



NEZ PERCE TRIBE

Department of Fisheries Resources Management

Administration • Enforcement • Harvest • Production • Research • Resident Fish • Watershed



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
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MEMORANDUM

Date: 8/5/10

To: Tony Grover, Northwest Power and Conservation Council

From: David B. Johnson, Program Manager

cc: Mark Fritsch, Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Re: Presentation to the Council for August 19, 2010

Thanks for the opportunity to provide a presentation to the Council. We will be presenting a PowerPoint describing the Tribe's Fisheries program. It has been a while since we last met with the Council, so our presentation will provide an update of activities within our various divisions (e.g. Watershed, Production, etc.). Because the Council members are already familiar with the various fisheries restoration activities underway in the basin, our focus will be on ideas or outcomes that are specific to what we do. In addition, we will also discuss several items that have gained recent attention including: the program without an MOA, progress on Northeast Oregon Hatchery, our BOG request for housing at Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery, and comments on the Categorical Review. Again, thanks for allotting time on the agenda.

c:\documents and settings\fritsch\my documents\mmo to grover on npcc presentation.doc (Mark Fritsch)



Nez Perce Tribe



DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Fisheries Department Overview

**Dave Johnson,
Department Manager**

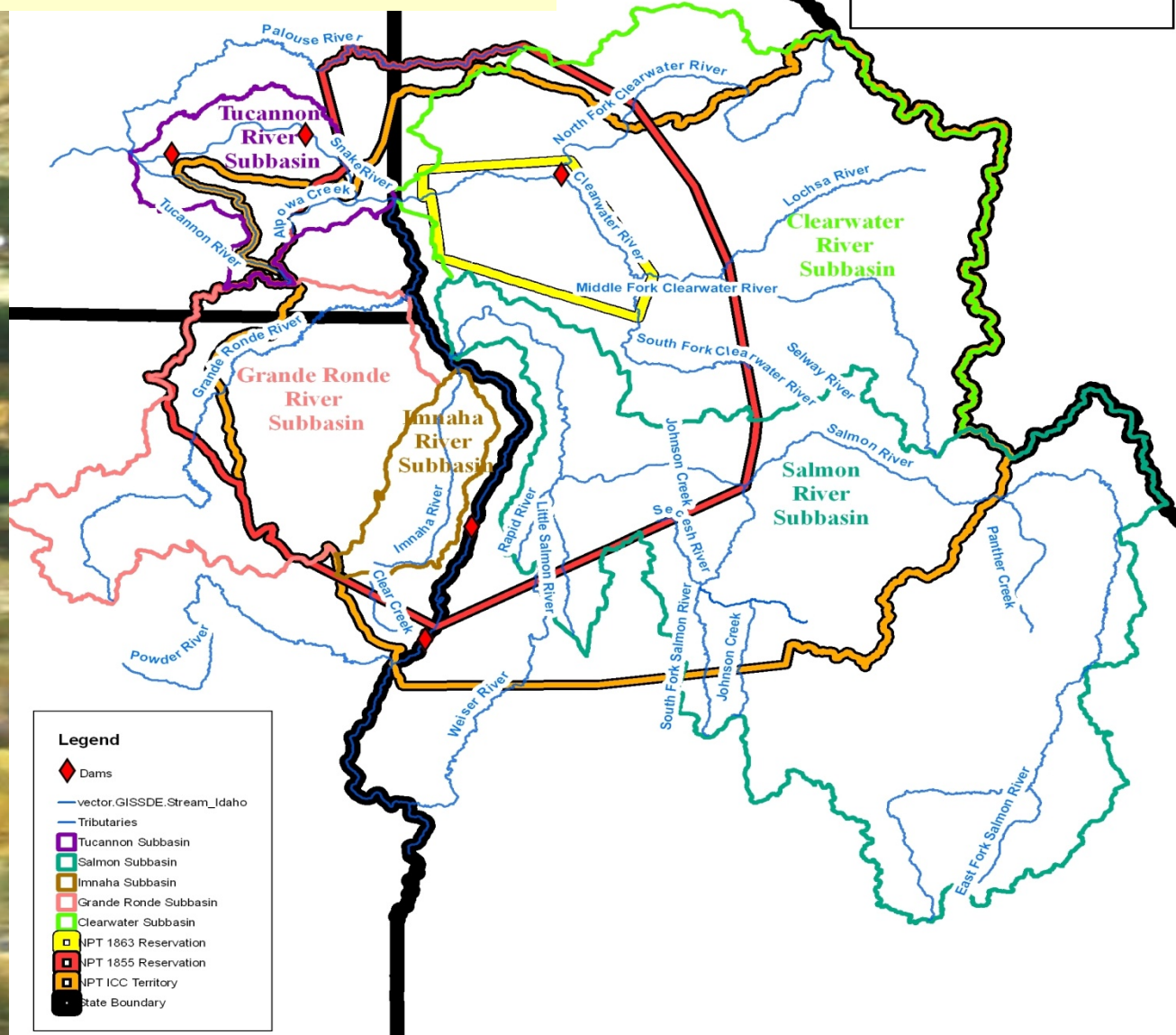
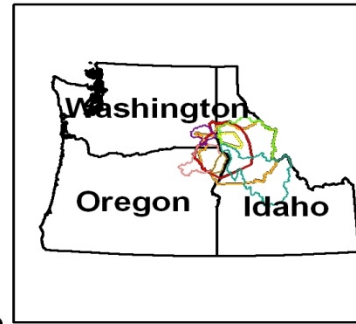


Nez Perce Tribe

Department of Fisheries Resources Management

- 7 “Divisions” – Administration, Watershed, Production, Resident Fish, Harvest, Conservation Enforcement, and Research.
- 175 Employees 130 Full Time, 45 Seasonal.
- 51% NPT, 3% other Tribe, 46% non-Indian.
- 50 Contracts for total = \$15 million annually.
- Offices in: Lapwai, Sweetwater, Orofino, Joseph, McCall, Powell and Grangeville.

Nez Perce Treaty Territory and Working Area



Watershed Division



Ridgetop-to-Ridgetop Management

Full Recontour at Stream Crossing



Territory of the Nez Perce Tribe

Vicinity View



Washington
Oregon

Montana
Idaho

Idaho

Walla
Lake

Payette
Lake

Cascade
Reservoir

Legend

- River
- State Boundary
- Ownership**
- Private
- Water
- Forest Service
- Corps of Engineers
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- State Land
- Idaho Fish & Game (Mitigation)
- Tribal Land

10 5 0 10 20
Miles



Watershed Division

Ridge-top to ridge-top watershed protection and restoration for rearing and spawning habitats and protection of water quality.

- The Tribe implements more watershed restoration projects than any other single entity in the Snake Basin.
- Extensive partnerships with Forest Service (60 – 70% public lands).
- Important implementation overlying BiOP “gap” areas (B-run steelhead habitat all within ceded lands).
- Provincial allocation cuts resulted in interruption of activity in SE Washington.

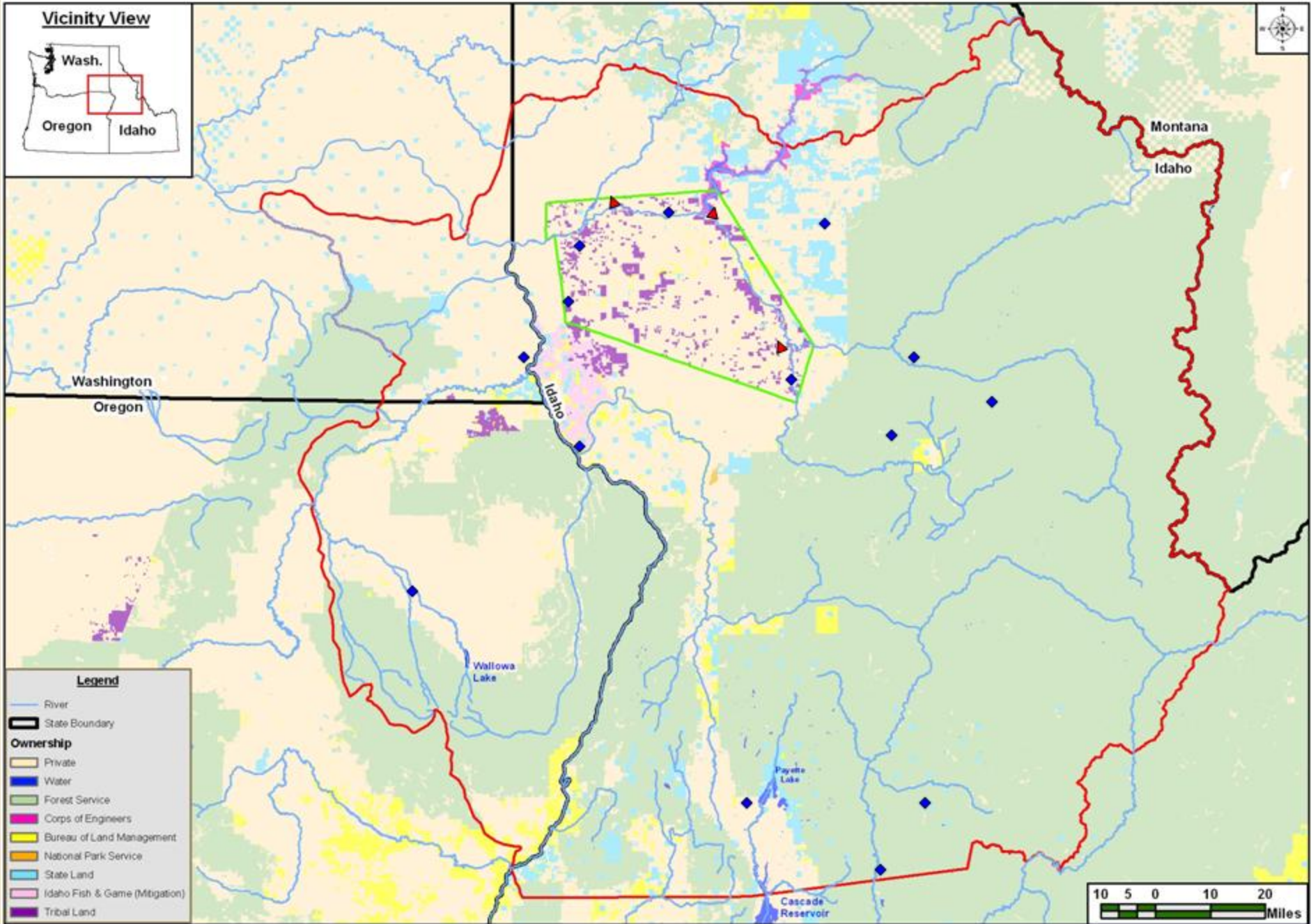
Production Division



Putting fish back in the rivers

Territory of the Nez Perce Tribe

Vicinity View



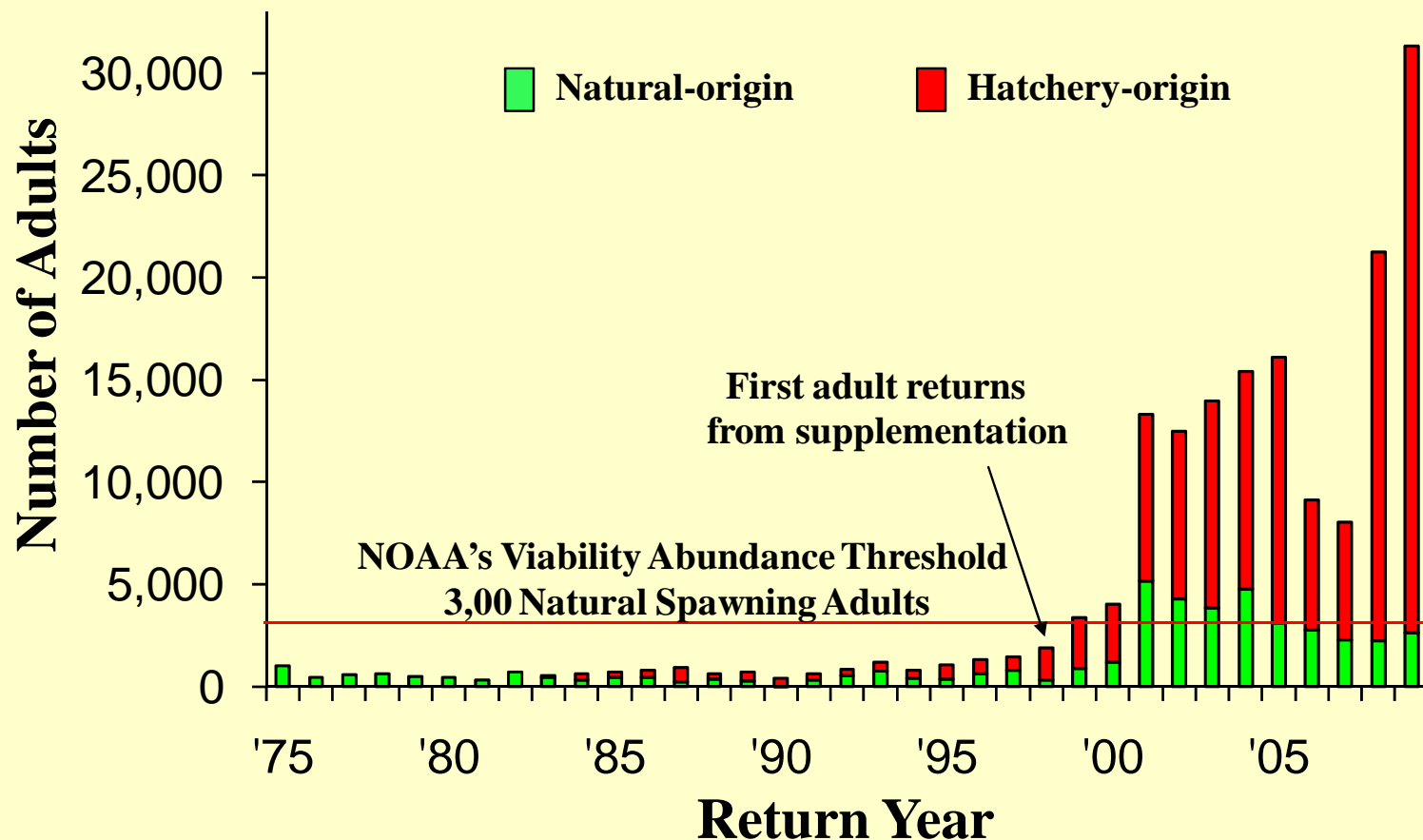
Production Division

“Putting fish back in the rivers” with intent of enhancing natural spawning and providing harvest.

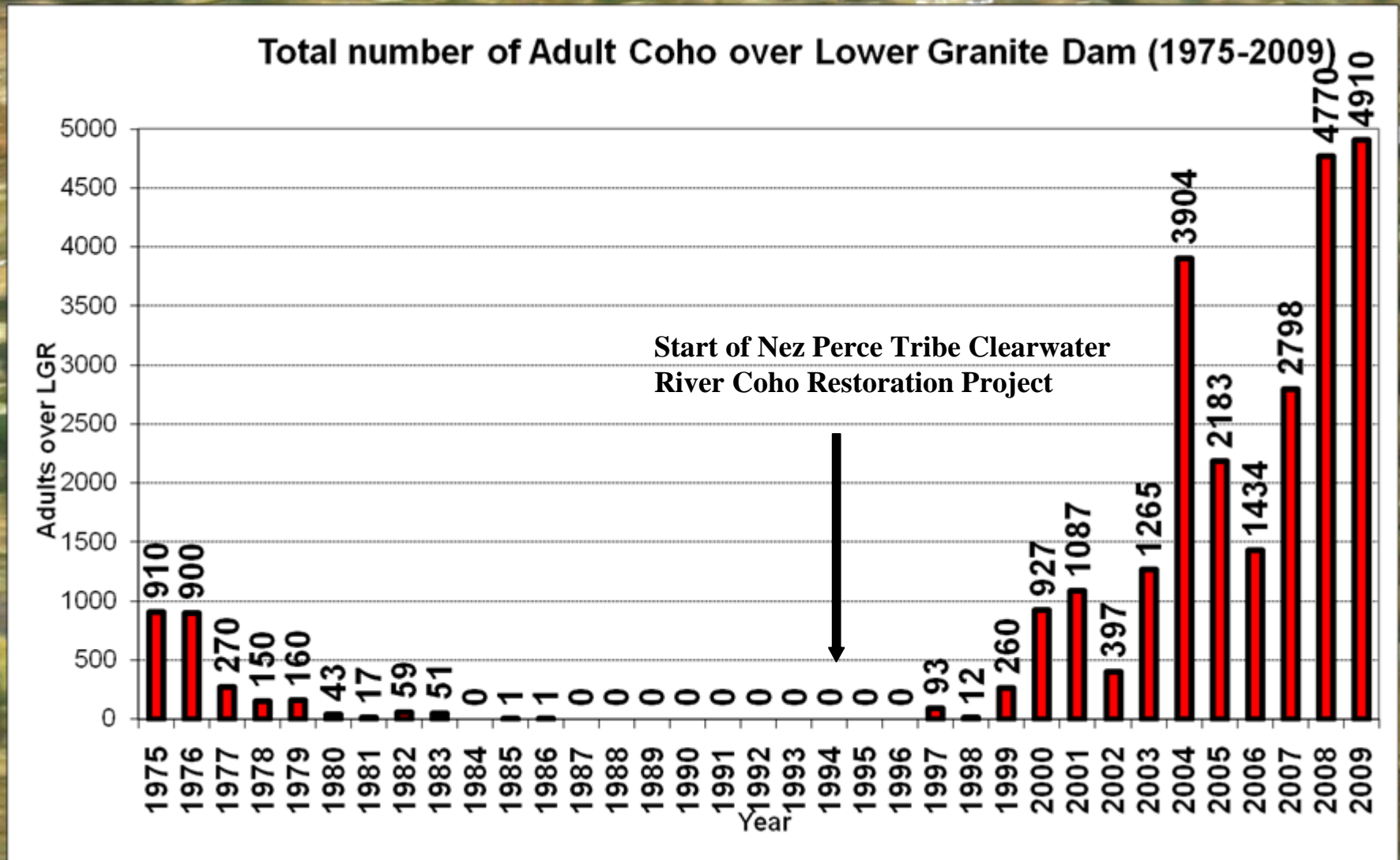
- Released over 8 million fish in 2009 (1/4 of basin's total).
- Spring , summer and fall chinook, coho, steelhead and lamprey.
- Kooskia NFH management and Dworshak co-management.
- Significantly cooperative program.
- Significant, improved co-management of basin's and region's hatchery program.

Fall Chinook Salmon Estimated Escapement to Lower Granite Dam

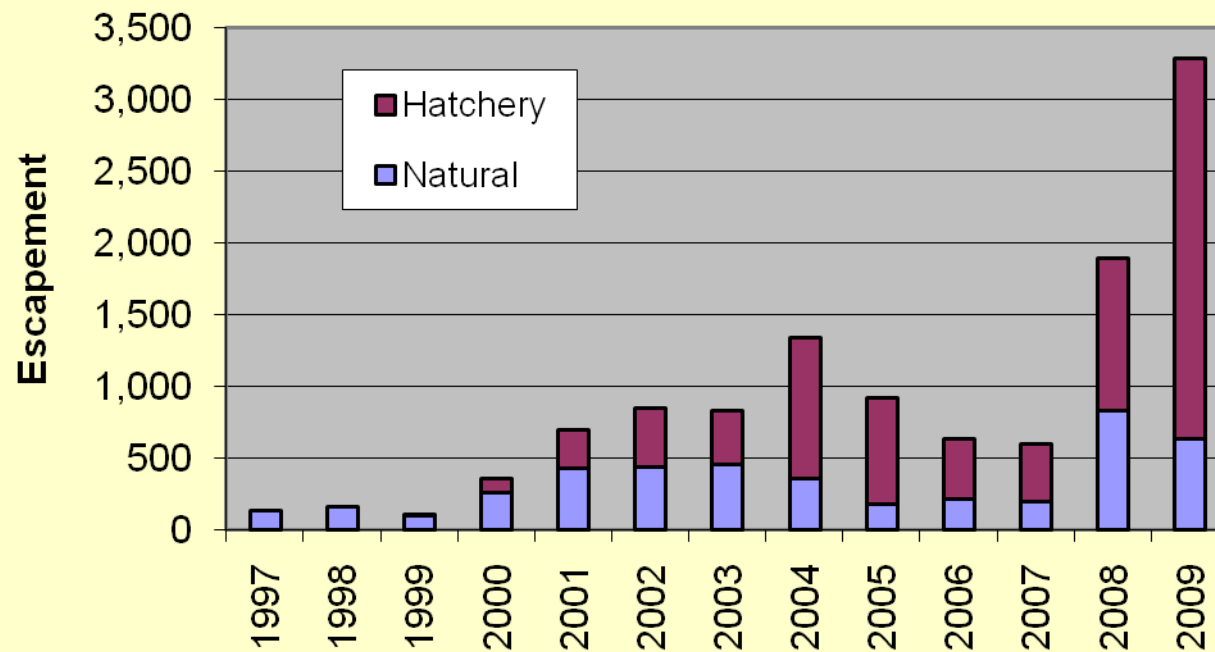
Draft Management Escapement Goal (39,110)



Coho Returns (1975-2009)



Lostine Spring Chinook (1997 – 2009)



Resident Fish



Tunnel Pond



Mud Springs Lake



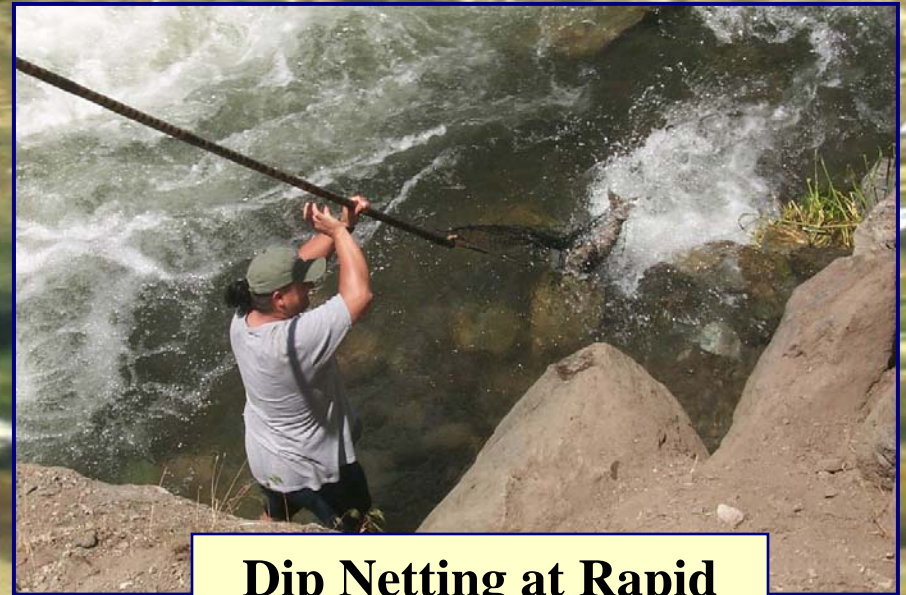
Talmaks Lake

Construct and Manage Pond Systems for Tribal Fishing Opportunities

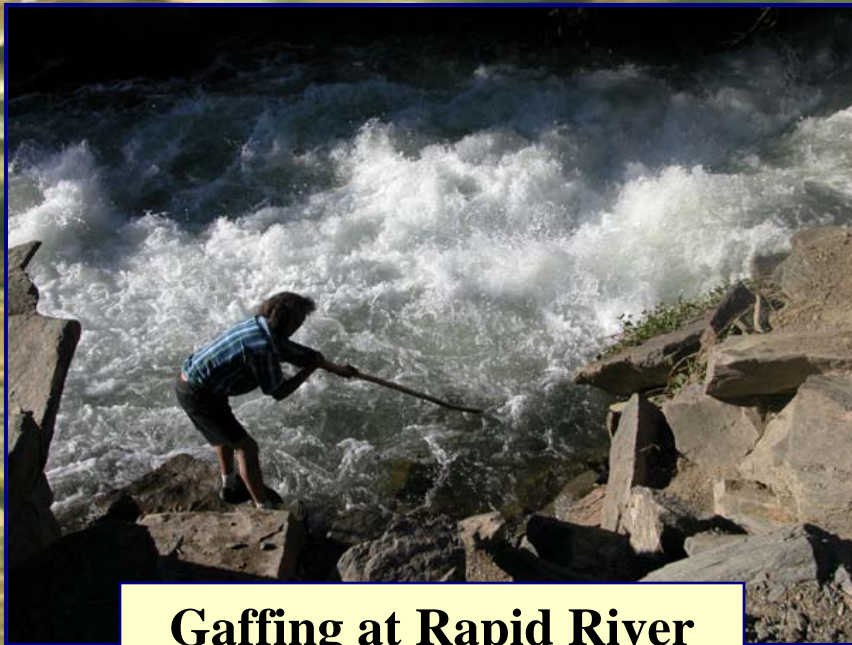


**Hydro-ops participation (mainstem and Dworshak);
CBFWA; lamprey restoration**

Harvest Monitoring



Dip Netting at Rapid River



Gaffing at Rapid River



**Columbia River Fall
Chinook**

Conservation Enforcement



**Protect Safety of Tribal
Members While Exercising
Our Treaty Rights**



**Patrol for Violators of Tribal, State, and Federal
Laws**



**Patrol Tribal Lands for
Trespassing**



Harvest Monitoring and Conservation Enforcement

Afford harvest opportunities in areas consistent with treaties and enforce the tribal regulations governing harvest.

- Harvest Management Plans – ESA related.
- Logistical challenges due to extent and nature of treaty rights.
- Requires development of unique, statistically valid sampling strategies to address treaty fishing.
- Harvest monitoring essential to basinwide status monitoring (BiOp/F&WP) efforts.

Research Division

Applied Research and Status Monitoring

- Intensive monitoring of supplementation programs – WxH, and WxW – fall, spring and summer chinook.
- Long-term status monitoring effort.
- New programs for steelhead in the Snake Basin.
- New techniques – PIT tag arrays, and DIDSON.
- Active in coordinating basin-wide status monitoring effort – “the Skamania process”.



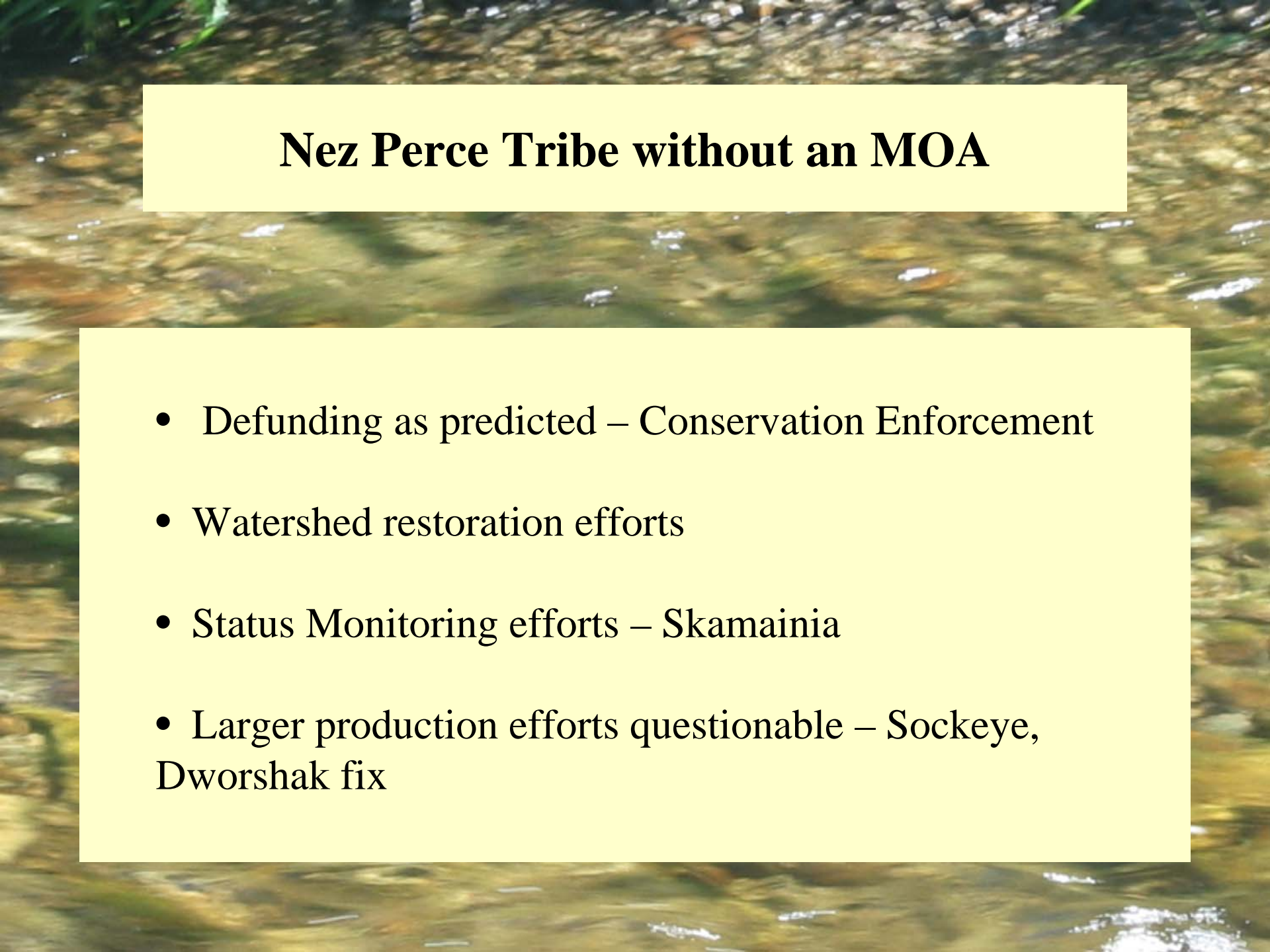
Items of Recent Interest

Nez Perce Tribe without an MOA

Northeast Oregon Hatchery

Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery housing - BOG request

Categorical Review



Nez Perce Tribe without an MOA

- Defunding as predicted – Conservation Enforcement
- Watershed restoration efforts
- Status Monitoring efforts – Skamainia
- Larger production efforts questionable – Sockeye, Dworshak fix



Northeast Oregon Hatchery

- Unnecessary mortality of ESA listed fish
- Unnecessary delay in approved solution

The background of the slide is a photograph of a shallow stream. The water is clear, revealing a bed of smooth, rounded stones in various shades of brown, tan, and grey. Some green algae or moss is visible on the rocks. The water's surface is slightly rippled, reflecting the light. The overall scene is natural and serene.

Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery housing - BOG request

- Consider the history

Categorical Review

- Taurus format and process did not meet Council's goals of increased efficiency and effective communication.
- Unacceptable amount of time required during field season detracts from "on-the-ground" Council goals.
- Scope restricted to BiOp RPA – inconsistent with "Skamania process" and F&WP.



Bottom Line

- More work being done
- Better returns
- Better partnerships and cooperative management
- Tremendous tribal involvement

