creek. The homeowners association footed 64 percent of the project's \$769,000 cost. Chum salmon are once again using Duncan Creek for spawning habitat.



Who are the Major Players in the Willamette/Lower Columbia Region?

In the W/LC region of the basin, three regional groups and an executive oversight committee have major responsibilities for fish recovery. The regional groups—described briefly below—comprise elected officials, local agency personnel, local landowners and concerned citizens who are working with federal, state and technical personnel to oversee restoration actions on the ground, monitor and evaluate project effectiveness, and ensure that recovery actions are completed on time. They are also responsible for crucial subbasin planning in the W/LC region and will collaborate with NOAA Fisheries to integrate these subbasin plans into species recovery plans.

- **Willamette Restoration Initiative (WRI)** – a public/private partnership that promotes and coordinates efforts to protect and restore the health of the Willamette watershed. WRI's Willamette Restoration Strategy identifies actions to protect and restore fish and wildlife habitat, increase populations of declining species, enhance water quality, and properly manage flood-plain areas within the context of human habitation and growth.
- **Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership** – a collaborative program of businesses and economic interests, citizens, non-profit organizations, local governments, the states of Oregon and Washington, and federal agencies working to protect and restore the estuary. The Partnership focuses on increasing habitat and its functions, improving land use practices to protect ecosystems, enhancing public education opportunities, improving coordination among multiple jurisdictions and interests, and reducing conventional and toxic pollutants.
- **Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board** – a Washington state entity with responsibility for restoring listed fish populations within the state's southwestern five-county region. With help from its steering committee, composed of representatives from federal agencies, tribes, state agencies and local governments, the board is developing an outline for a draft recovery plan that will implement subbasin planning goals on the Washington side of the lower Columbia River and include habitat, hatchery and fish passage measures developed as part of the hydro-relicensing process on the Cowlitz and Lewis rivers.
- **The Executive Committee for Lower Columbia and Willamette Salmonid Recovery** supports these three groups by ensuring a consistent and coordinated approach throughout the region, and by tracking, monitoring and reviewing subbasin and recovery planning progress. Members comprise representatives from each of the three regional groups, state agencies (Oregon and Washington governors' offices, both states' Departments of Fish and Wildlife), the City of Portland (representing local municipalities), Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, federal agencies (NOAA Fisheries, USFWS, BPA, Corps, EPA) and the Northwest Power and Conservation Council.



Meanwhile, in the Interior Columbia Region...

In the Interior Columbia Basin, similar improvements are under way to boost fish recovery. Thanks to collaborative efforts, salmon now have an easier upstream route on the lower Lemhi River near Salmon, Idaho. The project, sponsored by the Idaho Office of Species Conservation and funded by BPA, partnered the Lemhi Soil and Water Conservation District and Natural Resource Conservation Service, the Bureau of



A diversion on the Lemhi River directs water into a side channel for irrigation while allowing fish to migrate upstream. (Photo courtesy of the Bureau of Reclamation)

Reclamation, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Anadromous Fish Screen Shop, and individual landowners and irrigators.

Two existing irrigation diversions, sometimes called “push-up dams,” on the lower Lemhi were recently replaced with permanent, fish-friendly diversion structures. Fish now have easier passage, irrigators still have their water, and the river will not have to be disturbed each year to create a push-up dam.

Irrigation diversions are structures in the river that direct water into an irrigation ditch or pipeline. A push-up diversion dam is built of cobbles and

gravel that are pushed up from the stream bottom by a bulldozer to create a barrier across the river channel. Push-up dams can block fish migrating upstream to reach their spawning beds and require annual maintenance.

The two Lemhi diversions were replaced with structures built of rock and boulders that were specifically engineered to incorporate large, natural materials in order to be more stable and long-lived. A notched “V” opening provides for fish passage over the structure during low stream flow periods. In addition, a headgate was installed at one of the diversions to enable the irrigator to control the amount of water being diverted.



- remove fish barriers and restore and purchase habitat, through grants dispensed by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.
- Implementing new Washington Forest Practice Rules
- Developing and implementing a comprehensive monitoring strategy and action plan for watershed health, with a focus on salmon recovery
- Acquiring water rights to improve in-stream flows and establishing stream flow requirements for fish
- Developing TMDL standards approved state wide, with many additional TMDLs under development in the Columbia subbasins
- Developing regional recovery plans for ESA-listed fish in Puget Sound and in four Columbia Basin salmon recovery regions in Washington.

Idaho's Recovery Efforts

Idaho has undertaken a number of efforts to restore fish habitats and recover fishery resources, including:

- Creating an Office of Species Conservation in 2000 to work on subbasin planning and coordinate the efforts of all state offices addressing natural resource issues
- Developing subbasin plans for the Clearwater, Salmon and Snake Hells Canyon subbasins
- Developing TMDL standards for several

- subbasins containing anadromous fish
- Continuing to screen diversions throughout the Salmon River Basin, a partnership of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, BPA, Reclamation and NOAA Fisheries
- Developing a habitat conservation agreement in the Upper Salmon subbasin that will address riparian restoration and in-stream flows
- Developing a long-term habitat conservation plan in the Lemhi subbasin to facilitate habitat restoration activities and ensure adequate in-stream flows.
- Conducting studies and developing new rules to address water right conflicts and demands on limited groundwater resources, which affect flows in streams essential to listed fish species.

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

In cooperation with a wide range of state, federal and tribal governments, local managers, landowners, local governments and other stakeholders, the department is participating in the following activities:

- Developing subbasin plans for the Flathead and Kootenai subbasins
- In 1997, updated a Flathead Basin habitat and fish passage plan for the Hungry Horse area that now guides watershed restoration efforts that

- emphasize passive restoration and offsite projects, particularly lake rehabilitations, to successfully create genetic reserves for native fish
- Stocking offsite waters for Hungry Horse and Libby dams mitigation
- Securing and restoring habitats in areas where fish migrations have been blocked by road culverts, dewatered stream reaches, and irrigation diversions.



Tribal Recovery Efforts

Columbia Basin Tribes are active participants in recovery efforts. Each tribe is pursuing multiple projects

to restore habitat and enhance salmon stock production, including involvement in developing Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans. Projects undertaken by the tribes are guided by their own plans such as the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission plan for the Columbia Basin, the "Spirit of the Salmon." Some of the tribes are lead entities for subbasin planning in their areas and almost all are participating in subbasin planning efforts.



Local Recovery Efforts

Counties and cities throughout the basin are also developing action agendas to aid recovery of listed species. New

awareness about watershed and wildlife health has resulted in hundreds of local restorative



actions that partner local government, businesses, even school children. Urban development and construction projects ranging from highway expansions to marina dock repairs now must address their environmental impacts on local waterways as part of their planning process. Many local governments are also participating in subbasin planning.



Technical Recovery Teams

Tackling the Science of Fish Recovery

The two Columbia River Basin Technical Recovery Teams (TRT) are among eight such teams established from Puget Sound to Southern California to set biological stan-

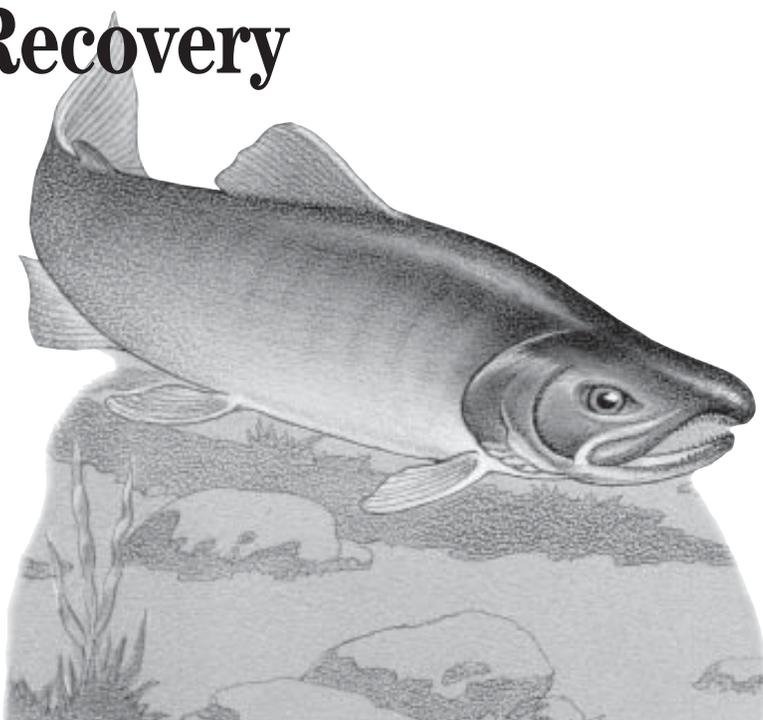
dards for recovery of the 26 ESA-listed West Coast salmon and steelhead populations. Each team is composed of 10 to 12 experts in such fields as salmon biology, population dynamics, conservation biology and ecology. In addition, each team has at least one member who thoroughly understands the geographical area and salmonids that inhabit it.

The responsibilities of each team are challenging:

- Identify de-listing goals so those involved in recovery efforts will know what to aim for and how well they are doing.
- Characterize the relationship between habitat conditions and fish abundance.
- Identify factors causing decline and early actions important to recovery.
- Identify research, monitoring and evaluation needs.
- Act as scientific advisors for groups actually carrying out recovery activities.

Completing the Puzzle to Achieve Species Recovery

All of these efforts play a role in completing the bigger puzzle by contributing to the region's success in recovery efforts. The knowledge and experience gained from these actions—from the smallest tributary improvement to widespread changes in dam operations—are only the building blocks for recovery. They must be prioritized and integrated to create a comprehensive recovery plan.





Recovery Planning for Salmon and Steelhead

As noted, the ESA requires recovery plans to contain objective, measurable goals for de-listing and a comprehensive list of actions necessary to achieve those goals. To that end, NOAA Fisheries has begun a two-phase process for developing recovery objectives and actions for each of the 12 “evolutionarily significant units” (ESUs) of Pacific salmon and steelhead listed as threatened or endangered in the Columbia River Basin. The agency divided the basin into two “recovery domains:” the Willamette/Lower

Columbia from the estuary to The Dalles Dam with five listed ESUs; and the Interior Columbia, the rest of the basin with seven listed ESUs. It then established TRTs for each domain, to address multiple ESUs across one or more subbasins. For Phase I of recovery planning, these science teams are working closely with existing teams and conservation efforts, including subbasin planning, to draft ESU de-listing goals by September 2003.

Phase II is the formal recovery planning stage, when all the puzzle pieces will fall into place.

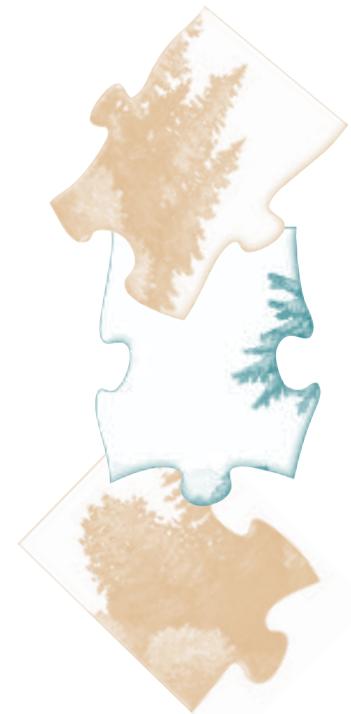
To identify actions necessary to achieve de-listing goals, NOAA Fisheries hopes to rely to the extent possible on local planning efforts, such as subbasin planning and regional efforts. TRT-identified goals will establish the yardstick for prioritizing these actions, but existing efforts will continue to play major roles in identifying and implementing overall recovery actions. NOAA Fisheries ultimately must ensure that individual plan components are integrated into a coherent, focused recovery plan at the ESU and regional scales.

Recovery Planning for Resident Fish

The USFWS is working closely with subbasin planners to help identify strategies to restore a variety of fish, wildlife, and plants and to identify habitats that are important to conservation and recovery of ESA listed species. The agency has developed a recovery plan for Kootenai River white sturgeon, and recently released a draft recovery plan for bull trout in the Columbia Basin for review and comment.

The draft bull trout recovery plan will be helpful to subbasin planners because it includes one chapter for each of 22 recovery units, many of which are specific to watersheds identified in the

Council’s subbasin planning. The plan includes the most recent technical information on the major tributaries where bull trout are present. It identifies the limiting factors to bull trout productivity, potential actions that would lead to recovery, and population levels necessary to achieve recovery. Review of the draft plan is an important opportunity for stakeholder input. The final will reflect input from recovery teams, scientific peer review, local and regional interest groups and the public. The management actions required for bull trout recovery are likely to complement actions for salmon and steelhead in the basin.





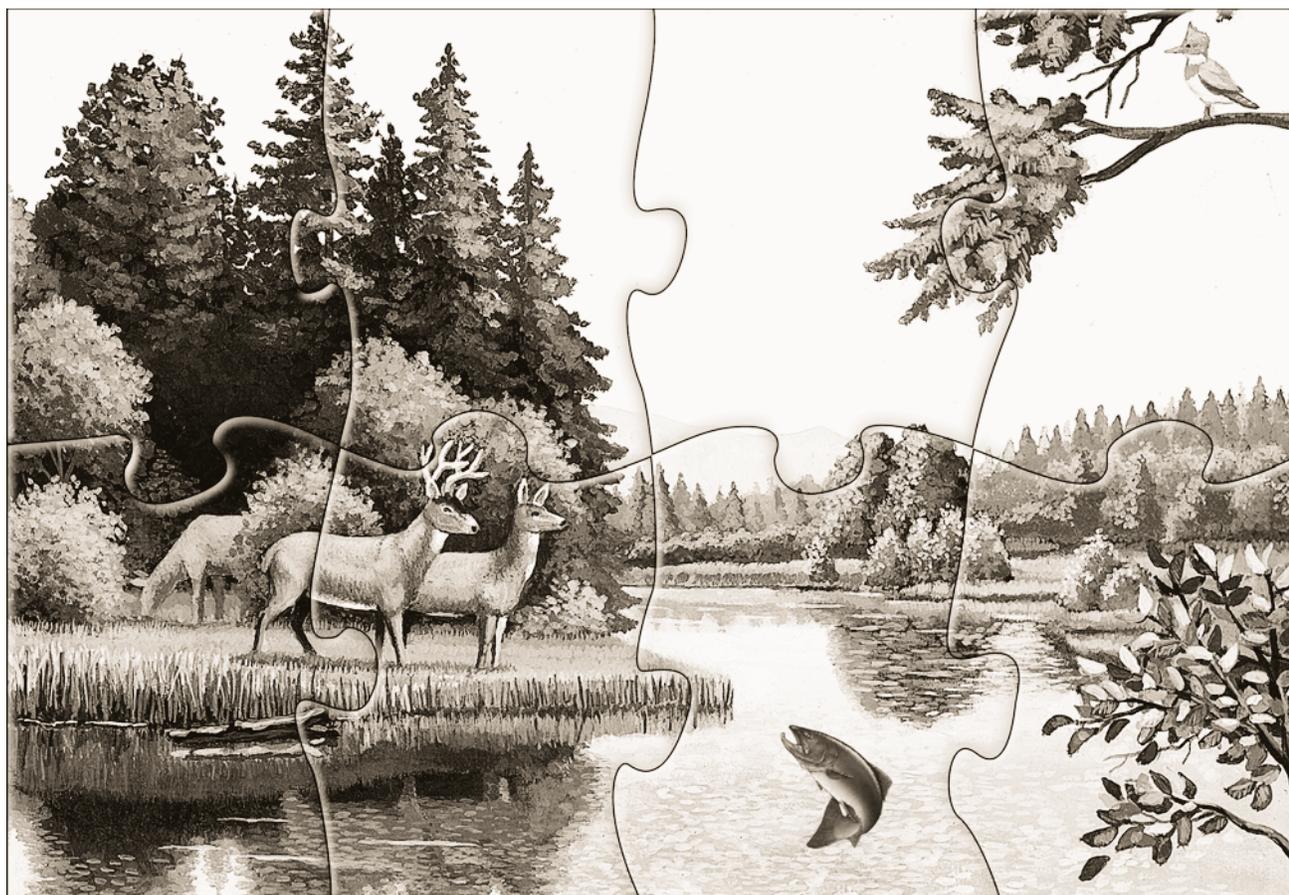
Working Together Toward Success

Orchestrating such an ambitious species recovery effort will not be easy. No matter how technically accurate recovery plans are, without the support and involvement of local citizens, municipalities, private

landowners, and state, tribal and federal agencies, such a staggering undertaking will not succeed. That is why so many groups throughout the Northwest are working hard to ensure their efforts are coordinated to restore

the region's natural resources to sustainable and healthy levels.

When all is said and done, we want our children, and their children, to experience a Northwest with abundant wild fish runs and full ecological diversity.



How to Get More Information

For more information on the All-H Salmon Recovery Strategy, the Federal Caucus, or Columbia River Basin fish and wildlife recovery, please visit the Federal Caucus Web site at www.salmonrecovery.gov. This Web site also includes

information about annual implementation plans and progress. You can also find previous issues of *Citizen Update*, internet links for related activities and documents, including the NOAA Fisheries and USFWS Biological Opinions.

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