

A growing need

Despite the LSRCP contribution to Snake and Columbia basin fisheries over the past four decades, its facilities and funding have been insufficient to allow LSRCP to achieve its full mitigation requirements.

Today, aging critical infrastructure such as pipelines, generators, and rearing units, are in danger of failing – or in some cases have already failed – putting both fish and the fisheries they support at risk. Emergency situations cannot be addressed in real-time, and capital projects that would secure and right-size LSRCP programs cannot be pursued.

In the face of these challenges, LSRCP and its state and tribal partners have compiled a list of unfunded capital and deferred maintenance needs. The total cost to address these needs is estimated at \$131 million, including substantial engineering and design work still needed by many of the larger projects. There is a subset of “shovel-ready” projects estimated to cost \$27 million.



Partners and contacts



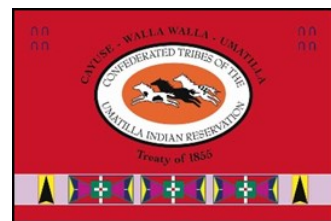
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Lower Snake River Compensation Plan

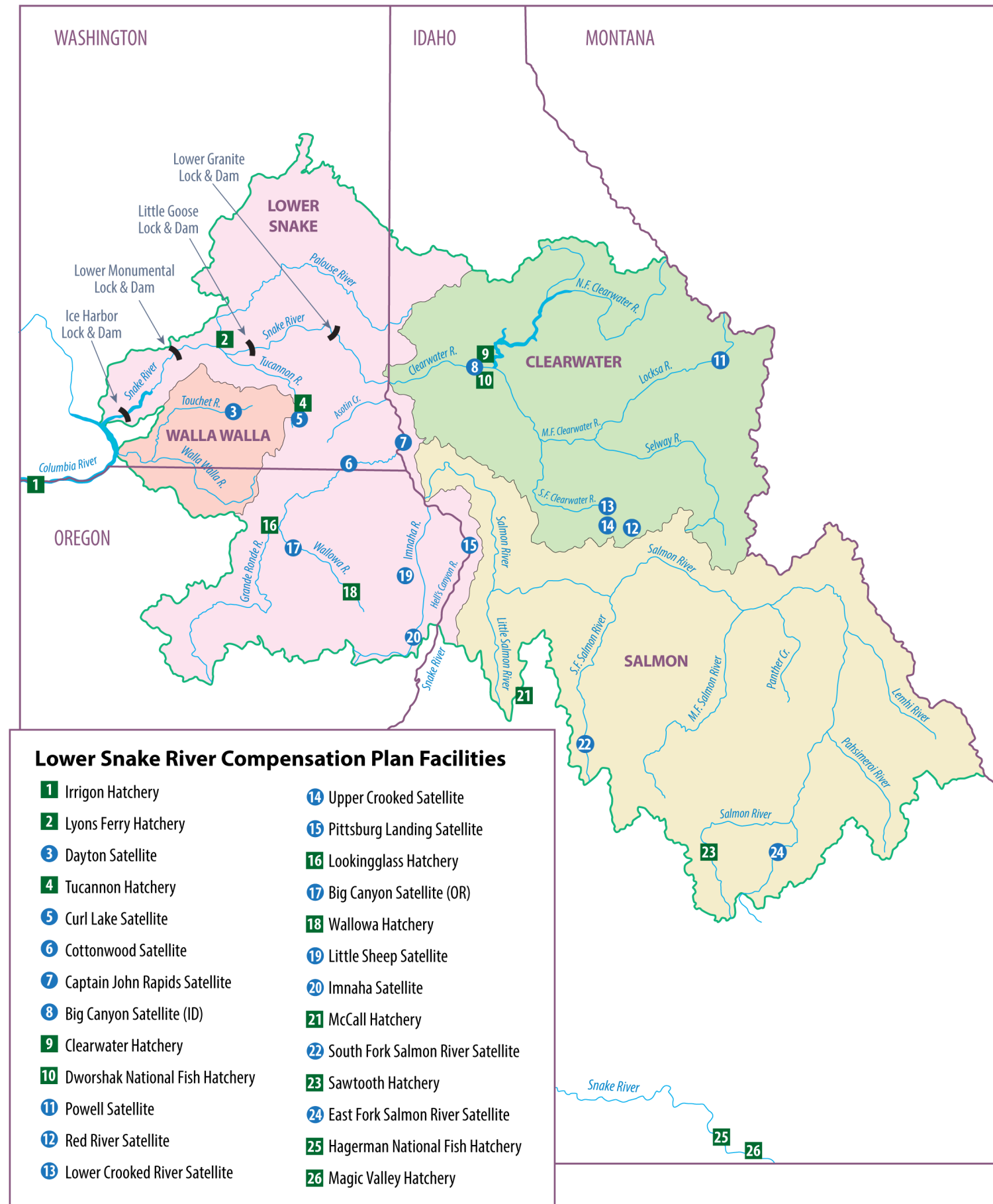
Securing the future for salmon and steelhead



Insufficient funding, crumbling infrastructure

Congress established the Lower Snake River Compensation Plan program (LSRCP) in 1976 to compensate “in kind, in place” for an estimated 48 percent loss of returning adult salmon and steelhead associated with the construction and operation of four dams on the lower Snake River in Washington state. The program currently faces funding challenges impacting its ability to meet objectives and address infrastructure needs.

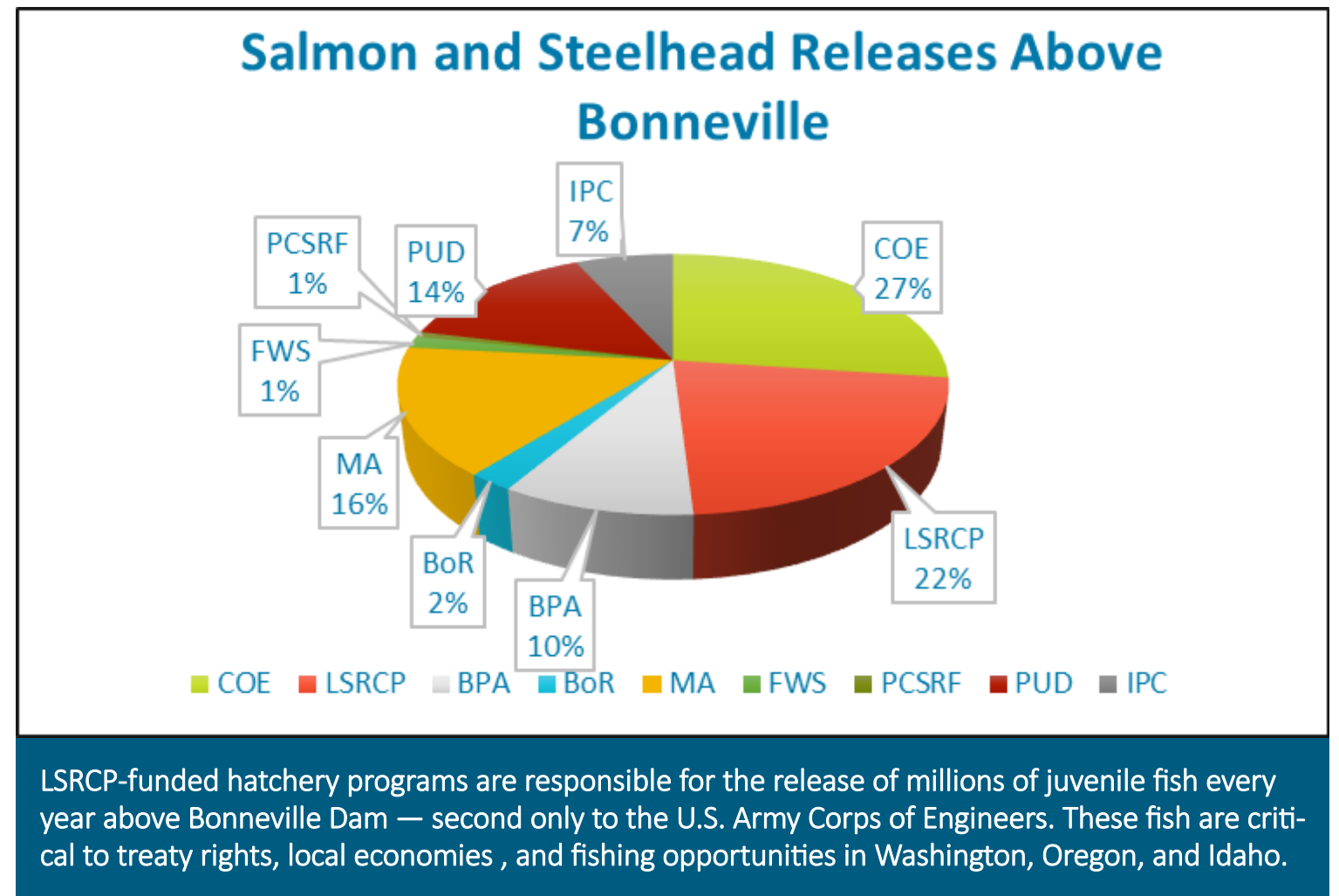
Despite the LSRCP contribution to Snake and Columbia basin fisheries over the past four decades, its facilities are eroding due to this insufficient funding. A \$27 million investment in “shovel-ready” projects will begin to right-size the program.



What is the LSRCP?

The LSRCP includes 26 salmon and steelhead hatcheries, adult fish traps, and juvenile release facilities that produce fish to mitigate for the reduced returns. The program is funded by the Bonneville Power Administration and administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), with facilities operated by the states of Idaho, Washington, and Oregon, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and FWS.

The LSRCP program is the second-largest producer of juvenile salmon and steelhead above Bonneville Dam, with average annual releases of 22 million juvenile fish that play a critical role in sustaining recreational, tribal, and commercial fisheries throughout the Columbia and Snake rivers and in the ocean.



Not only have these hatchery programs been instrumental in recovering ESA-listed stocks, they play a critical role in mitigating for impacts to commercial, recreational, and tribal harvests in the Snake and Columbia Rivers and the ocean. LSRCP hatcheries provide 480 jobs generating \$24 million in income annually, along with an additional 933 jobs and \$24.5 million associated with harvest activities.