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March 4, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Jim Ruff – Manager, Mainstem Passage and River Operations

SUBJECT: Briefing on Columbia River Basin fish run forecasts for 2014

At the March 12, 2014, Council meeting in Portland, Bill Tweit (Special Assistant for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) and Ed Schriever (Chief of Fisheries for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game) will present the latest information on the 2014 adult salmon and steelhead run forecasts for the Columbia and Snake rivers, with a brief summary of expectations for the 2014 fisheries.

Bill Tweit's presentation will cover the 2014 Columbia River salmon run forecasts. It will also include a retrospective review of the 2013 adult salmon and steelhead returns and fisheries in the Columbia River Basin excluding the Snake Basin.

Ed Schriever will then summarize the recent, historical returns of salmon and steelhead to the Snake River Basin, focusing on the species/run groupings of spring, summer, fall Chinook salmon; summer steelhead; and sockeye salmon. For each species/run grouping, counts of fish crossing Lower Granite Dam will be presented. Numbers of fish passing Lower Granite Dam comprise the aggregate count of adult salmon and steelhead destined for eastern Oregon's Grande Ronde and Imnaha river drainages and Idaho's Clearwater and Salmon river drainages. In addition to historical return information, 2014 forecast information for Snake River spring/summer Chinook salmon, summer steelhead, and sockeye salmon will be presented.

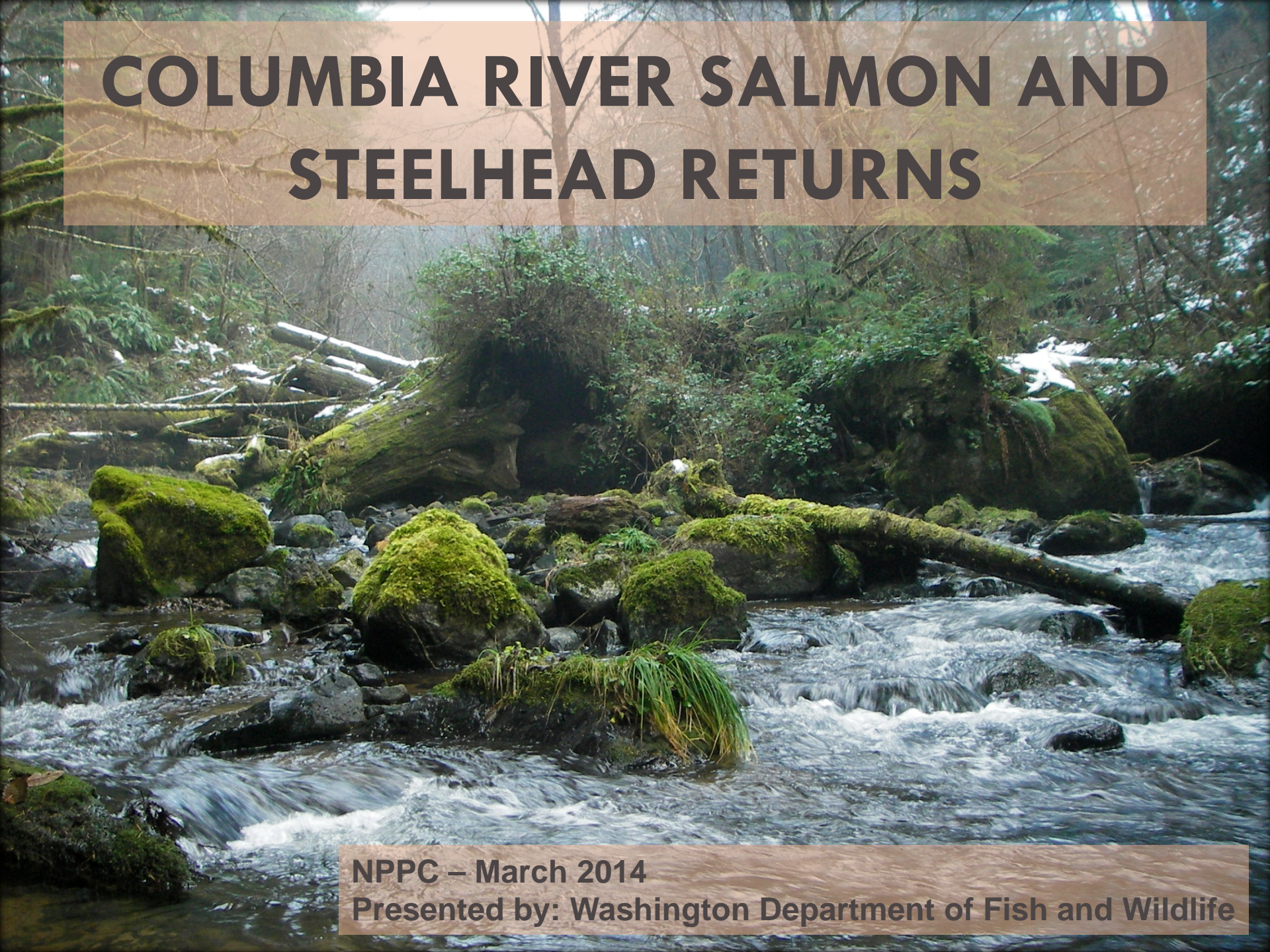
w:\jr\ww\2014\3-04-14 adult salmon run forecasts memo.docx

851 S.W. Sixth Avenue, Suite 1100
Portland, Oregon 97204-1348
www.nwcouncil.org

Steve Crow
Executive Director

503-222-5161
800-452-5161
Fax: 503-820-2370

COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON AND STEELHEAD RETURNS



NPPC – March 2014

Presented by: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

U.S. v Oregon

Technical Advisory Committee

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- The U.S. v Oregon Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) consists of staff from federal, tribal and state entities.
- TAC 'reconstructs' Columbia River salmon and steelhead returns post season and develops preseason forecasts.
- TAC works to review salmon and steelhead stock status as the runs progress and provides inseason run size updates.
- In 2013, TAC met 20 times to provide inseason run size updates on spring, summer, fall Chinook and sockeye
- These inseason updates allow fishery managers to adjust fisheries as necessary in order to remain within ESA limits and management guidelines.

U.S. v Oregon

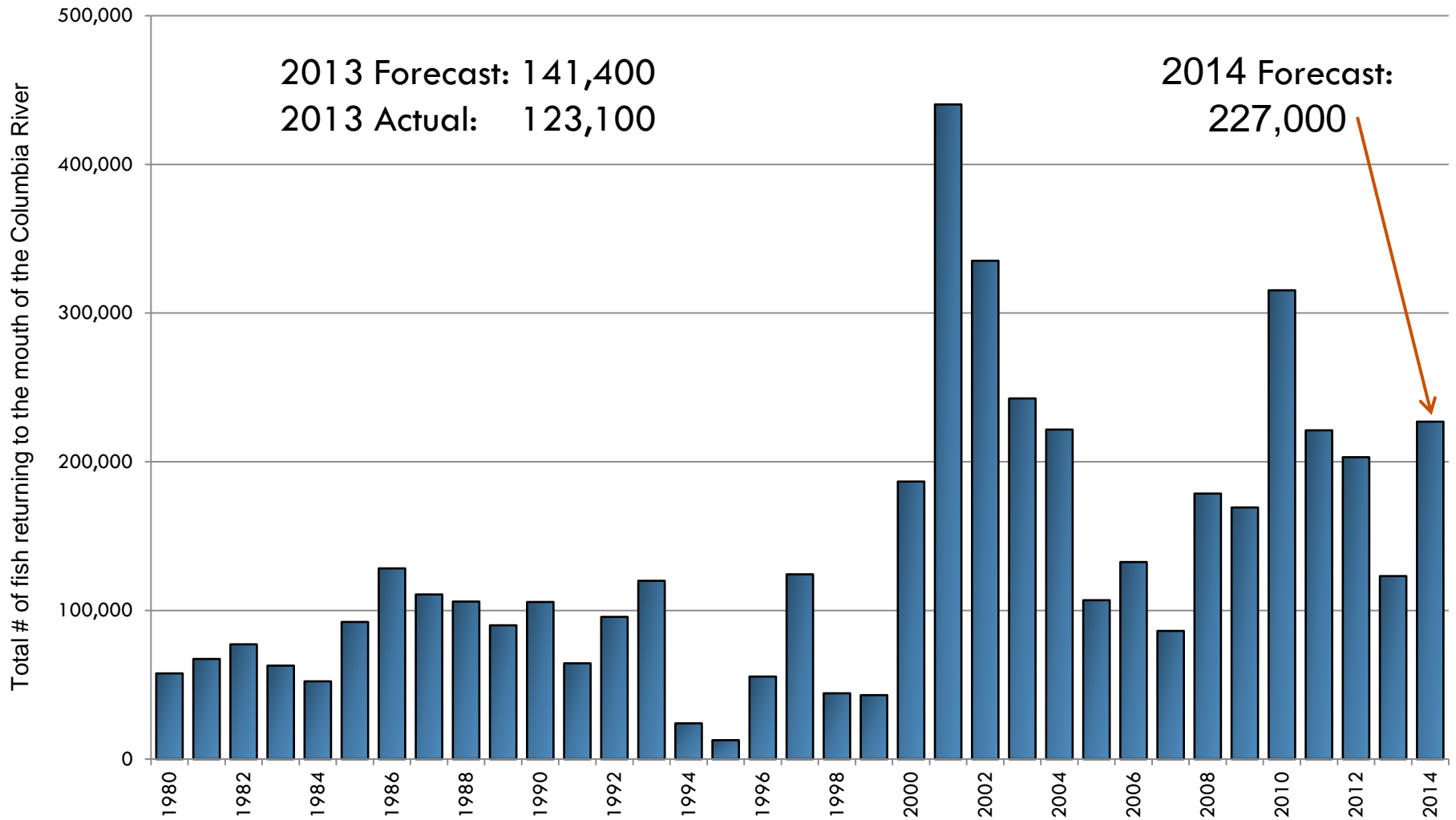
TAC Members

3

- Henry Yuen – USFWS
- Tim Roth – USFWS
- Stuart Ellis – CRITFC
- Lytle Denny – SBT
- David Evans – SBT
- Roger Dick Jr. - YN
- Steve Parker – YN
- Joe Oatman – NPT
- Preston Bronson – CTUIR
- Mark Manion – CTWS
- Enrique Patino – NMFS
- Jeremy Jording - NMFS
- Peter Dygert – NMFS
- Robin Ehlke – WDFW
- Cindy LeFleur – WDFW
- Ron Roler – WDFW
- Alan Byrne – IDFG
- Sam Sharr – IDFG
- Kathryn Kostow – ODFW
- John North – ODFW

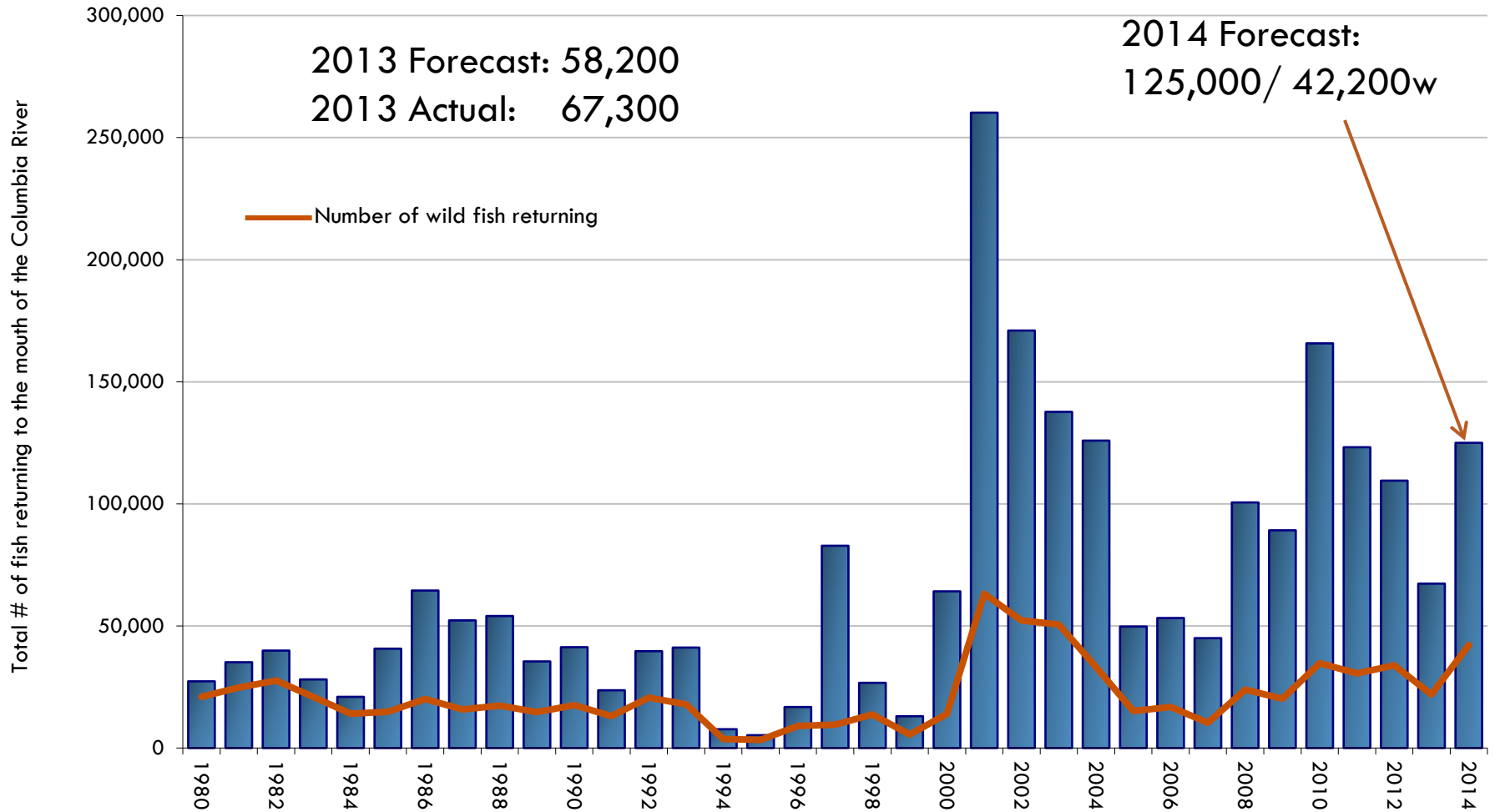
Total Upriver Spring Chinook

4



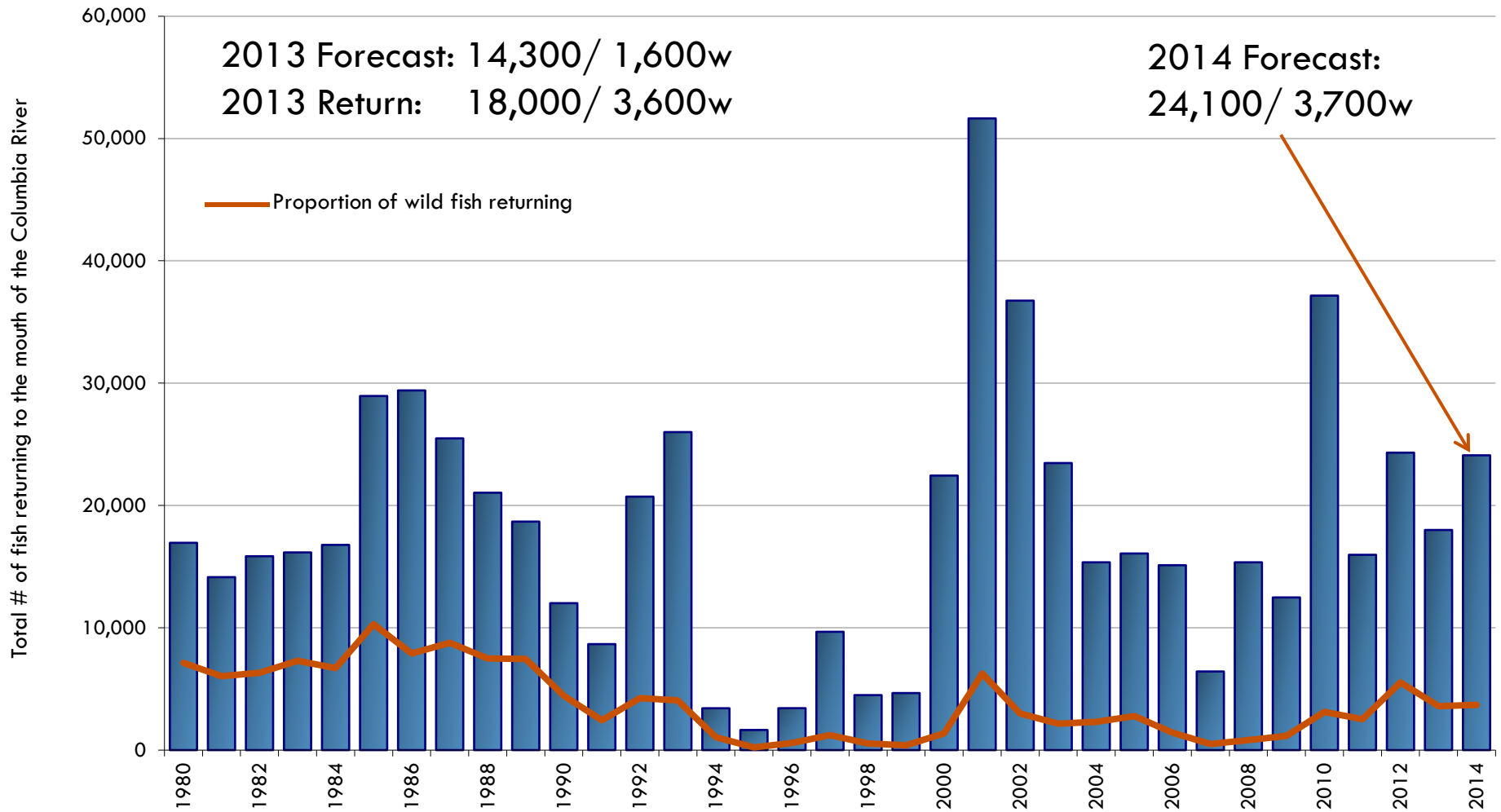
Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook

5

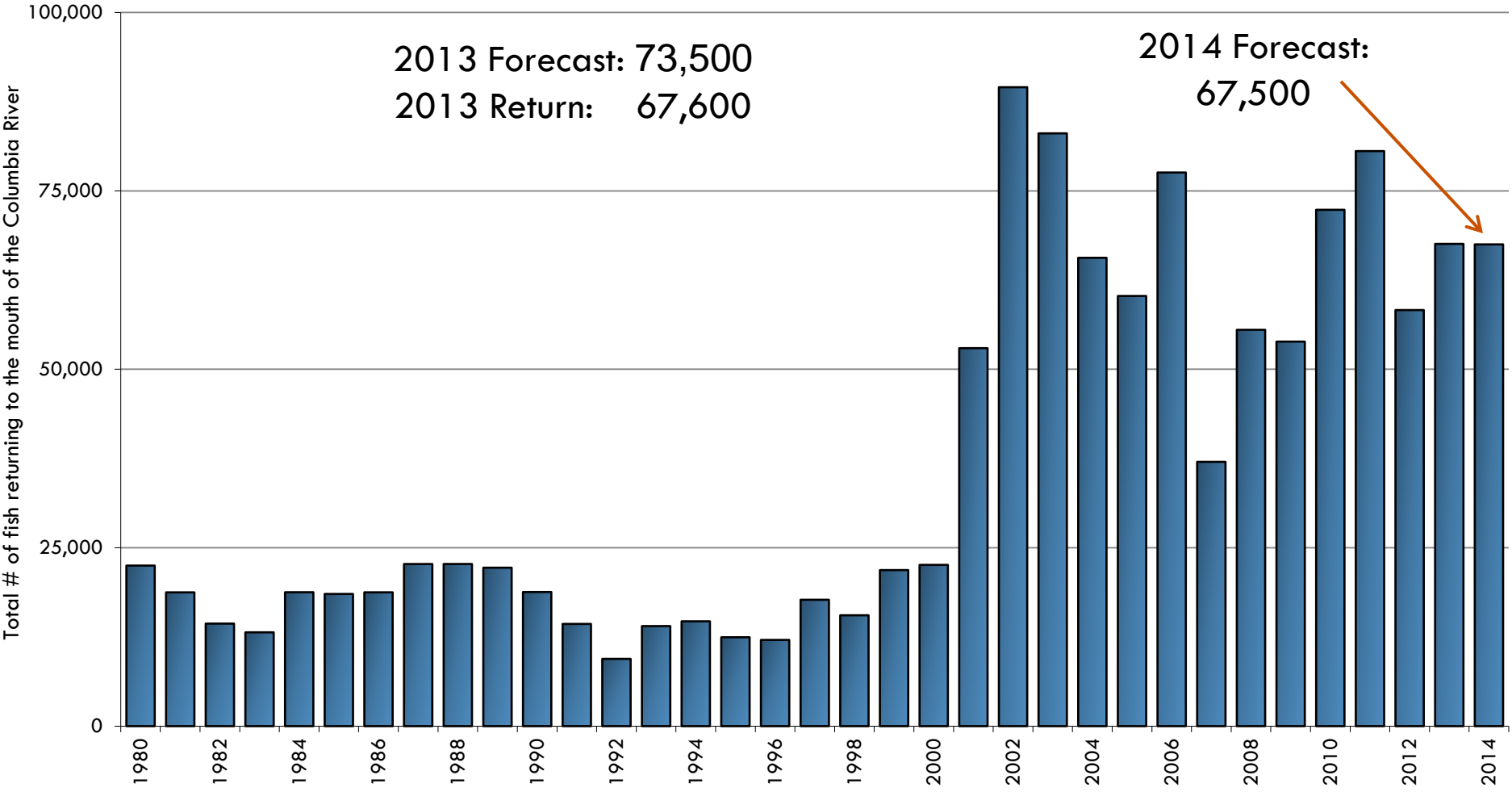


Upper Columbia Spring Chinook

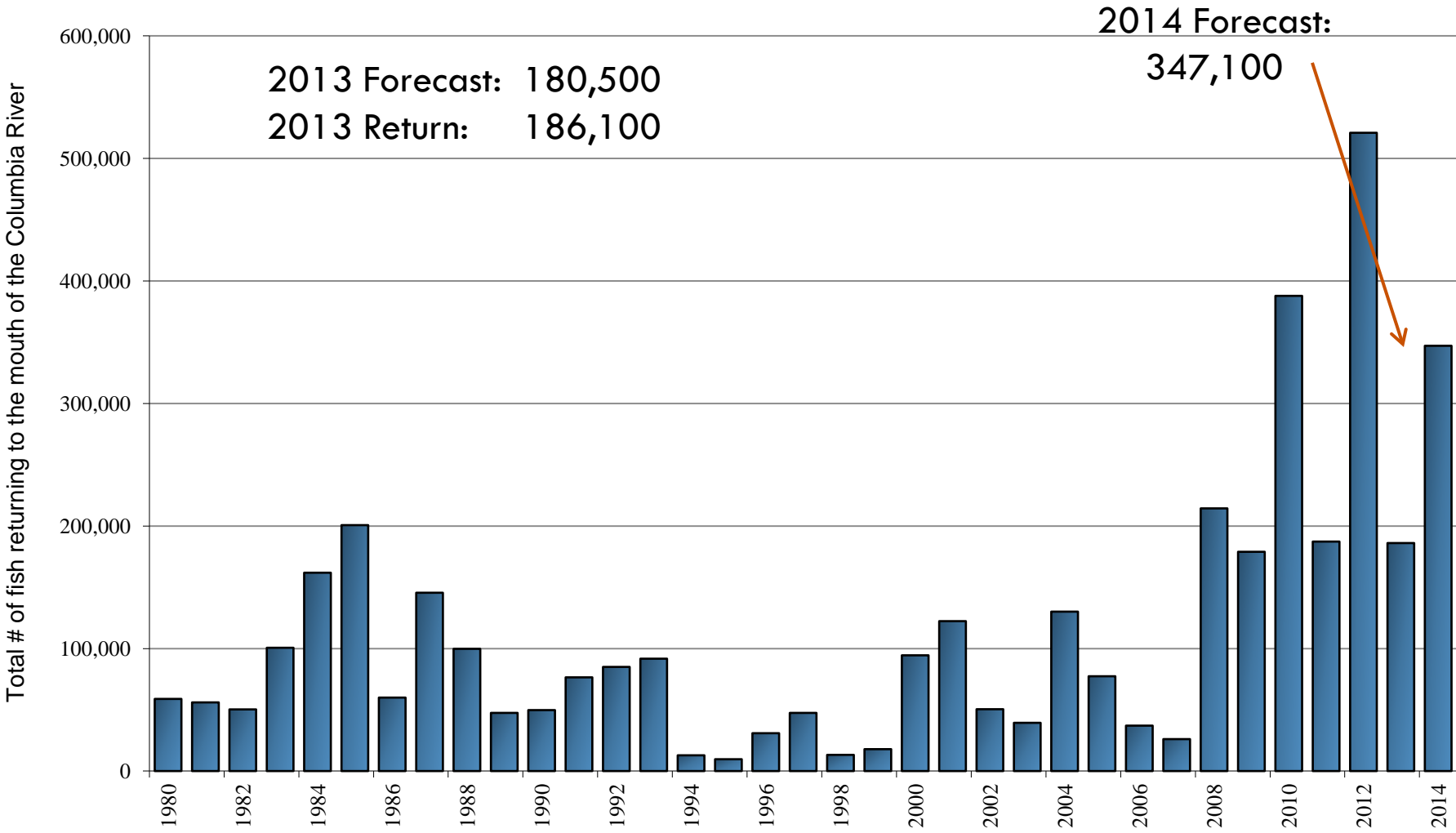
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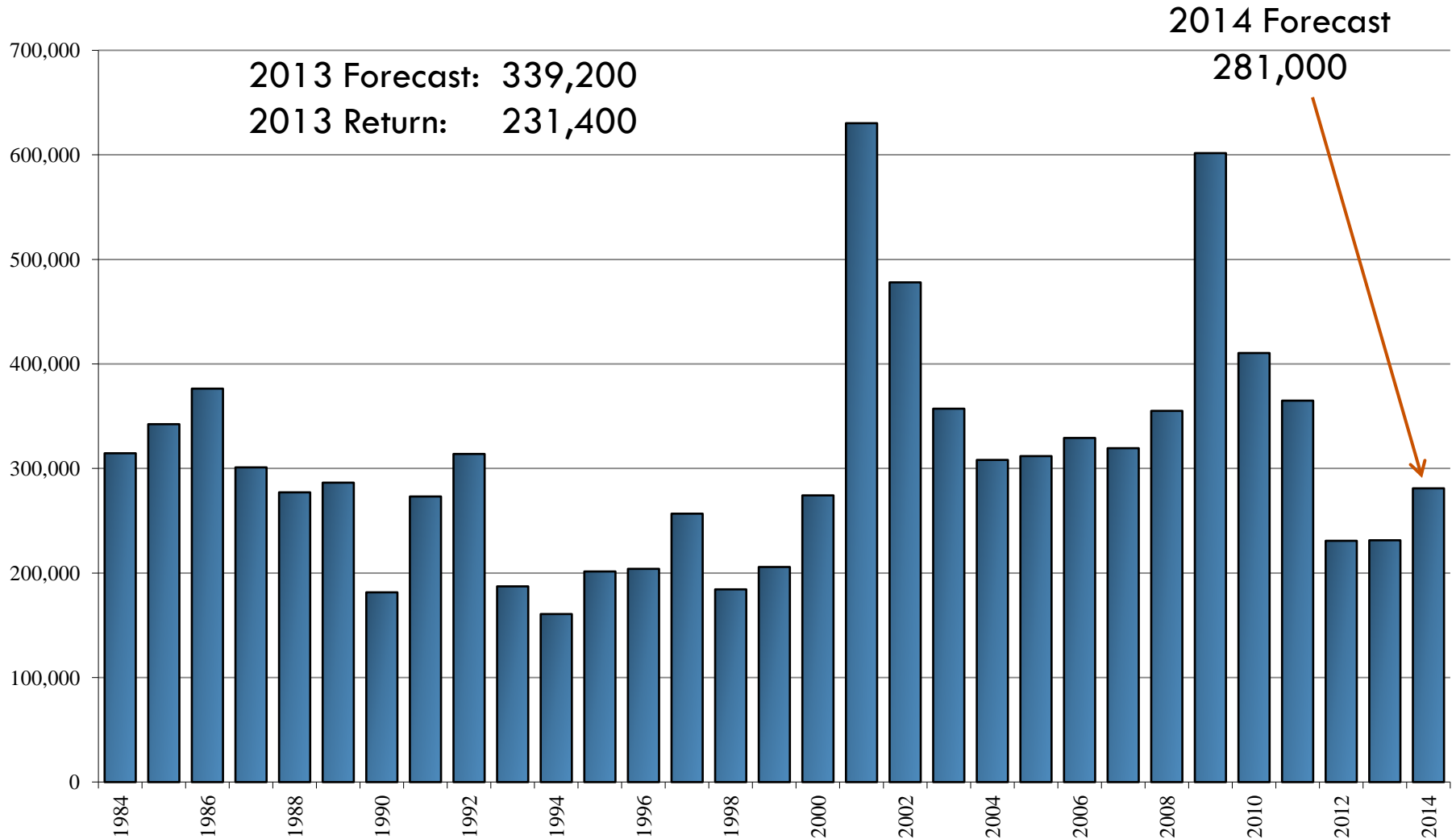
Upper Columbia Summer Chinook



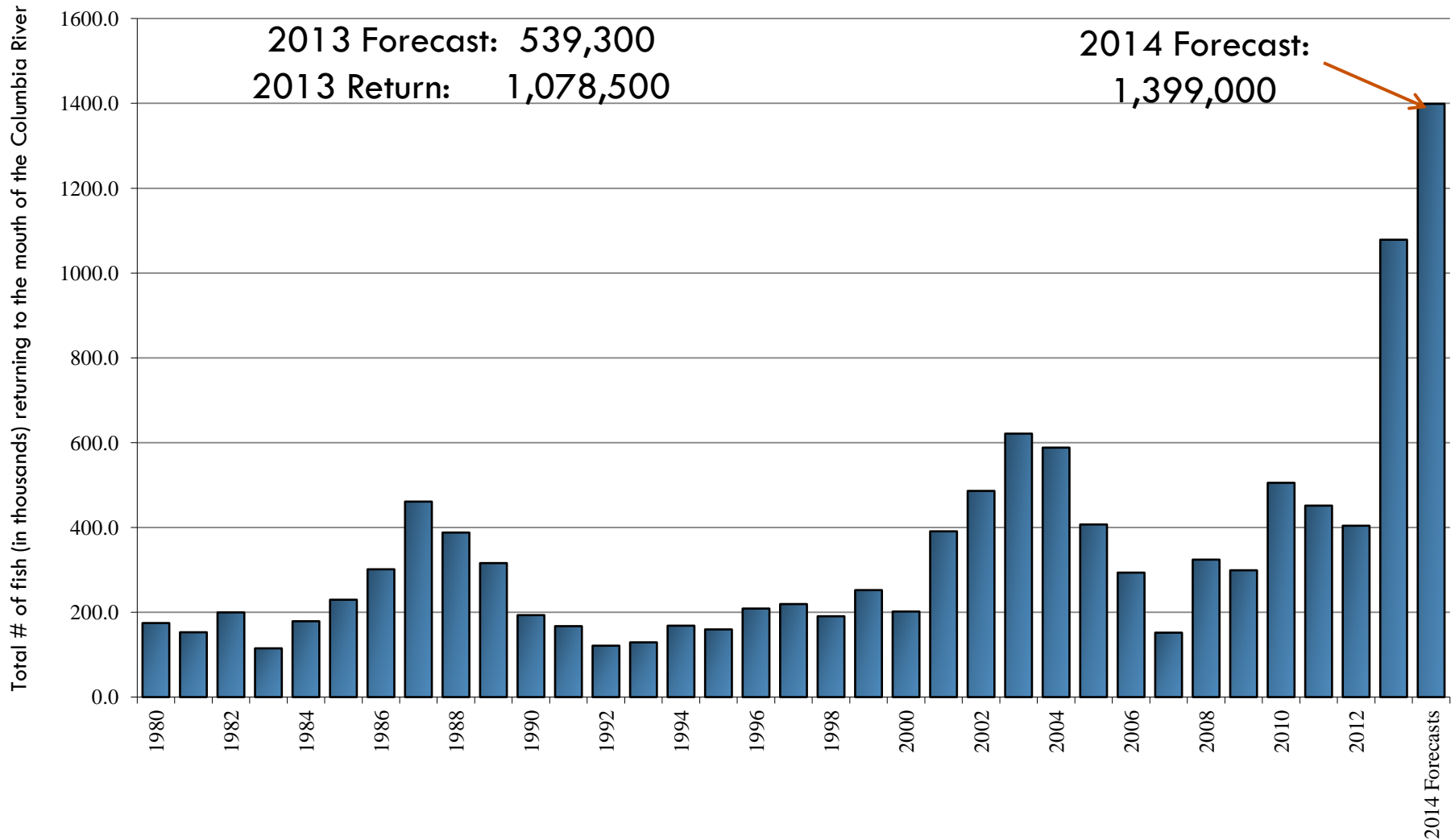
Columbia River Sockeye



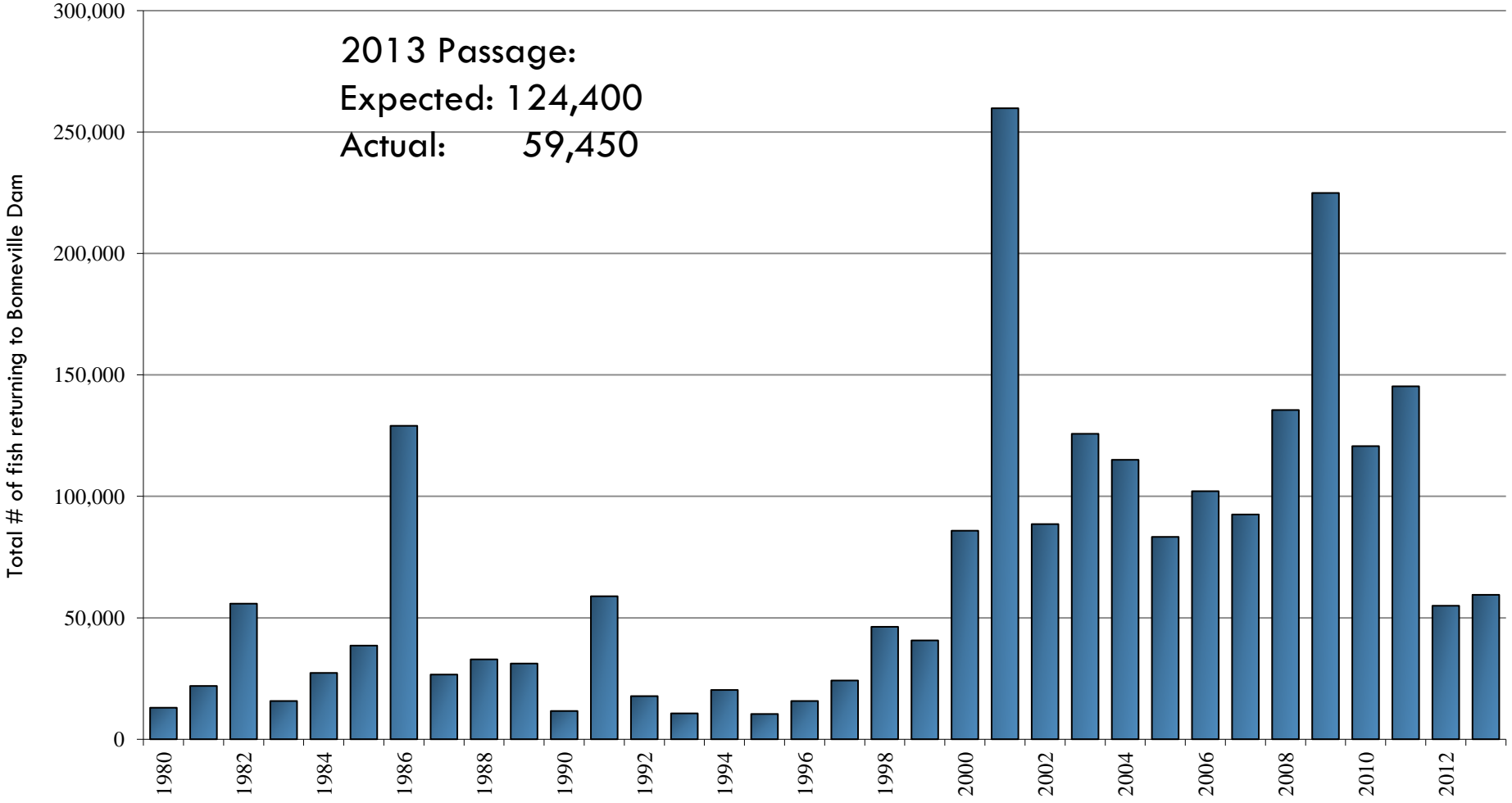
Upriver Summer Steelhead



Upriver Fall Chinook



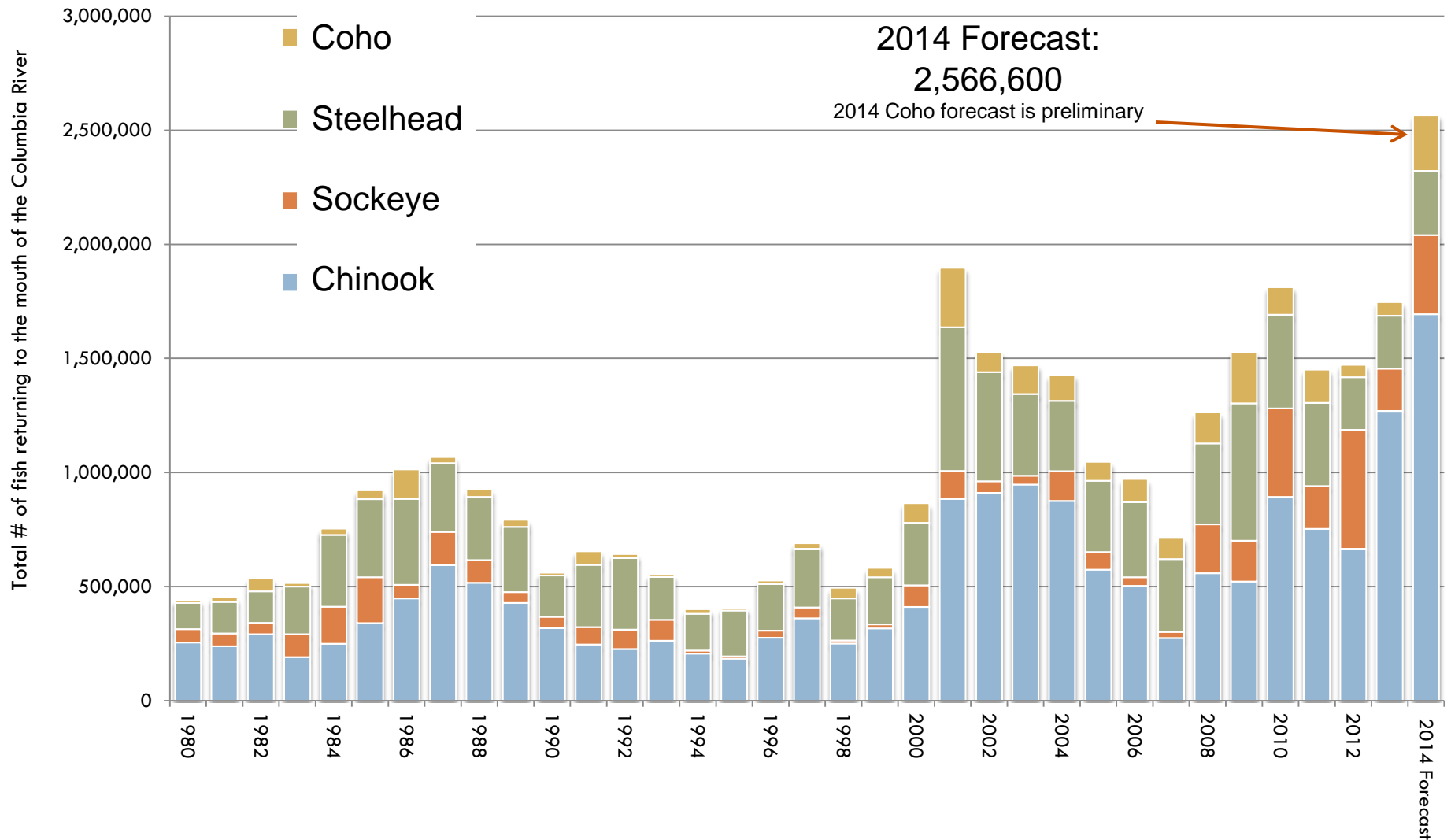
Upriver Coho at Bonneville Dam



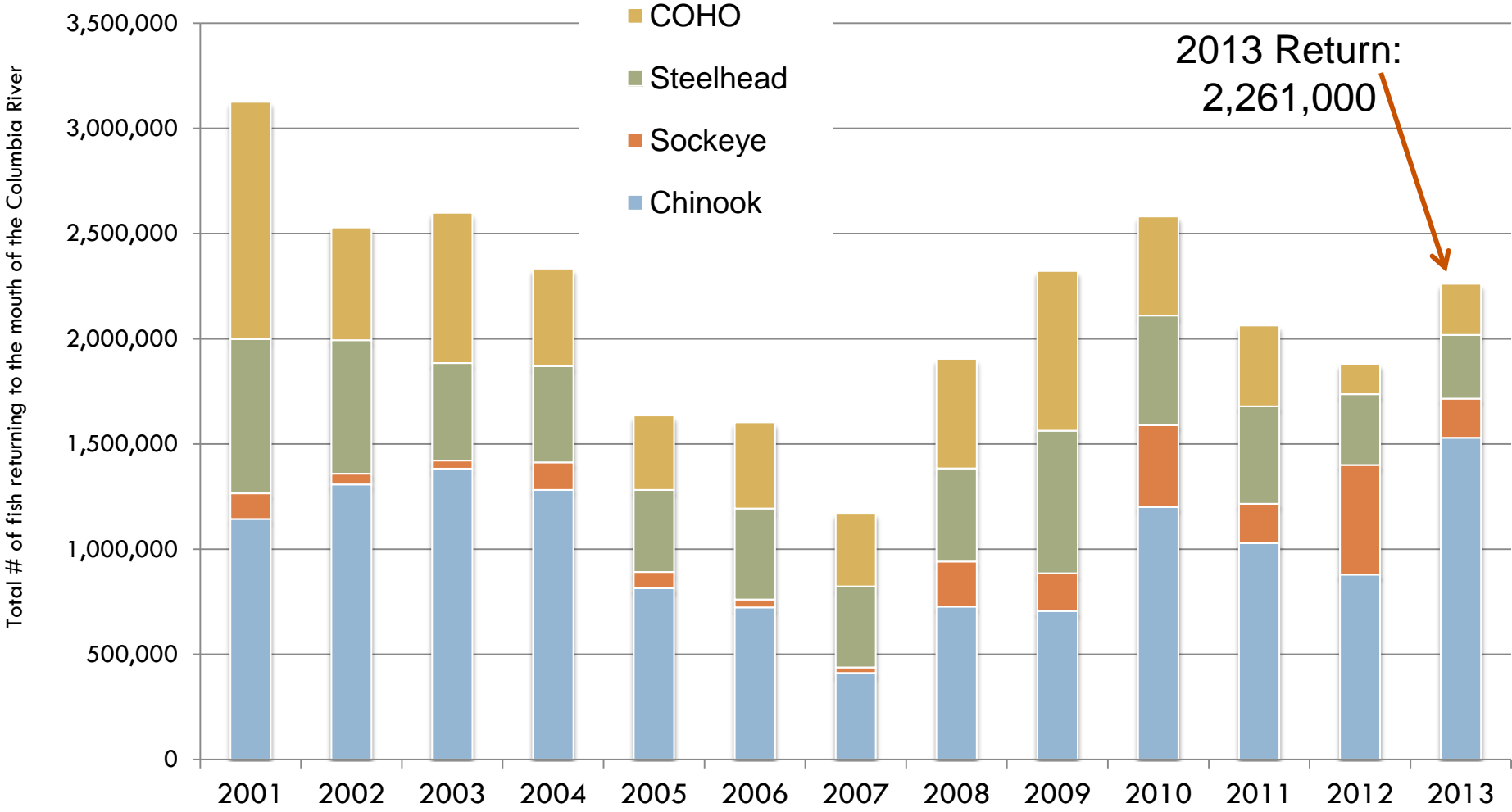
TOTAL return of UPRIVER Salmonid stocks

Returning to the Columbia River

12



TOTAL return of ALL Salmonid stocks Returning to the Columbia River*



2013 Non-Indian Sport Fisheries

14

□ Spring Chinook

- Below Bonneville:
 - 109,600 angler trips
 - 7,000 hatchery fish kept
- Bonneville to WA/OR border:
 - 4,200 angler trips
 - 600 hatchery fish kept
- Snake River (WA waters):
 - 350 hatchery fish kept

□ Summer Season

- Below Bonneville:
 - 52,000 angler trips
 - 1,800 hatchery Chinook
 - 5,100 steelhead
 - 500 sockeye
- Bonneville - Priest Rapids:
 - 2,400 hatchery Chinook
 - 5,700 sockeye
- Priest Rapids – Chief Joseph:
 - 2,400 hatchery Chinook
 - 6,300 sockeye

□ Fall Season

- Buoy 10:
 - 66,000 angler trips
 - 22,600 Chinook
 - 7,600 coho
- Below Bonneville:
 - 141,500 angler trips
 - 32,000 Chinook
 - 1,000 coho
 - 6,100 hatchery steelhead
- Hanford Reach:
 - 37,000 angler trips
 - 24,700 Chinook
 - Record high, almost 2x last year's record breaking return

2013 Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

15

- ▣ Spring Chinook –
 - ▣ 1,900 hatchery fish
 - ▣ 4 periods (41hrs total)
- ▣ Summer Chinook –
 - ▣ 1,900 Chinook
 - ▣ 100 sockeye
 - ▣ 2 periods (16 hrs total)
- ▣ Fall Chinook –
 - ▣ 85,000 fish
 - ▣ Highest catch since mid-80's
 - ▣ LCN tules main constraint
- ▣ Coho –
 - ▣ 9,200 fish
 - ▣ LCR natural coho main constraint
- ▣ Select Areas
 - ▣ 5,800 Spring Chinook
 - ▣ 2,000 Summer Chinook
 - ▣ 24,000 Fall Chinook
 - ▣ 43,000 Coho

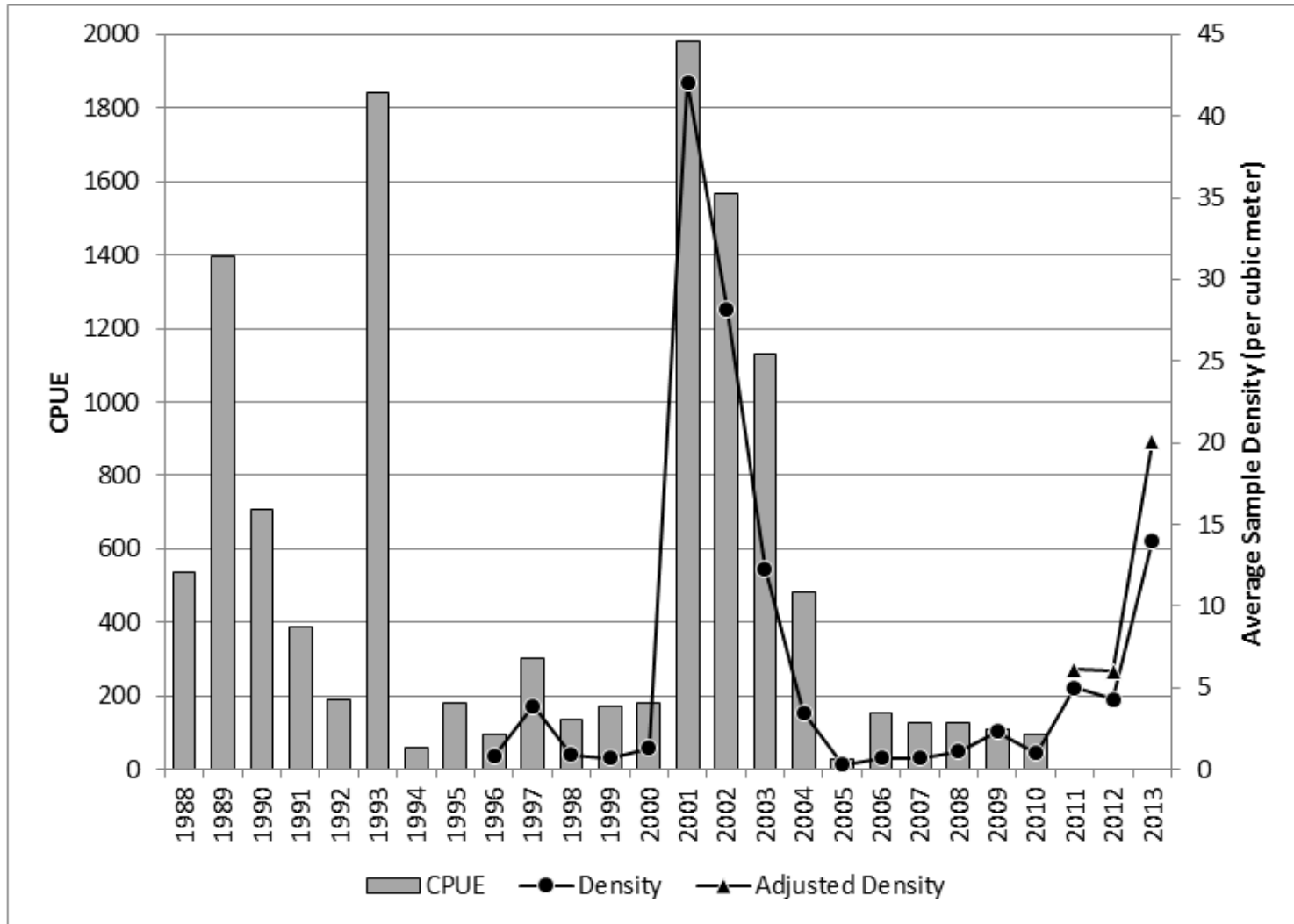
2013 Treaty Indian Fisheries

16

Landed fish are either kept for ceremonial and subsistence (C&S) purposes, or sold commercially.

- ▣ Spring Chinook –
 - 9,300 fish
- ▣ Summer Chinook –
 - 13,400 fish
- ▣ Sockeye –
 - 8,000 fish
- ▣ Summer Steelhead –
 - 4,100 in summer
 - 17,000 in fall
 - 21,100 TOTAL
- ▣ Fall Chinook –
 - 190,000
- ▣ Coho –
 - 5,800

Smelt



Questions?

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The Snake River Update – Recent trends in salmon and steelhead abundance and outlook on 2014 adult returns



Ed Schriever
Idaho Department of Fish and Game

The Snake River Update – Recent trends in salmon and steelhead abundance and outlook on 2014 adult returns

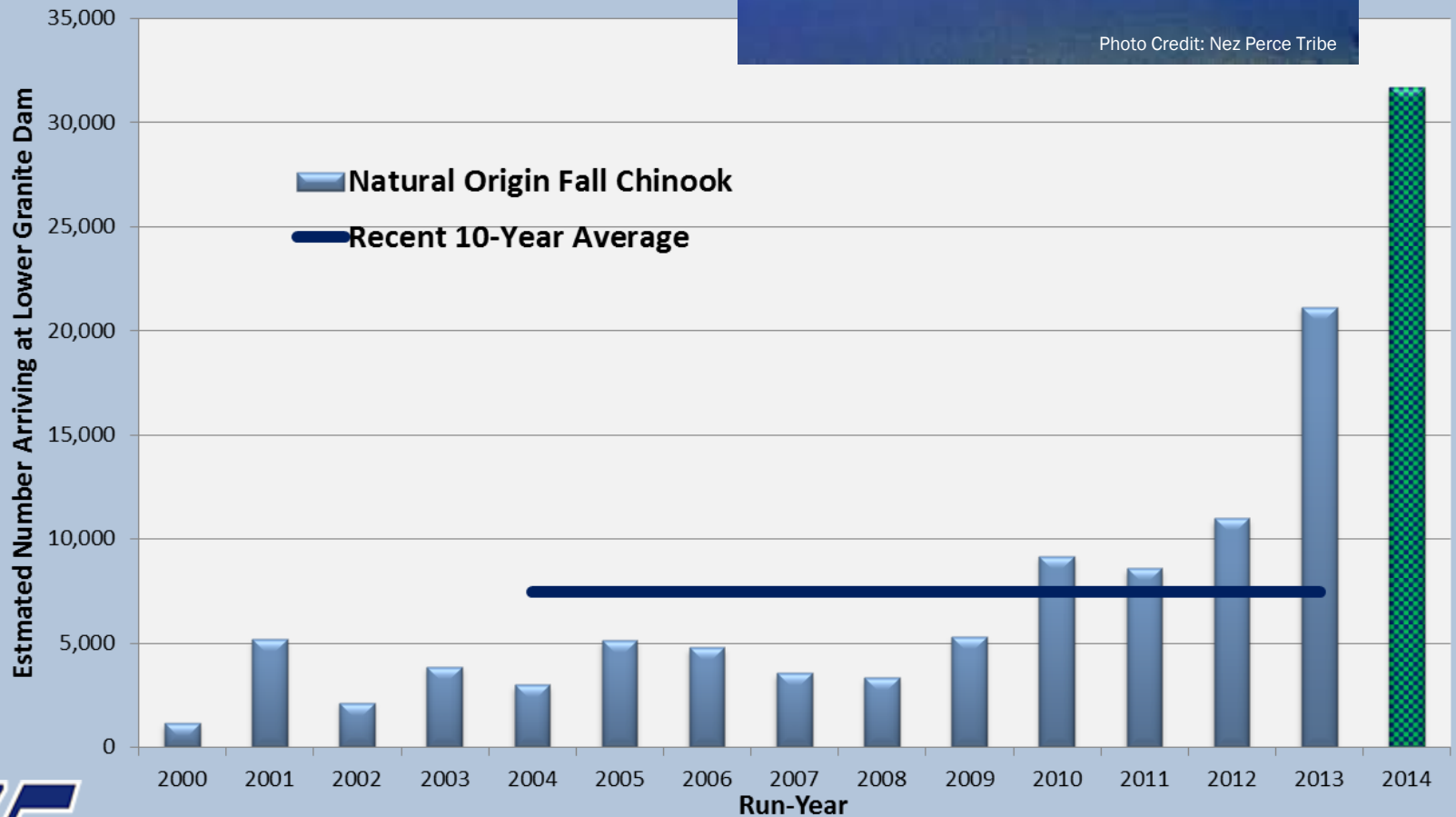
Content:

1. 2000-2013 time-series return information:
 - a. Fall Chinook Salmon
 - b. Sockeye Salmon
 - c. Summer Steelhead
 - d. Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon

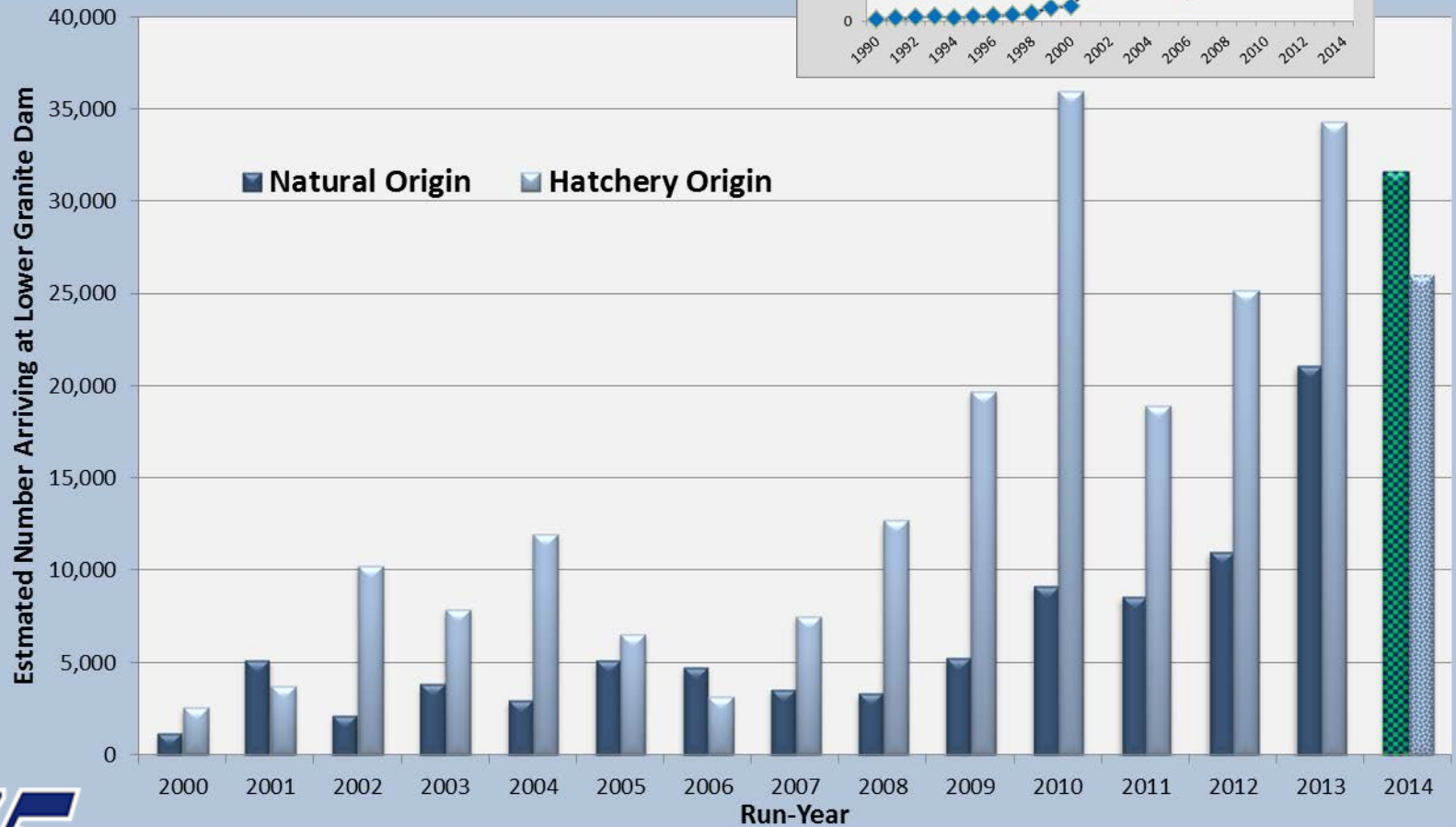
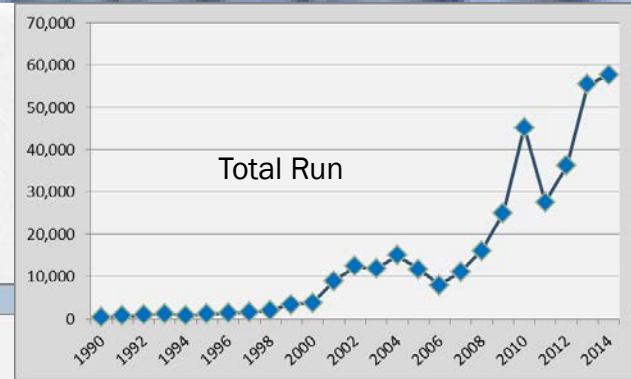
2. 2014 run-size forecasts for:
 - a. Fall Chinook Salmon
 - b. Sockeye Salmon
 - c. Summer Steelhead
 - d. Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon



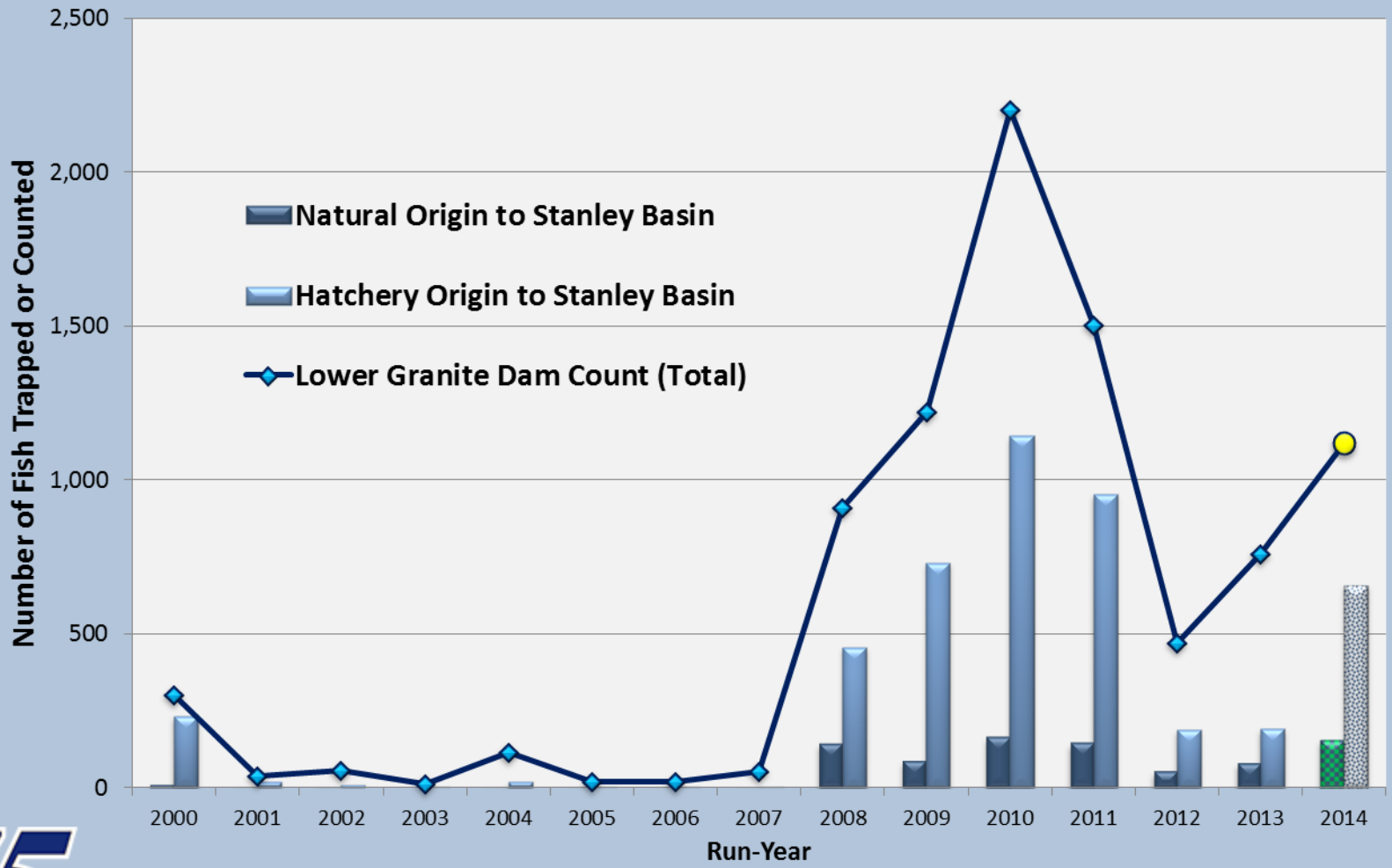
Fall Chinook Salmon



Fall Chinook Salmon



Sockeye Salmon

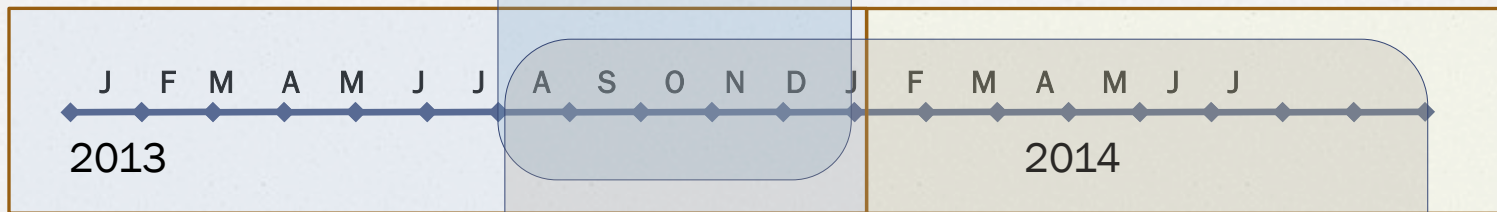


Summer Steelhead Run-Years



Bonneville Dam
7/1 - 10/31
Group A & B

Steelhead that crossed
Bonneville Dam July-
October 2013.....



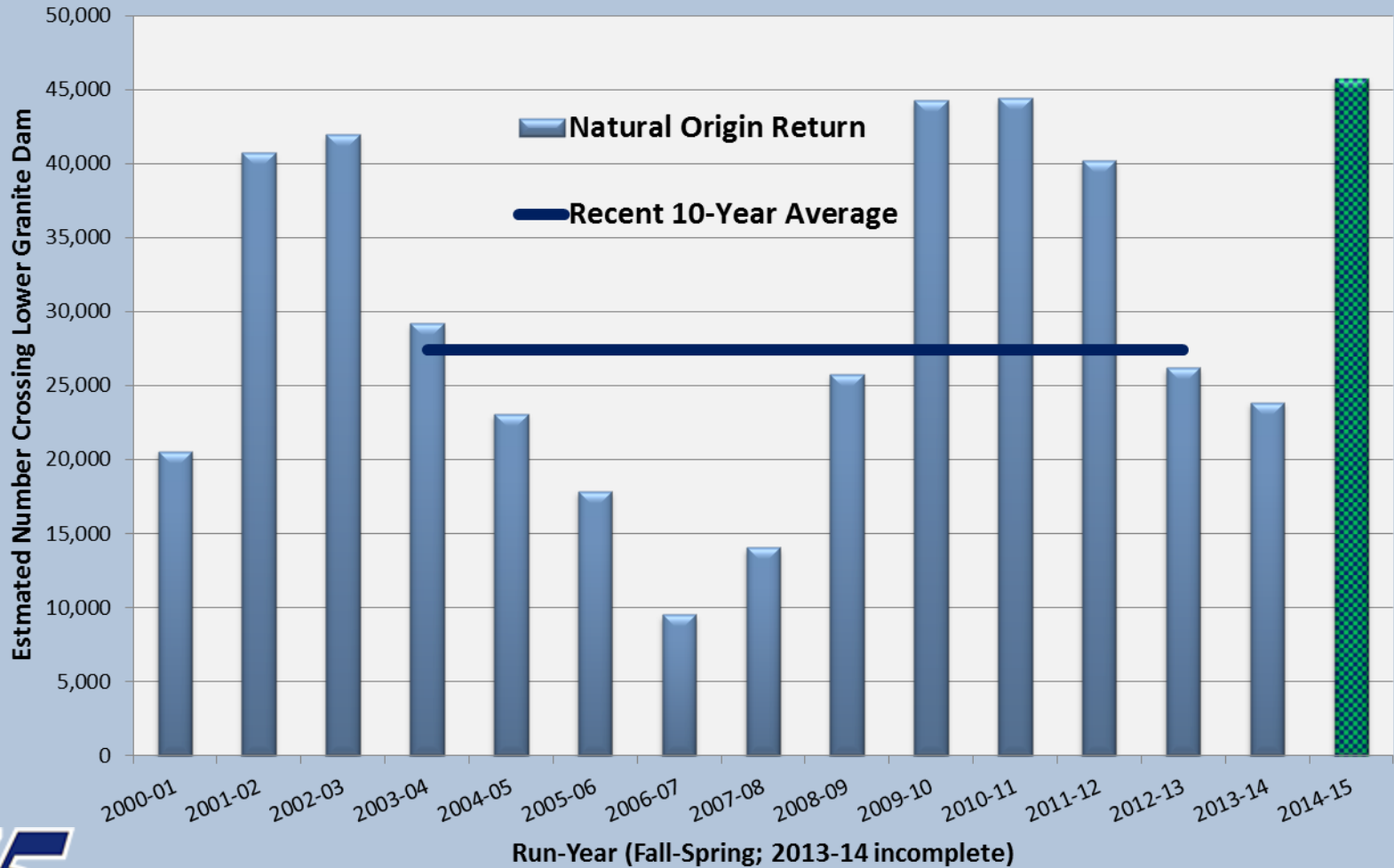
.....will cross Lower
Granite Dam July 2013
through June 2014.

7/1 - 12/31 and 1/1 - 6/30
Group A & B
2013-2014 Run-Year

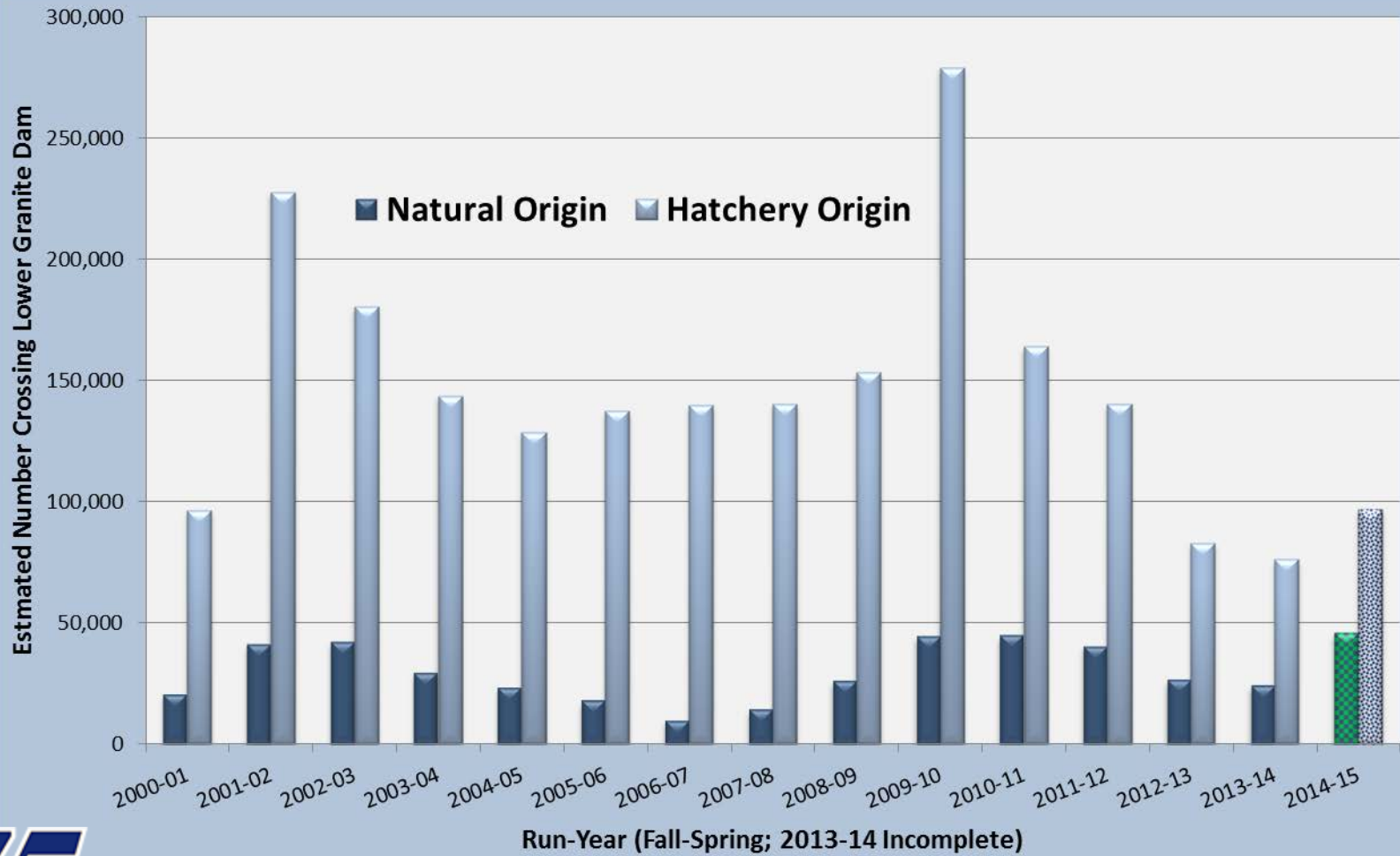
Lower Granite Dam



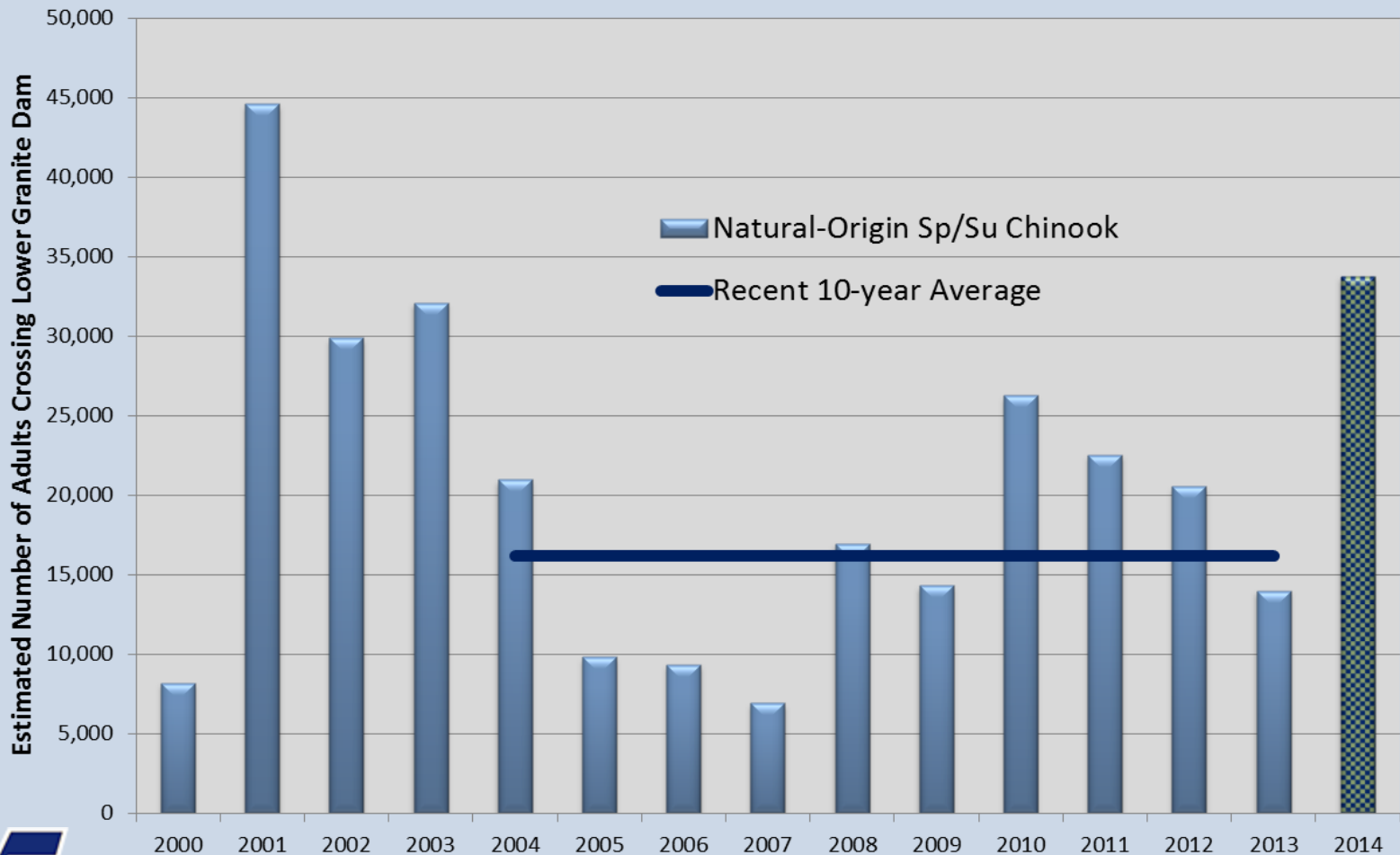
Summer Steelhead



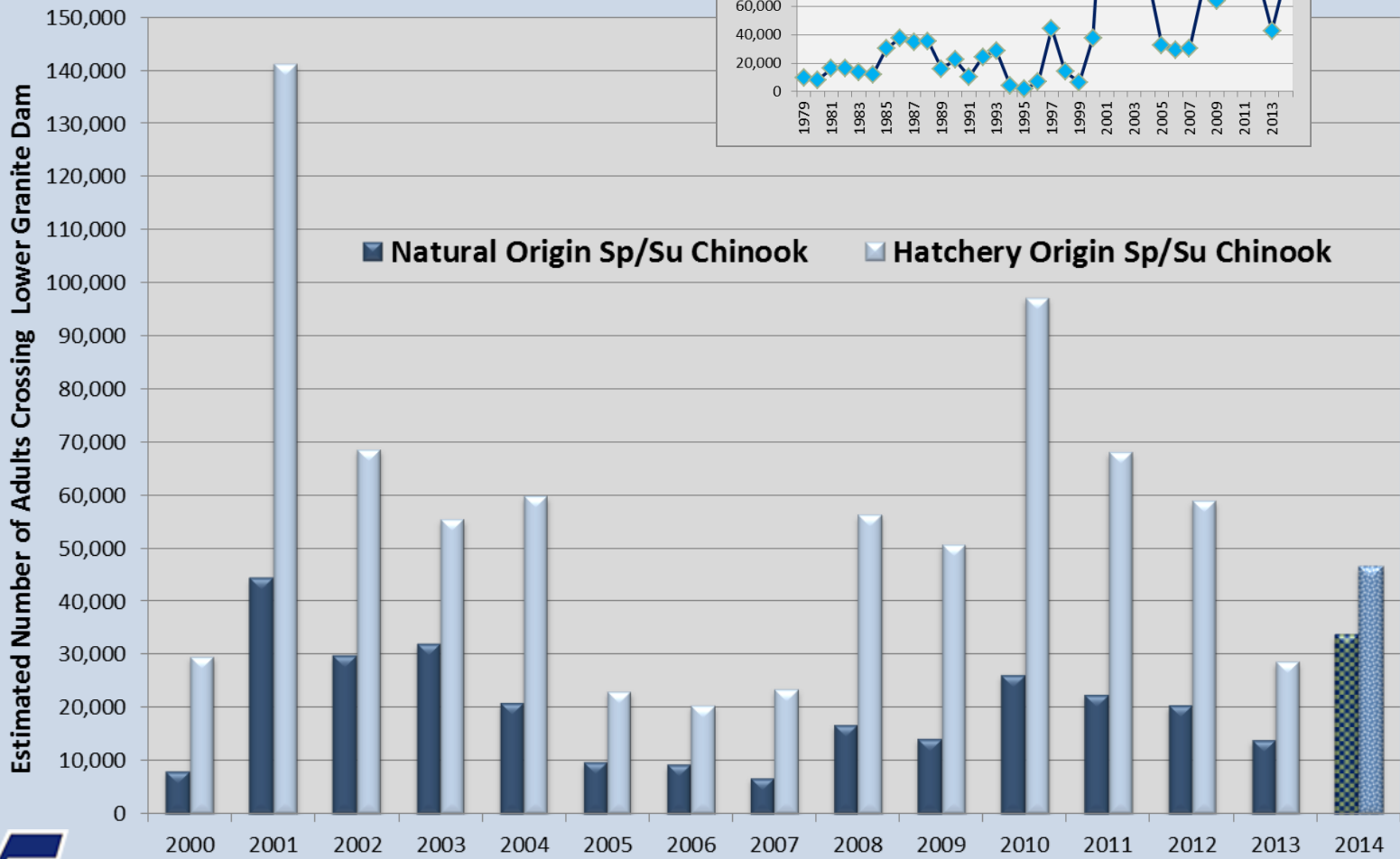
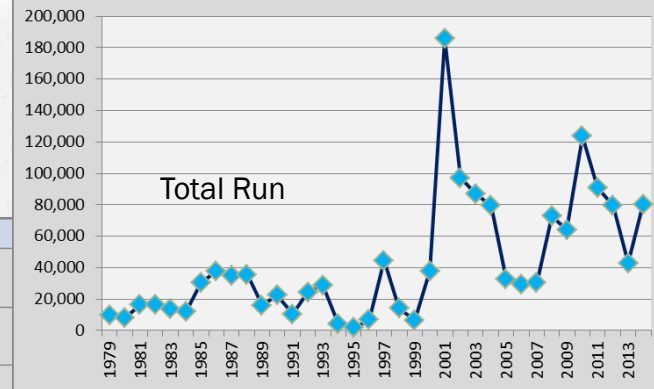
Summer Steelhead



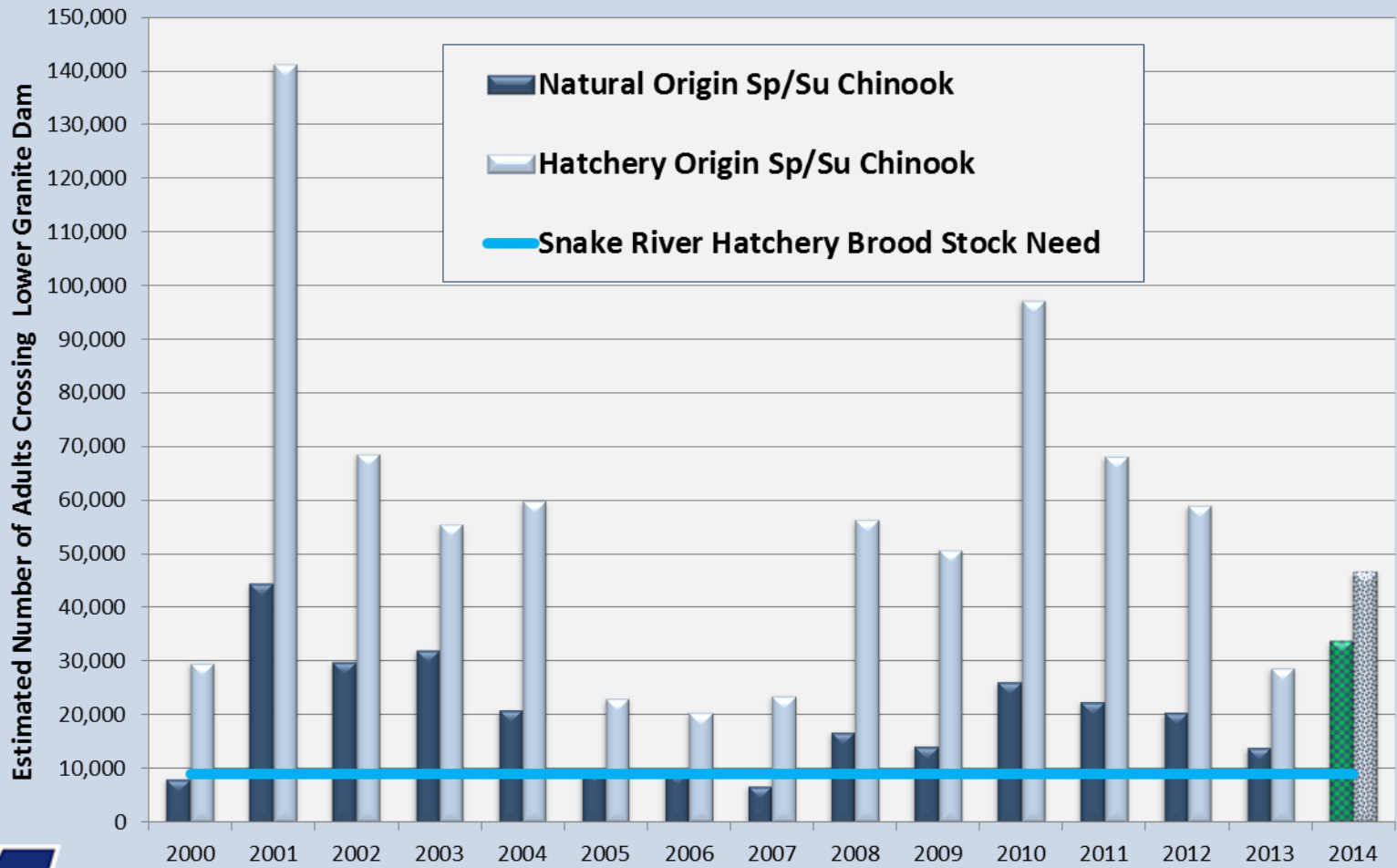
Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon



Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon



Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon

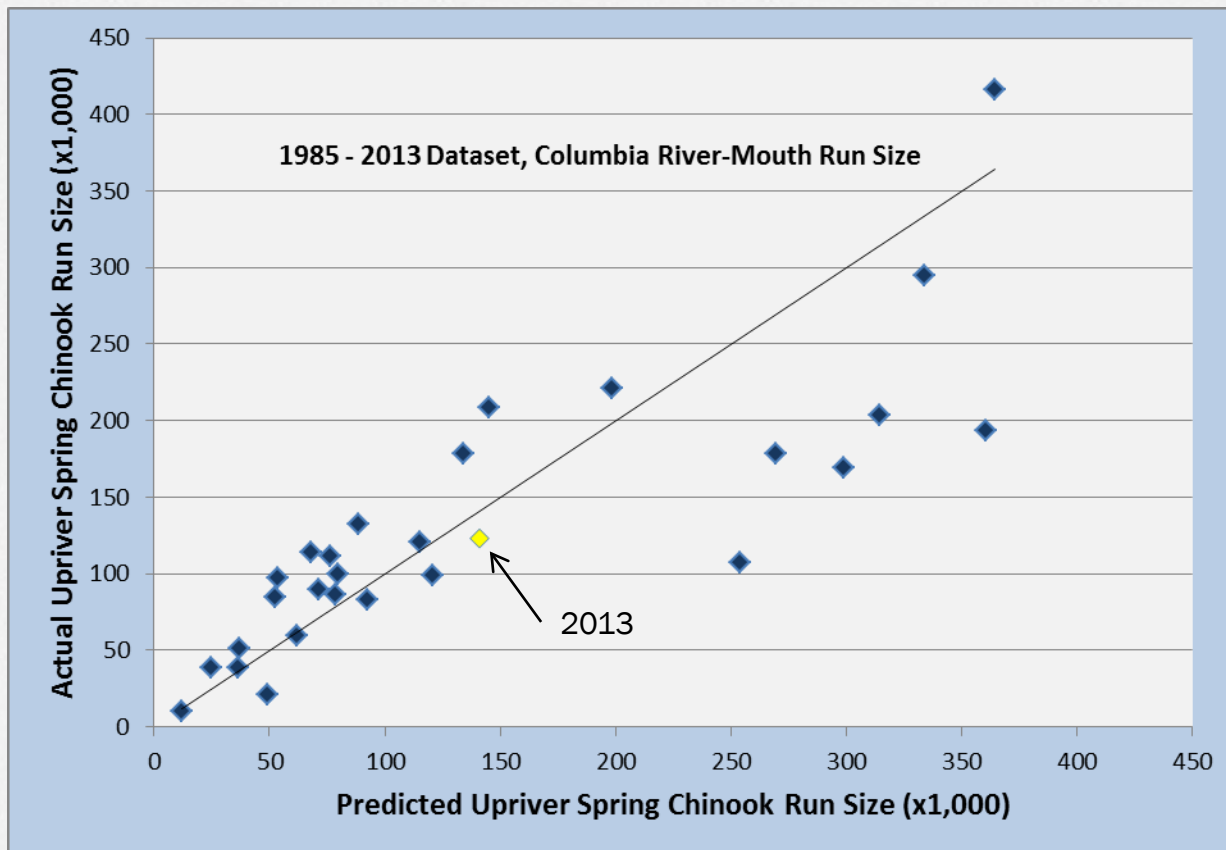


Management Processes

Pre-Season

2013 Estimated Returns
from monitoring, sampling, run reconstruction

2014 Forecasted Returns
prior years' data and modeling

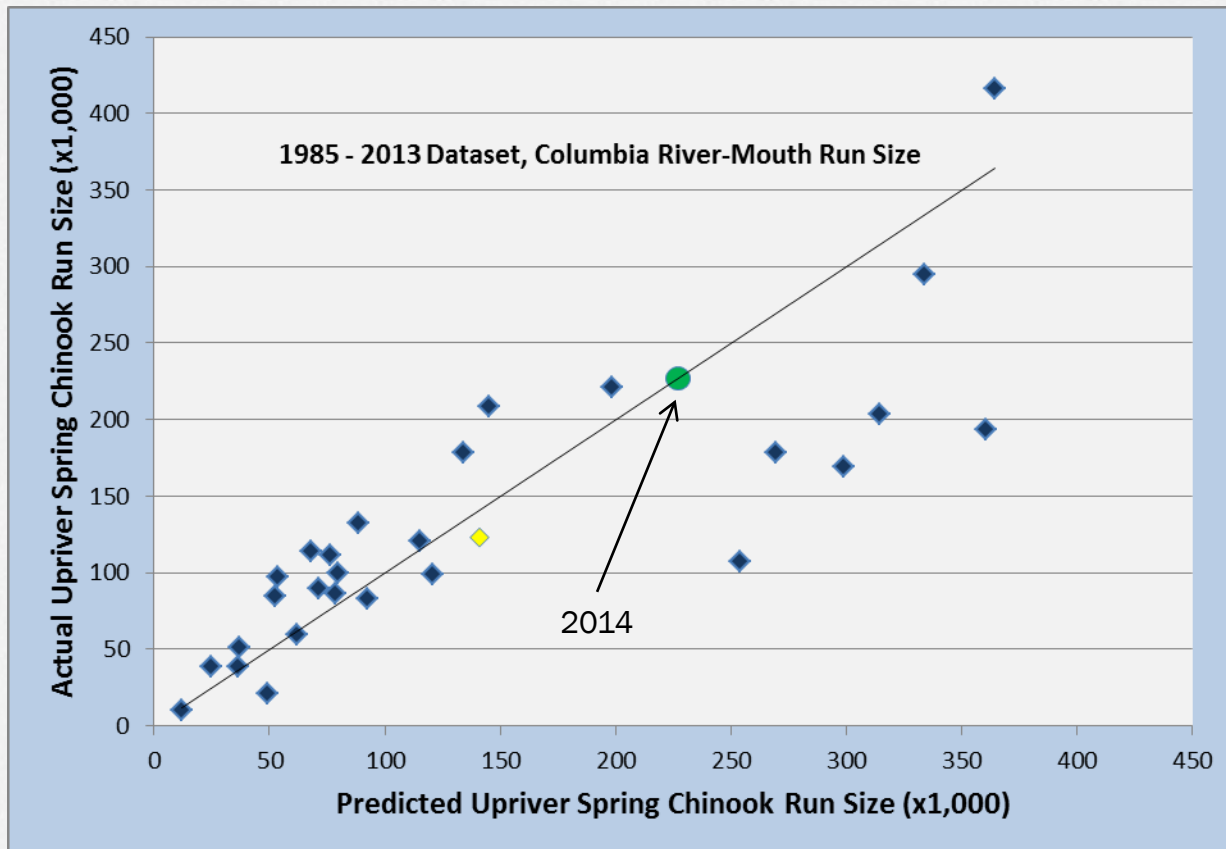


Management Processes

Pre-Season

2013 Estimated Returns
from monitoring, sampling, run reconstruction

2014 Forecasted Returns
prior years' data and modeling



Questions



Chinook salmon spawner in Chamberlain Creek, Frank Church River-of-No-Return Wilderness, Idaho