Estimating the historical and contemporary rearing capacity for spring Chinook above and below Willamette Project Dams



Morgan Bond, Tyler Nodine, Tim Beechie, Chris Jordan, Mark Sorel, George Pess, and Rich Zabel

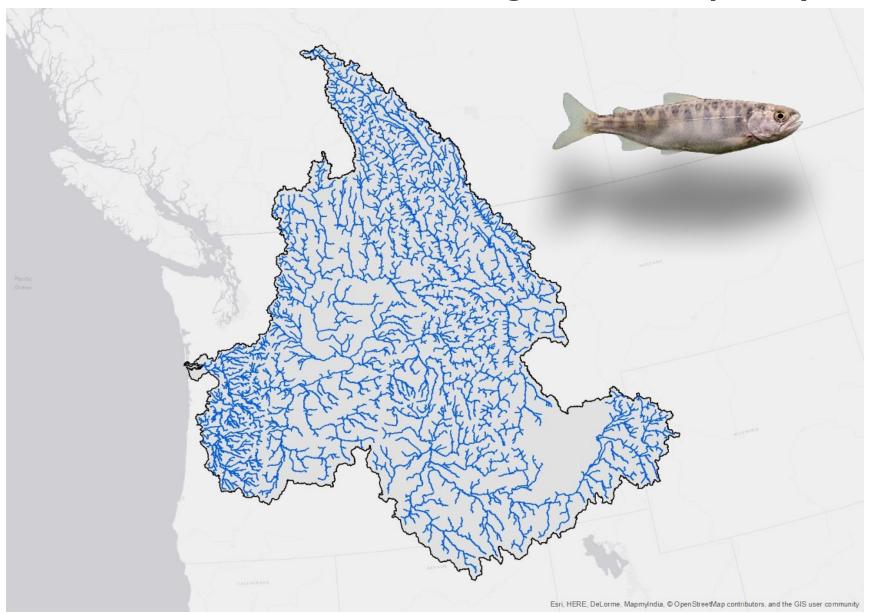
#### What do we mean by capacity?

- Capacity: long-term average max. abundance
- We are estimating life stage specific capacities:
  Historical/Contemporary:
  - Spawners (George Pess)
  - Juvenile (parr) above-impoundments/unimpounded
  - Reservoir capacity (Mark Sorel)

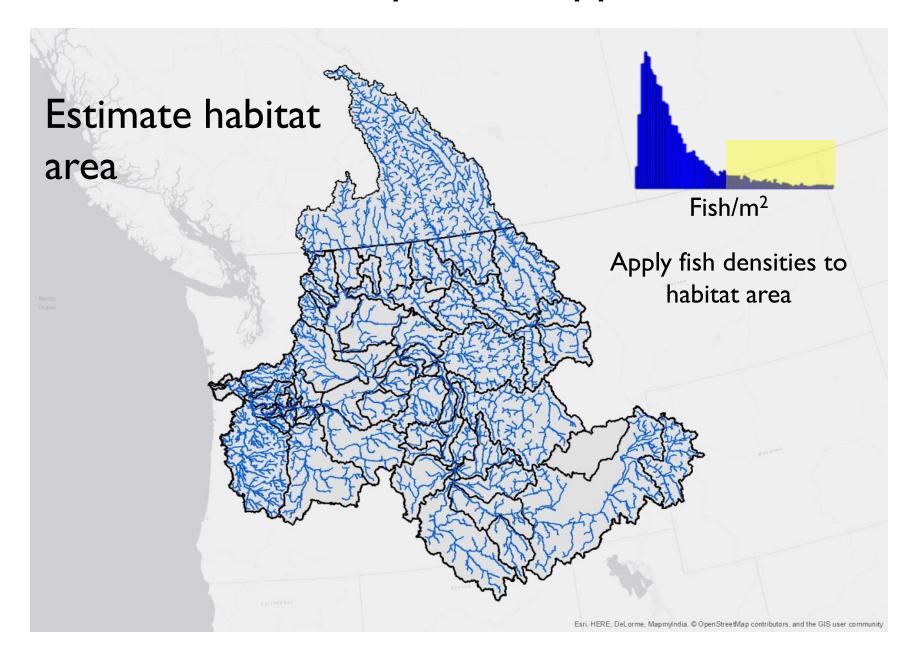




#### How do we estimate large scale capacity?



#### Habitat expansion approach

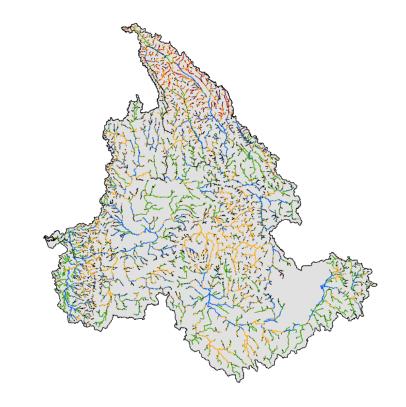


## Why expansion approach?

Predicting natural channel patterns based on landscape and geomorphic controls in the Columbia River basin, USA

Tim Beechie<sup>1</sup> and Hiroo Imaki<sup>1</sup> WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH, VOL. 50, 39–57

- Common model predicting channel form throughout the CRB
- Create estimates of available habitat /capacity at different spatial scales
- Estimate of historical capacity (unmodified channel forms)
- Allows for scenarios of restoration



#### Incorporating parameter uncertainty into evaluation of spawning habitat limitations on Chinook salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) populations

Timothy J. Beechie, Correigh M. Greene, Lisa Holsinger, and Eric M. Beamer

Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 63: 1242-1250 (2006)

Estimated changes to Chinook salmon (Oncorhynchus tshawytscha) and

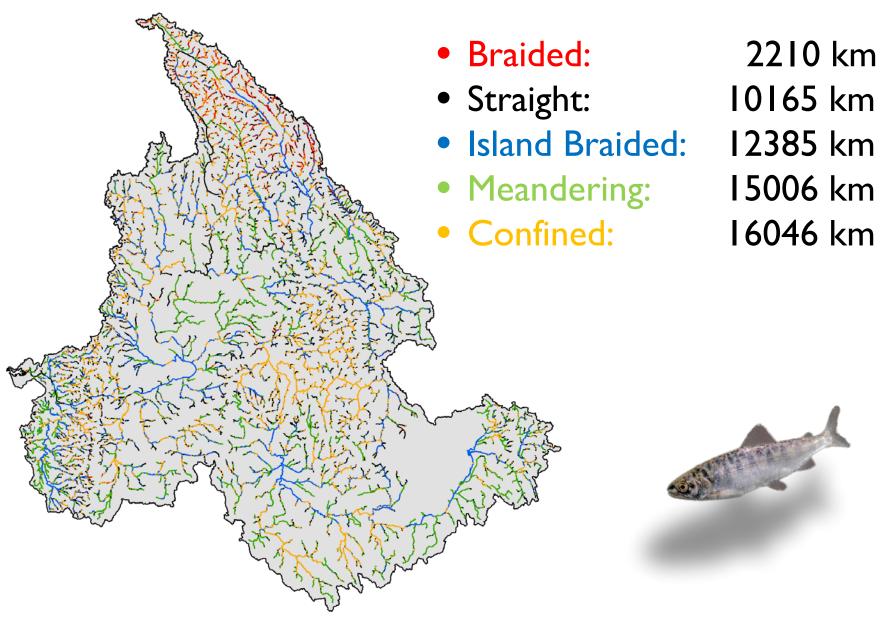
steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) habitat carrying capacity from

rehabilitation actions for the Trinity River, North Fork Trinity to

Lewiston Dam

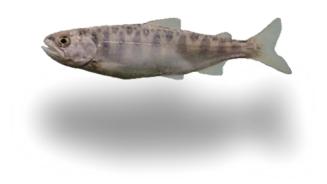
Tim Beechie, George Pess, Hiroo Imaki report for USFWS May 2012

## Sum channel type lengths



#### Translating modeled channel length to habitat area

- Develop functional relationships of habitat area with modeled stream size
- Measure mainstem, off channel, side channel habitats with satellite imagery:
  - Channel type
  - Over a range of stream sizes (bankfull width, discharge)
  - I 30 "unmodified" sites throughout CRB

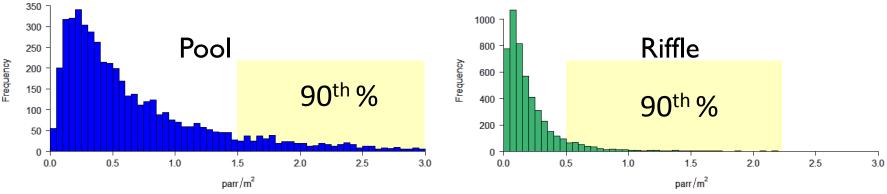






Habitat-specific fish densities

- Spring Chinook parr densities
  CHaMP/ISEMP
  - Literature review by Beechie et al.
- >8m bankfull width: density by total useable habitat area (edge, side channel, off channel)
- <8m bankfull width: pool:riffle ratio by slope</p>

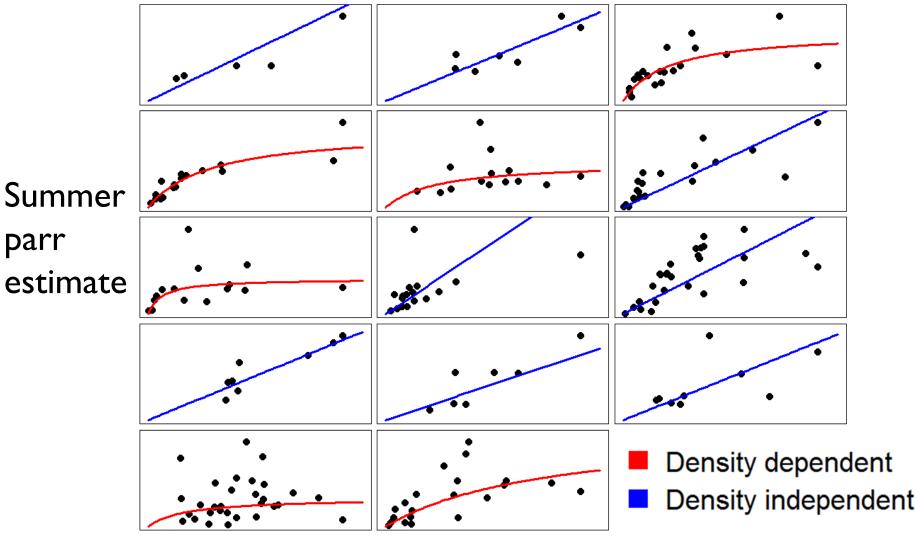


How do we validate these estimates?

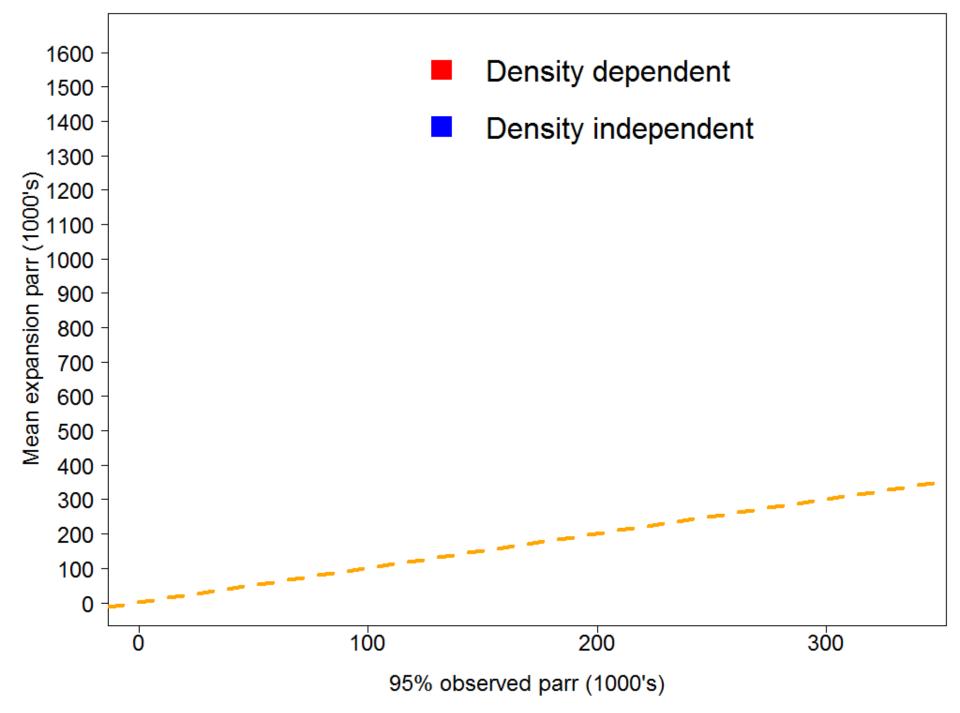
23 sites with estimates of spring Chinook juvenile production and spawner abundance

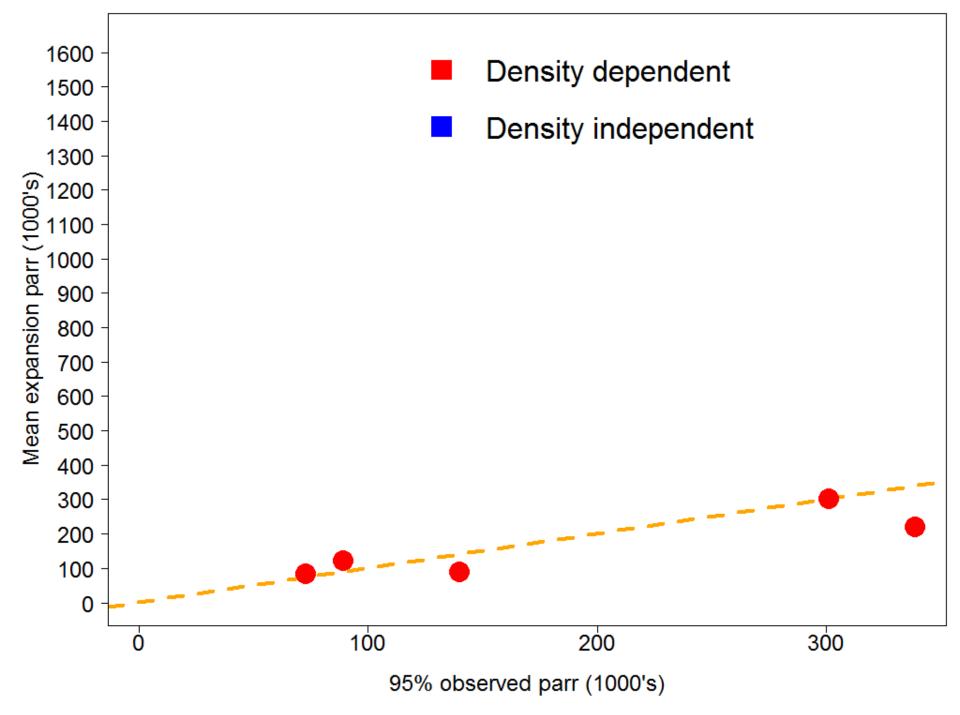
Rearing habitat from StreamNet

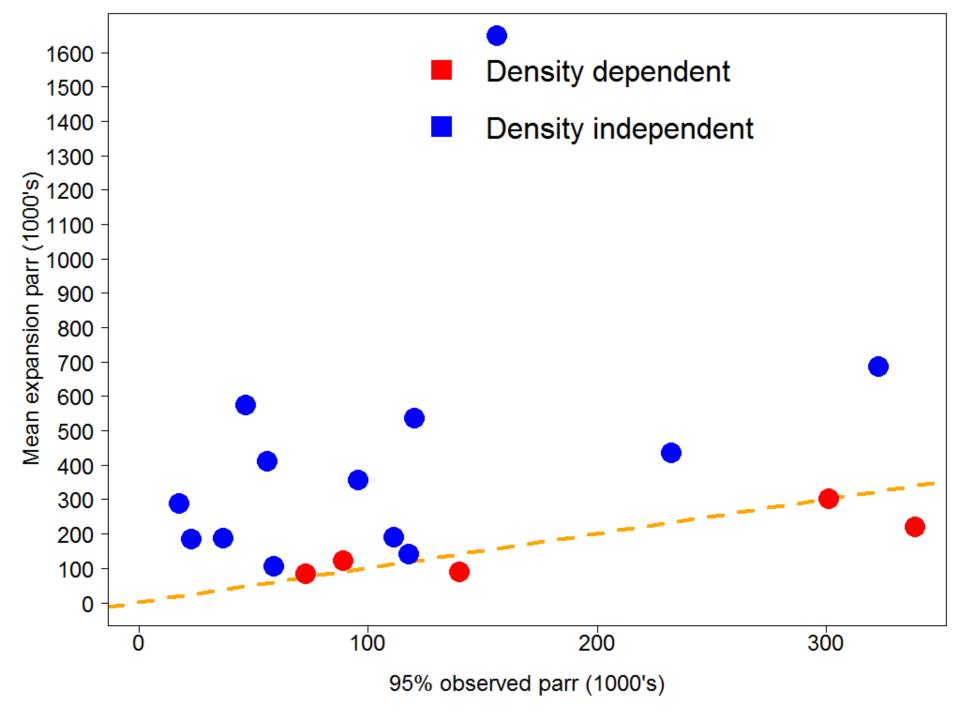
## Empirical estimates of capacity

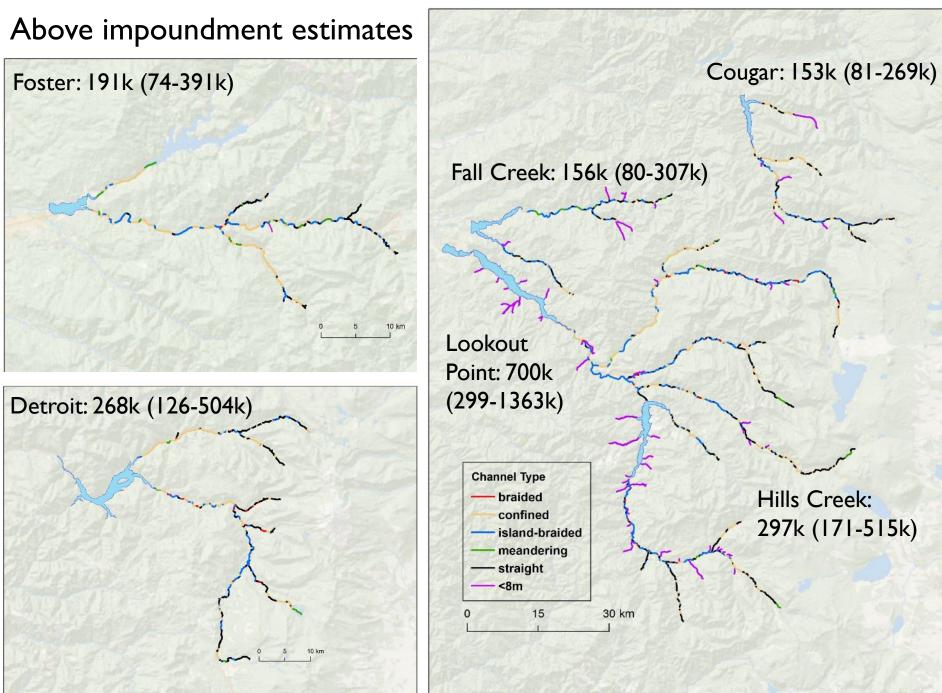


Redd count





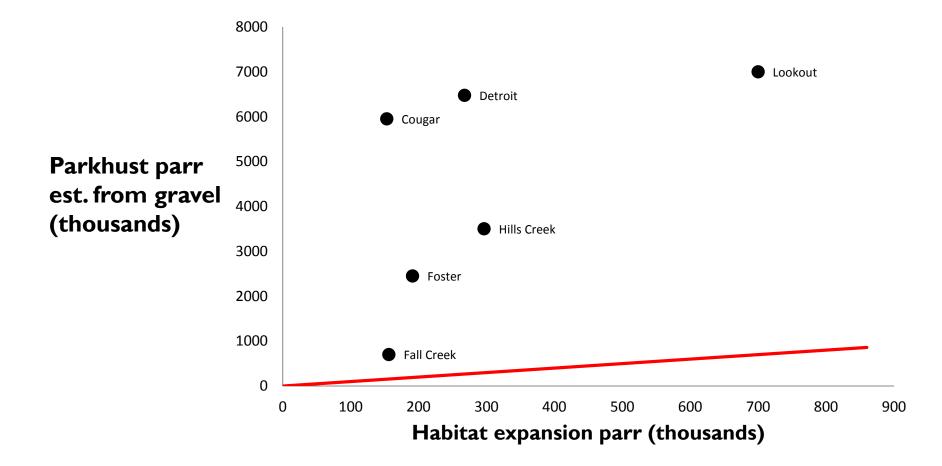


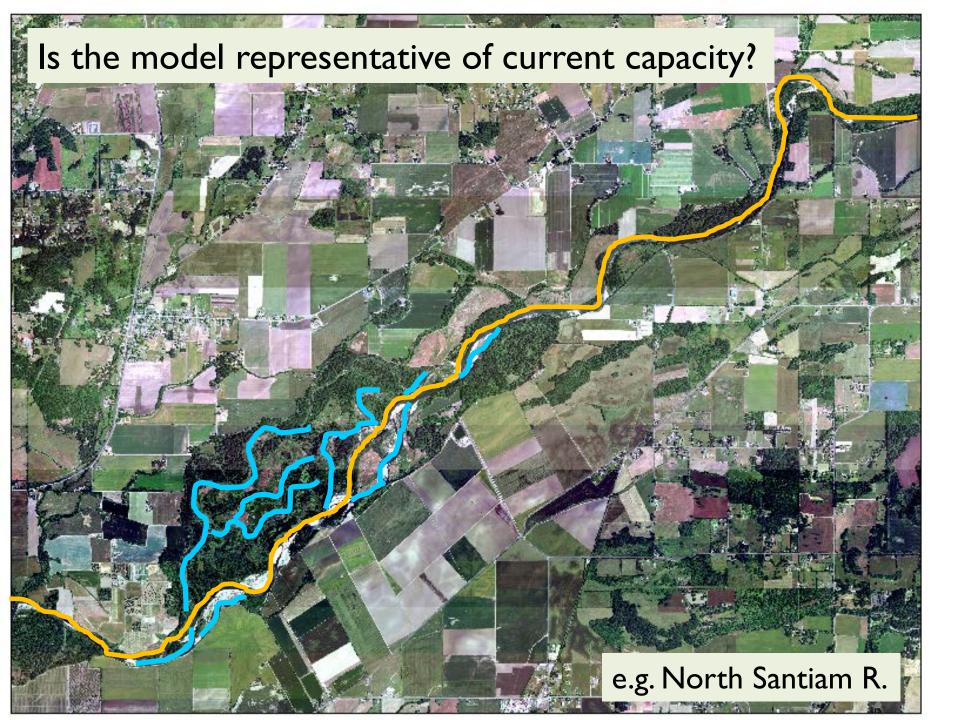


sti, DeLorme, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other control.

Esri, DeLorme, GEBCO, NOAA NGDC, and other contributors

#### Compared to previous estimates

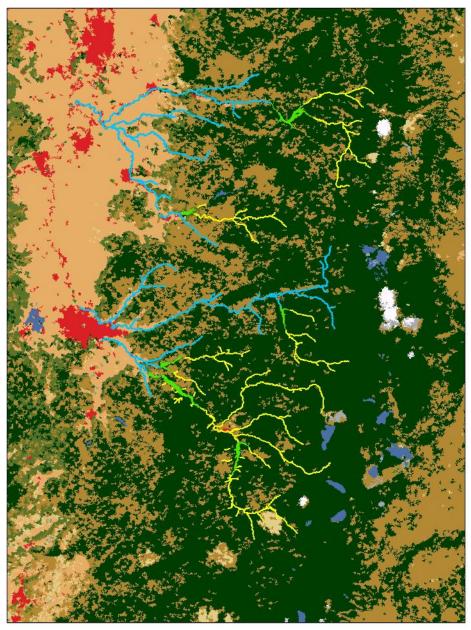




## Land use varies above and below Projects

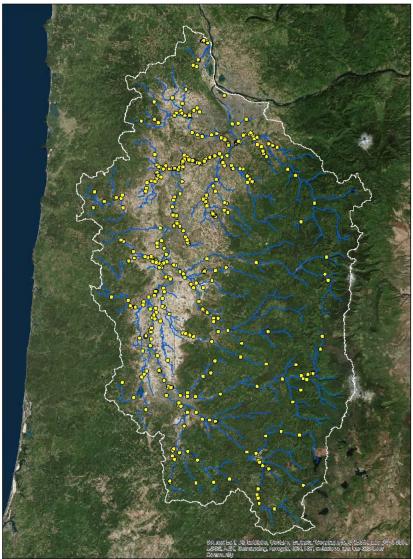
	Impounded				
	Island-braided	Meandering	Straight	Confined	
Urban	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Crop	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Grassland	0%	0%	0%	1%	
Shrubland	20%	19%	13%	12%	
Forest	80%	81%	86%	88%	

	Unimpounded				
Urban	12%	2%	0%	7%	
Crop	35%	75%	13%	16%	
Grassland	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Shrubland	18%	8%	37%	25%	
Forest	35%	14%	50%	52%	



# How to estimate changes in side/off channel habitat?

- Spatially balanced design (GRTS) to sample sites with satellite imagery
- Compare measurements of:
  - Historic floodplain
  - Active channel width
  - Mainstem/off/ side channel area
  - Modified/unmodified
- Stratified on:
  - Predicted channel type
  - Land use





# Acknowledgements



- WDFW: Jeremy Cram, David Grundy, Michael Gallinat, Alex Repp
- ODFW: Rich Carmichael, Brian Jonasson, Ian Tattam, Robert Reagan, Josh Hanson, Tim Hoffnagle
- IDFG: Tim Copeland
- USFWS: Tom Desgroseillier
- Portland General Electric: Nick Ackerman
- Nez Perce Tribe: Devin Olsen
- Shoshone Bannock Tribes
- BioAnalysts, Inc: Tracy Hillman
- NWFSC: Damon Holzer, Tom Cooney, Jim Myers, Jeff Jorgensen, Michael Beakes, Corey Phillis, Kevin See
- BPA: 1989-098-00, 1997-015-01
- Funding: USACOE

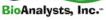
















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