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## Northwest Power and Conservation Council

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Idaho

July 9, 2019

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Fish and Wildlife Committee Members

**FROM:** Laura Robinson

**SUBJECT:** Presentation on Northern Pike policy and outreach tool

#### BACKGROUND:

**Presenter:** Staff

**Summary:** Council staff has begun conceptualizing a web tool focused on Northern Pike, their current presence in the basin, and the potential for their distribution in the anadromous waters. The web tool, which will focus on policy information and public outreach, will be created in partnership of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and the Washington Invasive Species Council. At the July Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting, staff will provide a brief overview of the concept and display a simulated version of the web tool. Staff anticipates working with QW Consultants on the development of the tool and will seek committee input on the tool before doing so.

**Relevance:** 2014 Fish and Wildlife Program emerging priority #4: *Preserve program effectiveness by supporting: (1) expanded management of predators,... (3) and aggressively addressing non-native and invasive species.*

**Workplan:** Associated with 2019 Fish and Wildlife Division Workplan item: *Predation science and economic review.*

**Background:** Northern Pike were first identified in the Columbia River Basin in 2004 when they were found in the reservoir behind Box Canyon Dam. Since

then the Kalispell Tribe has conducted intensive efforts to suppress the population and currently keep it at a low level. However, in 2014, adult Northern Pike began to appear in the sampling efforts of the Lake Roosevelt co-managers (the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Spokane Tribe of Indians, and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife). Since then, the piscivorous predators have expanded both in number and in distribution, being found as close as 10-miles from Grand Coulee Dam in 2018. The ISAB's 2019 [Review of Predation Impacts and Management Effectiveness for the Columbia River Basin](#) report stressed the importance of delaying the emigration of these fish into the anadromous waters, knowing that eventually they will make their way down the river. As these predatory fish spread, the need for public outreach and effective policy increases in order to keep their impact to a minimum in the anadromous zone.

The components included in this web tool will be developed to integrate with the Program's existing online tools. The story maps will be connected to the in-development *Program Performance & Progress* tool as well as on the *Program's Resource Tools and Maps* webpage. The dashboard will be integrated into the *Program Tracker* tool to facilitate data update and serve as the prototype for the Program's performance indicators, especially those related to predator management.



# Northern Pike Policy and Outreach Tool

Partnership of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council & the Washington Invasive Species Council

# Background

- Various forums:
  - 2017 Council-hosted forums
  - July 2018 Colville and Spokane-hosted forum
  - July 2018 PNWER Meeting
- Regional interest:
  - Overall predation impacts on the Basin
  - Economic impacts of Northern Pike
  - Outreach on the impacts of Northern Pike
- Letters of support received in 2018 from PNWER, WGSRO and WISC, and OISC
- ISAB Predation report:
  - The importance of delay
  - Get ready, anadromous zone
  - Rapid response and monitoring
  - Do not promote as game fish in anadromous zone
- Partnership with WISC



# Pieces of the tool concept

- Quick facts about Northern Pike
- Distribution in the Columbia River Basin
- Story maps
- Potential economic impacts
- Public outreach
- Data dashboards



# Invasive Northern Pike

Tracking Downstream Expansion in the  
Columbia River Basin

**This site is a DRAFT concept**

Northwest Power and Conservation Council and the Washington  
Invasive Species Council

The Problem

Management Stories

Monitoring

Get Involved

# Quick facts and distribution

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*Photo courtesy of the Spokane Tribe of Indians*

# GETTING TO KNOW NORTHERN PIKE



Native Range of Distribution

**2-4**

Years to become mature

**40,000**

Average number of  
eggs/female

**20+**

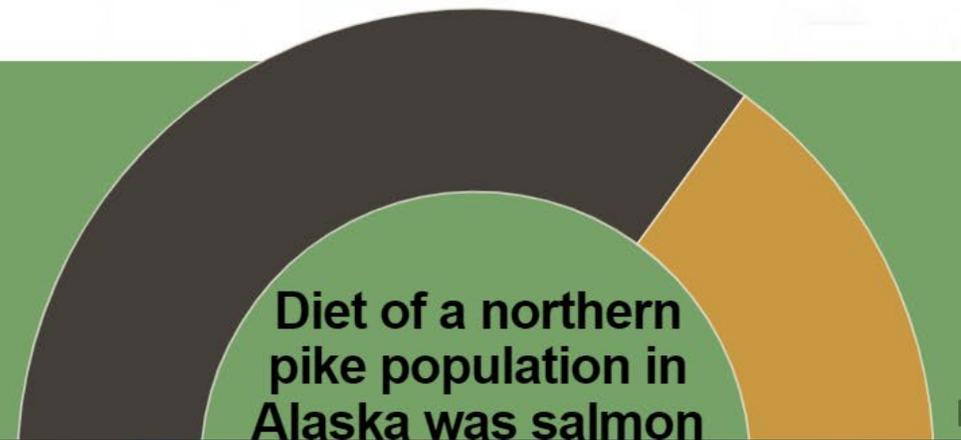
Years - Lifespan

# WILL NORTHERN PIKE EAT SALMON?



Northern pike can eat fish that are **60%** of their total length

**50-70%**



# INVASION OF THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

Expansion since 2015

137 miles



**61 miles**  
Separate northern pike and the Basin's anadromous fish



## Potential story maps

- Northern Pike in Lake Roosevelt
- Successful suppression of Northern Pike in the Pend Oreille
- Northern Pike in the Columbia River Basin
- Economic impacts of Northern Pike



# NORTHERN PIKE IN THE ANADROMOUS FISH ZONE

## POTENTIAL ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS

Projected Annual Economic Effects  
(California Scenario)

\$ \$xx

Loss of economic output

① \$xx

Loss in labor income

XX

Lost jobs



# POTENTIAL ANNUAL LOSSES

(Estimates are for a similar concern in California)

## Sportfishing



## Commercial



# Potential economics impacts

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# CONTROLLING NORTHERN PIKE IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN

Continuing ANNUAL Investments

**\$XX**

Box Canyon and Boundary reservoirs

**\$XX**

Lake Roosevelt

# Public outreach

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# WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP PREVENT EXPANSION

## WANTED

### Northern Pike Heads- \$10 Reward



#### Attention Anglers:

#### Help protect Lake Roosevelt from Invasive Northern Pike!

Northern Pike pose significant threats to the Columbia River fisheries including predation on native and important game fish species, introductions of parasites and disease, and competition with other species for food resources.

Drop off locations located at the Noisy Water Gas Station and near the Park Service Kettle Falls fish cleaning station

Fill out the label with: Name, address, phone number, email, date of capture, and general location of capture  
(Pike from Lake Roosevelt and the Kettle River only)

Place the head and the label in the bag and deposit into the freezer

<sup>1</sup>A \$10 Reward will be mailed to you



Questions:  
Holly McLellan  
Colville Confederated Tribes  
(509) 209-2415

<sup>1</sup>Allow 2-3 weeks for processing  
\$10,000 to be awarded, \$590 limit per person  
Funding provided by the Colville Confederated Tribes

# Catch. Kill. Report.



# Dashboards

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*Photo courtesy of the Spokane Tribe of Indians*

# Northern Pike Distribution and Status

2019

New Range  
(miles downstream)

17

Miles From Anadromous Zone

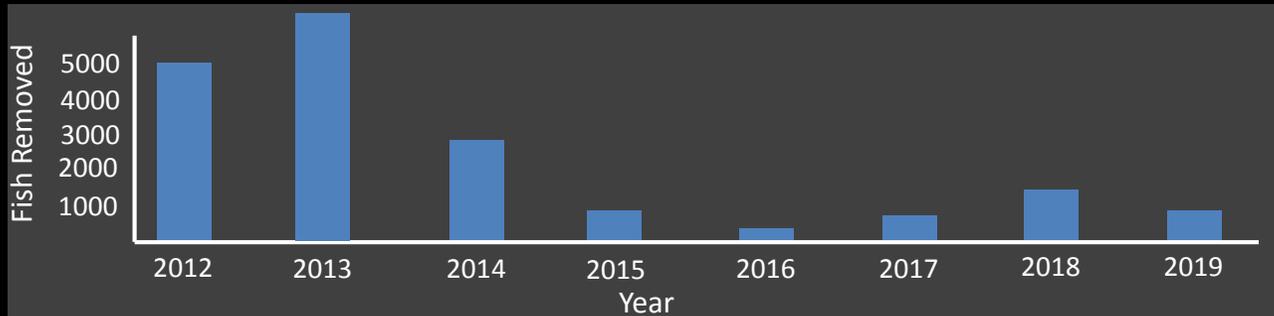
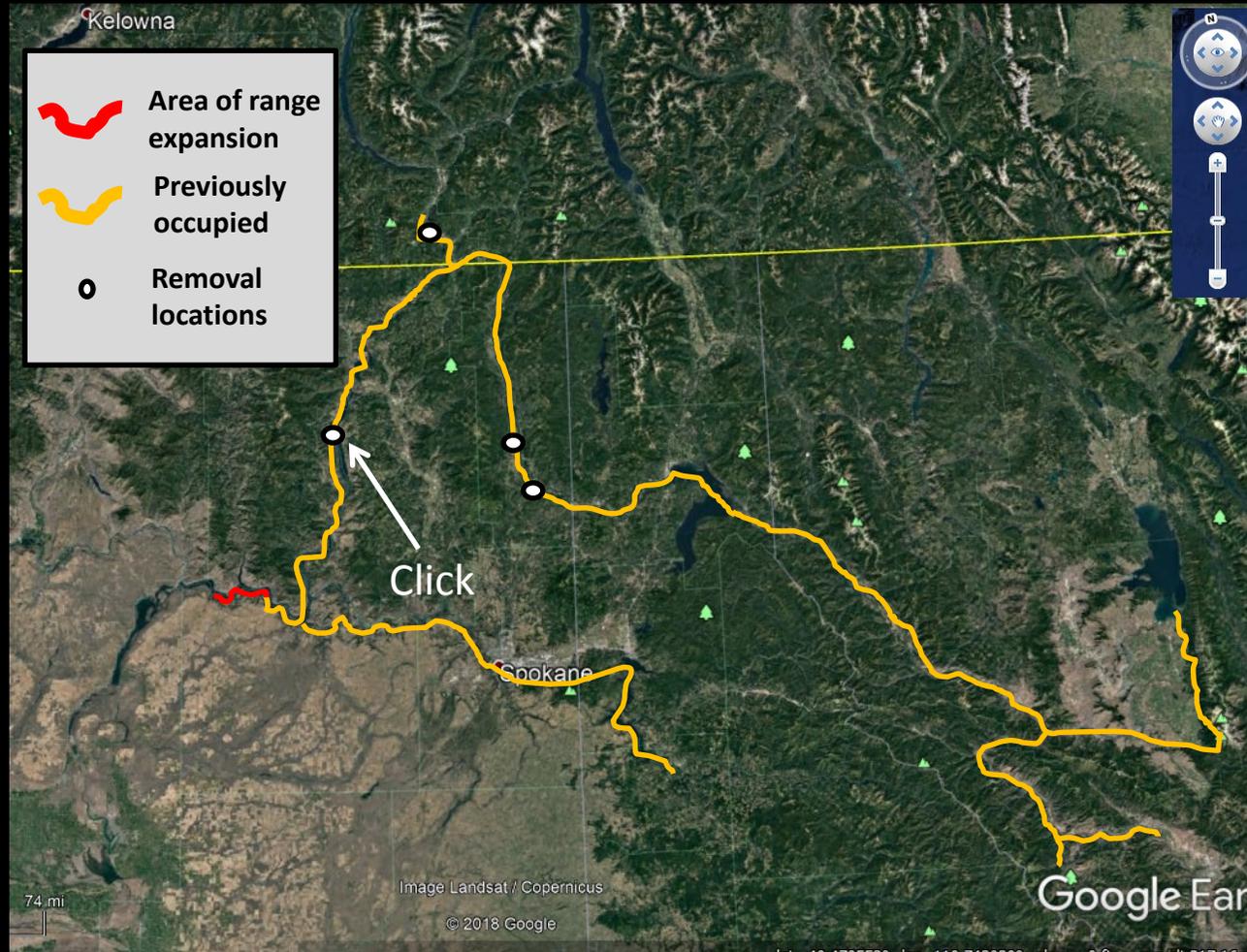
573

Fish Removed (all locations)

573

Control Investment  
(all locations)

\$400k



# Northern Pike Distribution and Status – Lake Roosevelt

2019

New Downstream Expansion  
(miles)

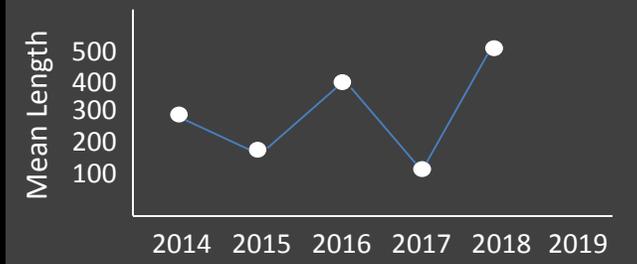
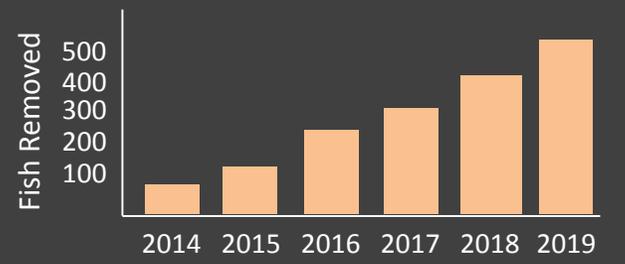
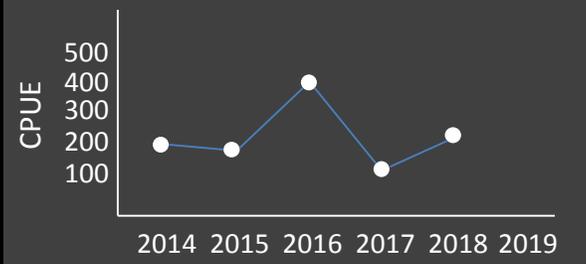
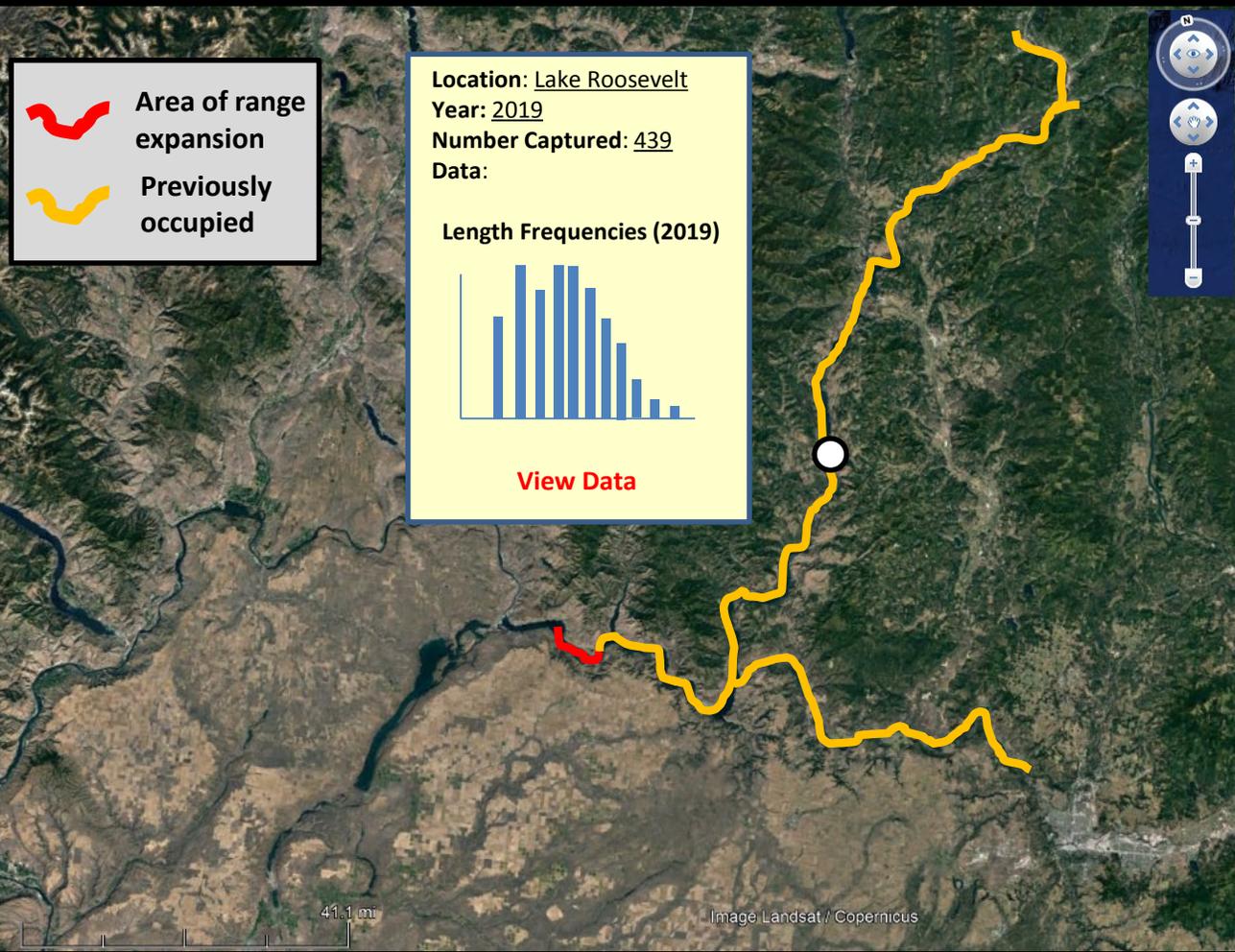
17

Fish Removed  
(Lake Roosevelt)

439

Control Investment  
(Lake Roosevelt)

\$1m



# Questions? Edits? Input? Feedback?

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