Tucannon Valley, Columbia County

Snake River Salmon Recovery Region Indicators

Human Population: 85,700

Counties: Asotin, Columbia, Garfield, Walla Walla, and parts of Franklin and Whitman.

Treaty Tribes: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and Nez Perce Tribe.

Listed Fish: sockeye (endangered), fall Chinook (threatened), spring-summer Chinook (threatened), steelhead (threatened), bull trout (threatened).

Regional Recovery Organization: Snake River Salmon Recovery Board (http://www.snakeriverboard.org/).

Recovery Planning Status: Draft recovery plan for Washington portion of Snake River Chinook, sockeye, steelhead, and bull trout due in June 2005.

WRIAs / Water Resource Inventory Areas

32 Walla Walla
33 Lower Snake
35 Middle Snake

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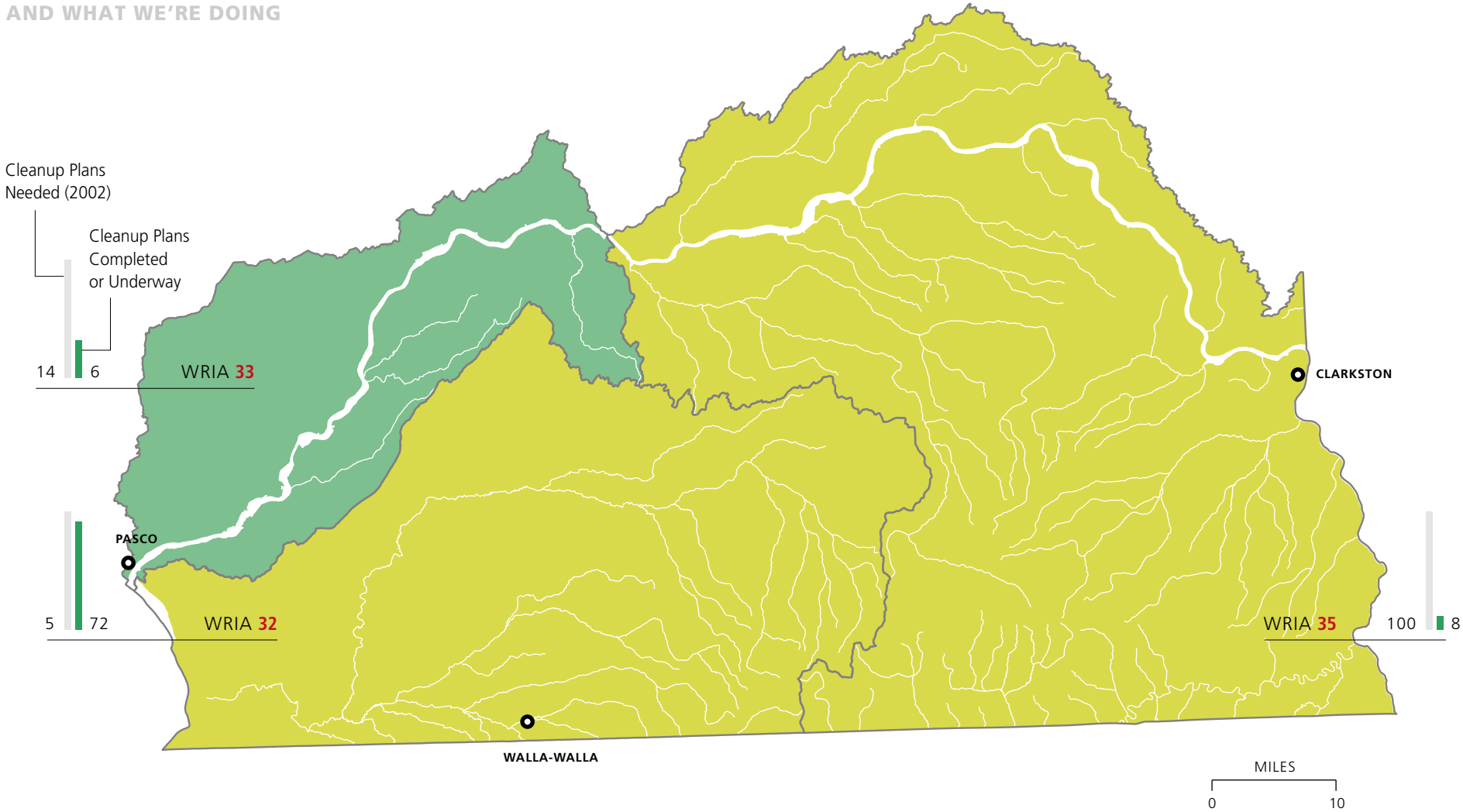
Water Quality Status

AND WHAT WE'RE DOING



Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

On our map, dissolved oxygen, pH, temperature, and fecal coliform are used to construct an index. A good rating means the averages for the last five years are of the lowest concern. Waters of moderate concern are rated fair, and waters of highest concern are labeled as poor.

Although the index rates overall water quality in a basin, specific locations within the basin may not be meeting one or more of these standards. Cleanup plans completed, underway, or remaining on the 2002 TMDL list are shown by WRIA.

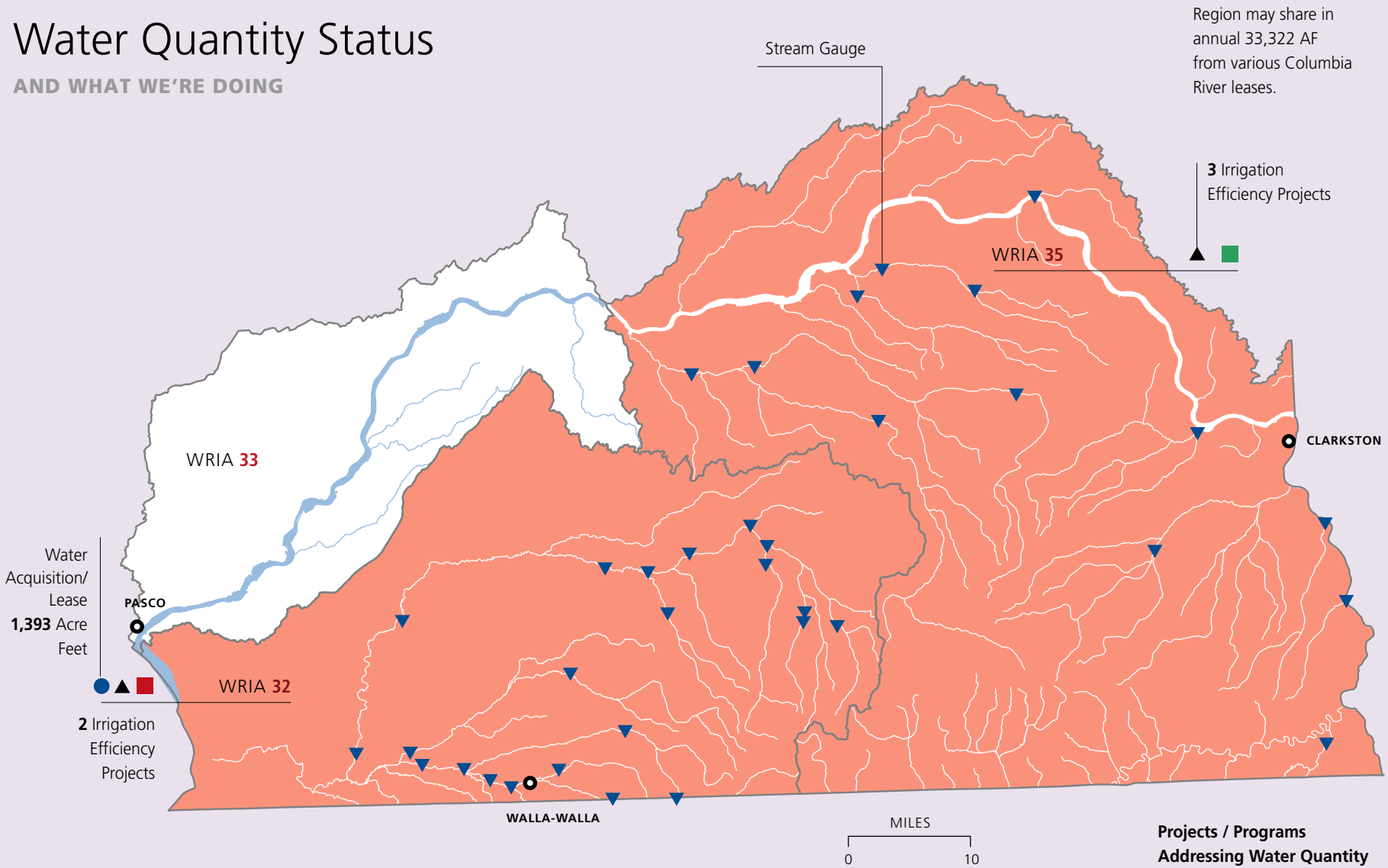
Water Quality Status Index for Salmon and Watersheds

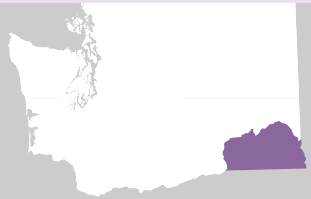
- Good Condition
- Fair Condition
- Poor Condition
- Insufficient Data

DATA SOURCE: WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Water Quantity Status

AND WHAT WE'RE DOING





Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

On our map a "water-critical basin" is an over-appropriated watershed where more water could be withdrawn from rivers and streams, especially in late summer and early fall when flows are naturally low. A "low flow" basin is one experiencing significant pressure for increased water use and rapidly declining flows for fish. Significant actions to address low flows for salmon include instream flow rules, closures, water acquisitions and leases, and irrigation efficiencies.

Water Quantity Status Index for Salmon and Watersheds

- Low Flow
- Critical
- Not Categorized

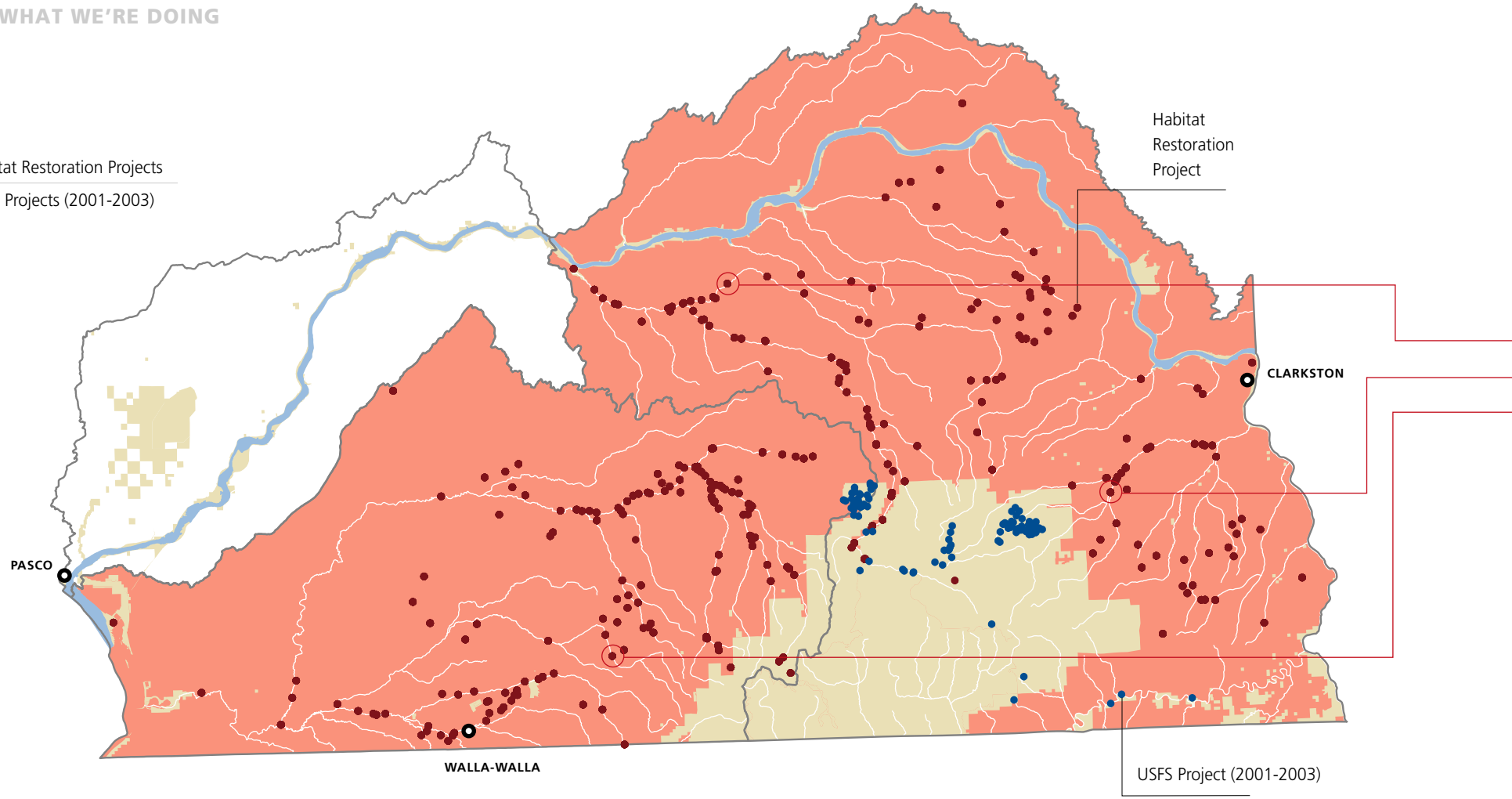
Projects / Programs Addressing Water Quantity for Salmon and Watersheds

- Stream Gauges
- Water Acquisition / Lease in Annual Acre-Feet
- Instream Flow Set for WRIA (closed)
- Irrigation Efficiency Projects
- Flow Recommendations Identified

DATA SOURCE: WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Habitat Quality Status

AND WHAT WE'RE DOING



Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

On our map,
a single salmon habitat rating is depicted for each watershed that produces salmon or steelhead. This rating is a distillation of individual Limiting Factors Analyses reports for floodplain, sedimentation, riparian, and instream conditions. Although a single rating does not allow for the often varying conditions found within each WRIA and between each rated category, it is useful for a broad perspective on conditions for salmon spawning and rearing. Many watersheds now have in-depth analyses that will be available in recovery plans due in June 2005. Projects funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, tribes, or the US Forest Service that are intended to improve stream habitat conditions are shown.

Habitat Quality Status Index

- Poor Condition
- Insufficient Data
- Federal Lands

MILES
0 10

DATA SOURCE: WASHINGTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION, INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION, WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, US FOREST SERVICE

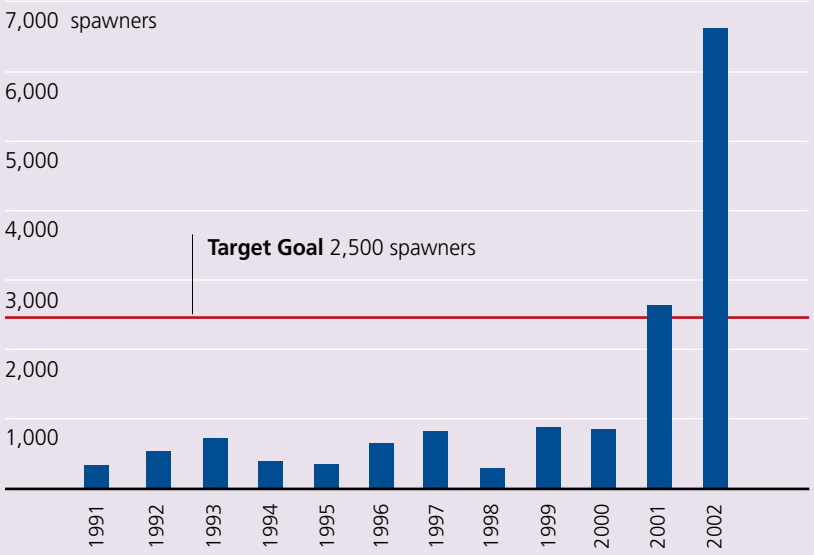
BLC Riparian Enhancement
The goal of this project is to decrease stream temperatures in Pataha Creek, a major tributary of the Tucannon River, by planting native vegetation and to increase filtering of sediments that now cloud the creek. A gate also keeps cattle from entering the streamside areas.

Schlee Ranch Acquisition
The SRFB provided funding to do some riparian plantings on an important habitat acquisition project benefiting many fish and wildlife species in Asotin County.

South Fork Coppei Creek Riparian Buffer
Local landowners, Mr. and Mrs. Hansen, working with partner agencies, created valuable projects and protected more than 5 miles of habitat for endangered steelhead.

Snake River Wild Fall Chinook

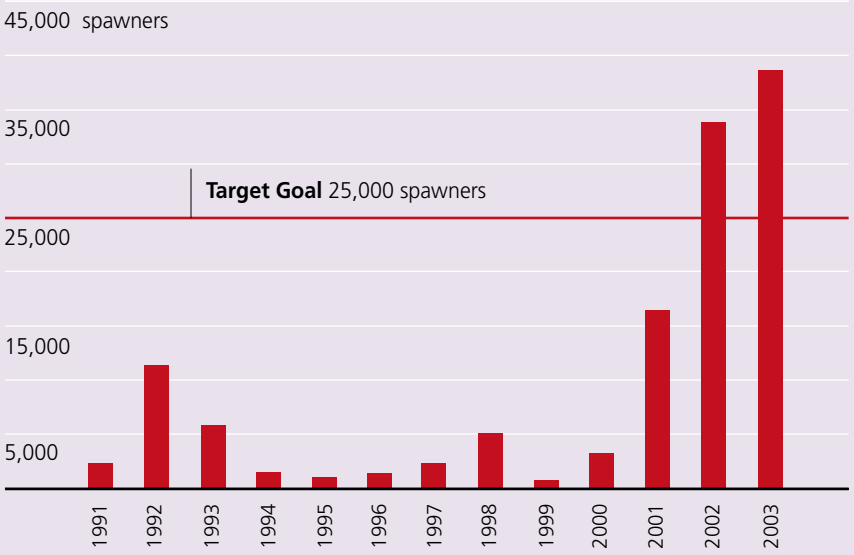
- Composite spawner abundance and target goal from counts at Lower Granite dam.
- Target Goal from NOAA-Fisheries.



DATA SOURCE: CRAWFORD AND VOLKHARDT (2004)

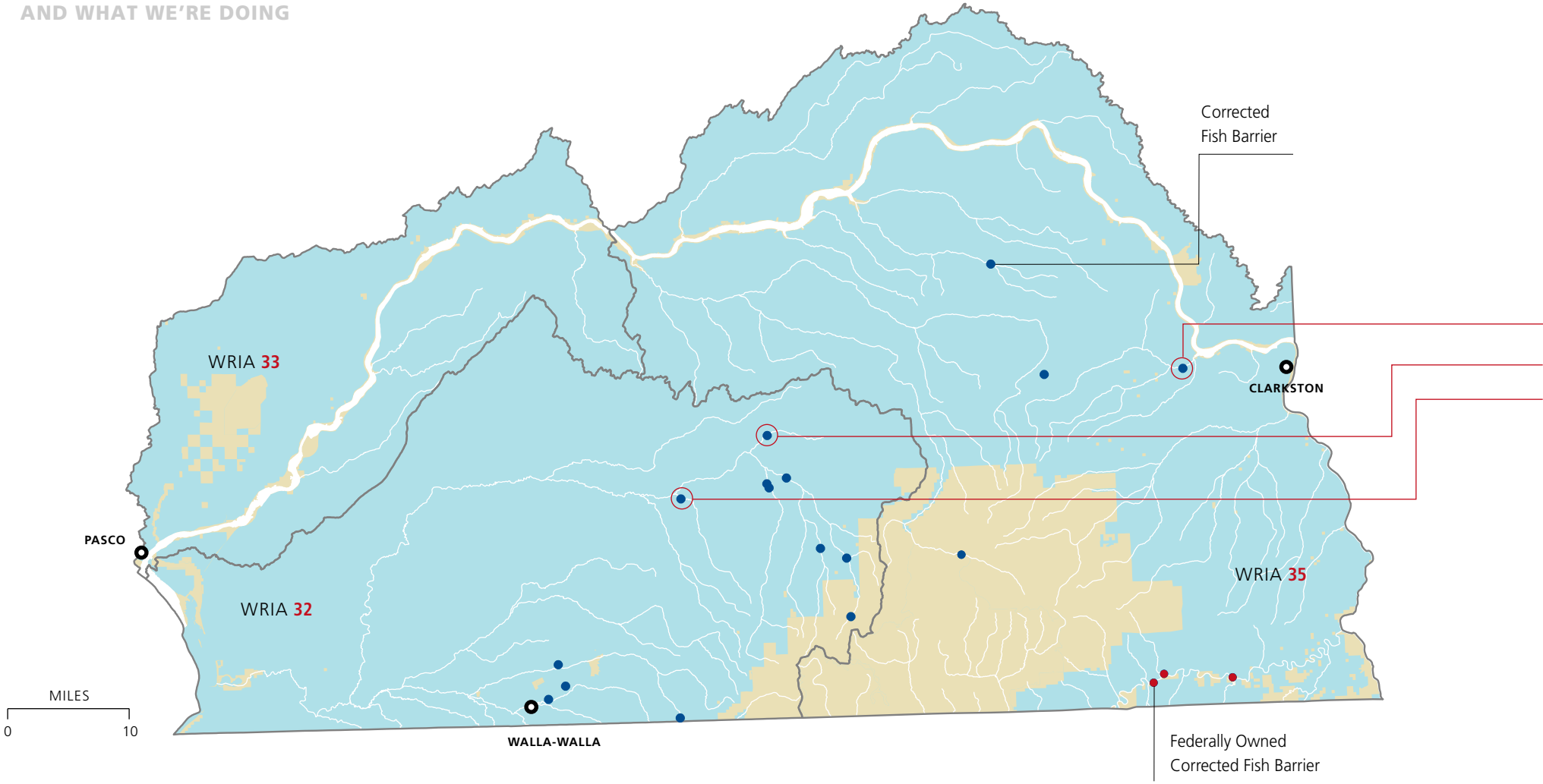
Snake River Wild Spring Chinook

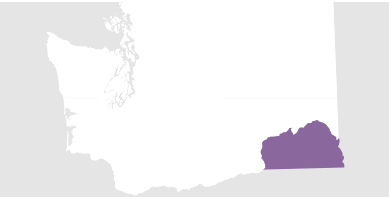
- Composite spawner abundance and target goal from counts at Lower Granite dam.
- Target Goal from NOAA-Fisheries.



Barriers to Fish Passage

AND WHAT WE'RE DOING





Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

On our map
we have chosen to depict barriers independent from the habitat quality map because impaired access to streams is one of the more significant factors limiting salmon. We depict only blockages affecting anadromous fish, and do not show bull trout blockages. The effort to document locations of fish passage barriers repaired since 1999 was just initiated this year (2004), so some projects may not be displayed on this map. This map shows completed projects funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Washington Department of Transportation, Washington Department of Natural Resources, local governments, or US Forest Service that remove barriers for anadromous fish. We expect ongoing mapping efforts will continue to reveal projects.

- Corrected Fish Barrier
- US Forest Service Corrected Fish Barrier
- Federal Lands

DATA SOURCE:
WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE, US FOREST SERVICE.

Wilson Banner Ranch Irrigation Dam
Migration problems for steelhead have been removed by constructing new water extraction devices for the ranch.

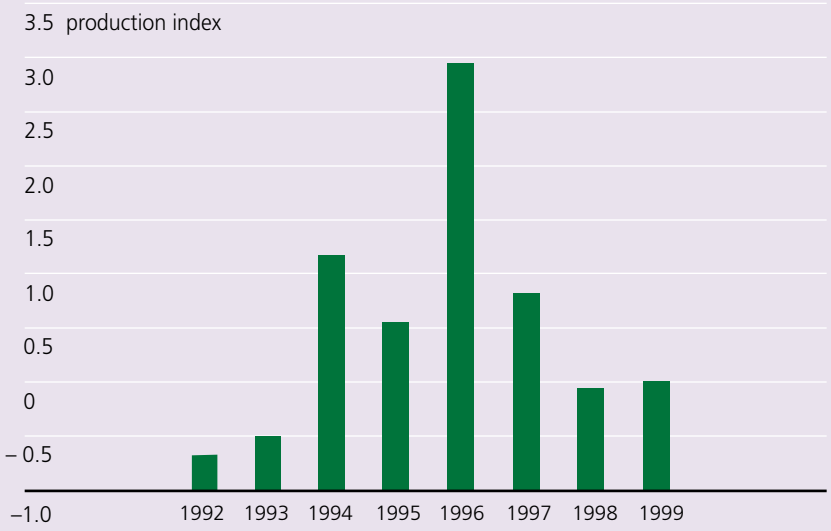
Patit Creek Barrier Removal
Patit Creek is home to steelhead trout. This project removed a dam that had blocked both adult upstream and juvenile downstream passage for the fish.

Whiskey Creek Restoration
Whiskey Creek is a tributary to the Touchet River and home to steelhead and bull trout. This project modified a barrier, placed instream woody debris for habitat, and opened up more than 10 miles of habitat for spawning and rearing.

Snake River Wild Steelhead

- Composite spawner abundance and target goal for 2 of 5 populations.
- Target Goal from NOAA-Fisheries.

Snake River Wild Steelhead Smolt Production Index



DATA SOURCE: CRAWFORD AND VOLKHARDT (2004)