



# LOWER SNAKE RIVER COMPENSATION PLAN

# FISH FOR THE FUTURE



MATT HOW GRAPHIC - USFWS



IMNAHA RIVER, OREGON

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING IN LSRCP

SEPTEMBER 2023

# Lower Snake River Compensation Plan

FISH FOR THE FUTURE



## COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Fall is one of my favorite seasons. Chinook salmon are returning and being spawned, the summer weather is breaking into cooler Fall temps, and outdoor adventures abound.

Please help me welcome Dan Pounds into his new position as the Hatchery Manager at Tucannon Fish Hatchery. Congratulations Dan!

Also, some great work happening at the Idaho Truck shop on the next iteration of our "Fish for the Future" travelling billboards: aka fish hauling tankers. I'm excited to see what we come up with and keep spreading our message of ensuring salmon will be in our future.

On another note, "Beavers, oh my!" is a habitat project turned passage issue. Stay tuned on this one, but it's not the first time that projects don't turn out as expected and competing fishery interests occur on the same streams.

On a personal note, I visited the State of Maine for the first time in an attempt to leg snare (trap) a black bear for harvest with some old college friends. The bears outsmarted our best efforts, but we had a blast catching brook trout, exploring the Appalachian Trail, and eating lobsters.

Have a great Fall out there and Thanks for being Fish for the Future!

-Nate

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Opportunities  
don't just  
happen,  
preparation  
creates  
them....

-Google inspiration

.....



THE BEAR THAT GOT AWAY!

# BEAVERS, OH MY!

## CHINOOK SPAWNING IN OREGON

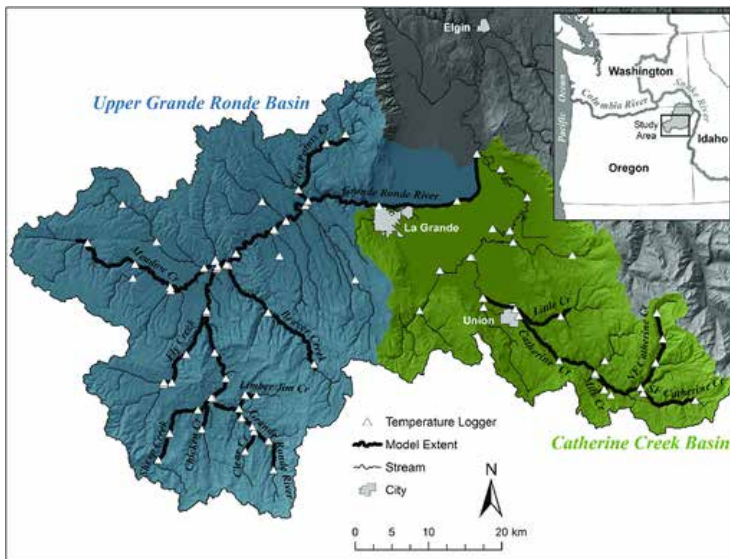
### Chinook Passage issues in the Upper Grande Ronde River

For the past two return years, Chinook haven't been able to navigate a series of habitat projects that have been enhanced by beaver activity. These projects were implemented by the Forest Service in an effort to increase flood plain connectivity, improve fish habitat, and water quality:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=61396&exp=overview>

The project placed 30-40 debris jams per mile and 50 whole trees (10-12" in diameter) at each mile spaced between sites. The wood and racking material were felled and transported with mini-excavators.

Unfortunately, the whole tree structures in particular have been ideal beaver colonization points. Long-term redd monitoring efforts have identified headwater areas that no longer have spawning salmon or subsequent juveniles. Additional work is planned in the basin and managers will meet with the Forest Service this Fall to discuss next steps.



HABITAT/BEAVER WORK IN UPPER GRANDE RONDE

# IMNAHA SURVEYS

UPPER IMNAHA RIVER

## IMNAHA SPAWNING SURVEYS

It was a great Fall on the Imnaha spawning surveys. The weather was excellent, smoke was almost non-existent, and besides a few ground wasp stings,- pleasantly uneventful.

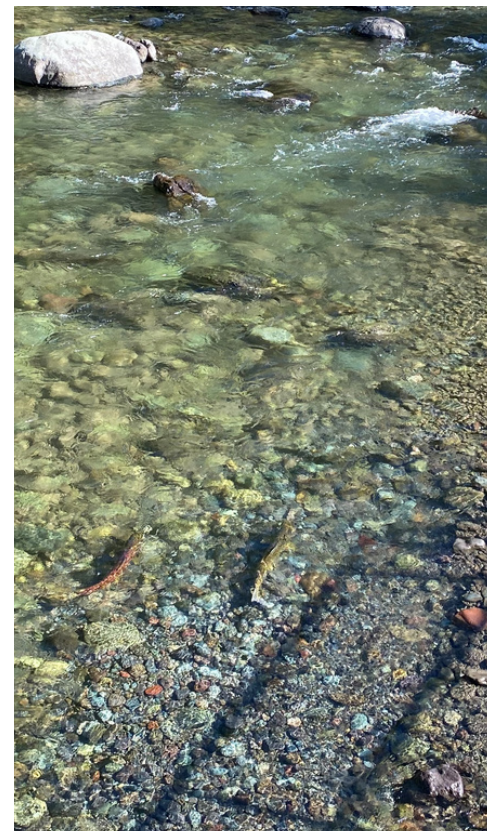
The redd survey work has spanned multiple decades and the system has evolved from rite in the rain notebooks to smart phones. I'll admit, the system is so simple that I was even getting the hang of it. And, the immediate GPS location was convenient and accurate.

Rod Engle and I managed to pick a good week to visit. The previous sampling was cancelled due to high run-off conditions. That caused unusually murky water conditions in most of the river. Numbers have been greater in the Imnaha, but they've also been lower. I guess we'll take that as a win for now.

-Nate



**IMNAHA WEIR**



**ACTIVE REDD**

# HATCHERY NEWS

**JAMIE MITCHELL AND RODRIGO GEORGE, BPA, REVIEW THE MCCALL HATCHERY MAP**



## Hatchery News

<https://www.hatchmag.com/articles/50-years-research-overwhelmingly-shows-hatcheries-are/7715778>

“The Science is clear, fish hatcheries do more harm than good”

The quote from this popular article in HatchMag caught my eye this month. These articles reinforce why LSRCP continually reviews and updates how we use hatcheries. The recent ISRP review of the Chinook program was a good example and the program plans to start the steelhead review process in January 2024 with a ISRP meeting in December 2024.

## Administration News

A couple of press releases came out this month. The first was \$200M announced by the Department of Interior for BPA money over the next 20 years to work on Tribally lead efforts to restore salmon populations:

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/biden-harris-administration-tribes-reach-historic-agreement-supporting-efforts-restore>

The second was a memo from the White House re-affirming Agency commitment to honor Tribal trust and treaty obligations towards restoring salmon. More at this website:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2023/09/27/memorandum-on-restoring-healthy-and-abundant-salmon-steelhead-and-other-native-fish-populations-in-the-columbia-river-basin/>



**JOHN GEBHARDS, NEZ PERCE TRIBE, WITH A SUMMER CHINOOK**

# OUTREACH



**INTERVIEW WITH MARK TITUS, AUGUST ISLAND PICTURES,  
JOSEPH FELDHAUS, ODFW, AND BRIAN SIMMONS, NPT**

## **LSRCP Outreach**

Mark Titus, August Island Pictures, interviewed multiple LSRCP staff on salmon recovery, returns, dams, and the like. Mark has done several film festival style projects on the plight of Northwest salmon stocks. His current project is likely to be out in 2024.

John Powell, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, set-up a meet and greet and tour with Bonneville Power Administration staff. The tour included visiting land holdings in the Boise foothills that were purchased as part of the wildlife mitigation component for BPA. As the Treasure Valley continues its fast development, these protected acres will continue to provide wintering habitat for deer and elk.

John McKernan, IDFG Truck shop, has been getting transport trucks ready for the new season and researched some new wrap concepts. His ideas spurred enough interest that the IDFG Graphic design folks are onboard now and working on additional proofs. And, we are exploring the concept of a Kids Coloring Contest to adorn at least a truck or two. Stay tuned!



**ANN MOSER, IDFG, JASON SWEET  
AND SCOTT DONAHUE, BPA, JOHN  
POWELL, IDFG, AND DAVID KAPLOWE,  
BPA**



**TRUCK WRAP CONCEPT, JOHN MCKERNAN, IDFG**

# DAN POUNDS, TUCANNON HATCHERY



DAN POUNDS, HATCHERY MANAGER

## **Dan Pounds, WDFW, Tucannon Hatchery Manager**

For 13 years, I have worked for the Department of Fish and Wildlife. I started out at Lyons Ferry as a 6-month temporary which turned into 6 years. It was then, I remember telling a coworker one day about taking the aptitude test back in grade school. During these tests, the computer would ask questions to generate answers for a potential career path. And every time I took it, the computer would always have "Fish Hatchery Worker" as one of the top 3 choices. I would say the computer doesn't know s#!t. Of course, I wanted the answers to be more along the lines of rockstar or MLB superstar. Not a fish hatchery worker. I guess AI was that advanced 30 years ago. In other words, it was right!

Then I was promoted as the FHS3 at the Tucannon Fish Hatchery spending 7 years under Doug Maxey learning the ins and outs around the facility. I remember being told as I was leaving from Lyons Ferry, that I was made for this position. One of my earliest memories was when I was on a school fieldtrip to the Tucannon Fish Hatchery in the 4th grade. We were given a tour by Bill Hubbard the Hatchery Manager at that time. I don't remember meeting Doug Maxey during the field trip, but he was here as the Assistant Manager under Bill. The crazy thing is, that the three of us were here at the Tucannon at the same time 30 years ago. Who would have guessed that the 3 consecutive managers in the last 50 years were here all at once.

I am lifelong Dayton resident and have always had a deep love for the Blue Mountains and the rolling foothills. I am married, have two kids, and numerous animals on a 25-acre hobby farm just outside of Dayton Washington. When I am not taking my kids to whatever event that they have, we spend time at our cabin, go skiing, and hunt for sheds. So, I suppose the saying is true. When you do something you love, it's like you never work a day in your life. Not only was I made for this position, but I was also made for this place. Who knows, maybe I have already given a tour to the next manager.

-Dan



THERES A FIND!



A BULL IN THE TRAP