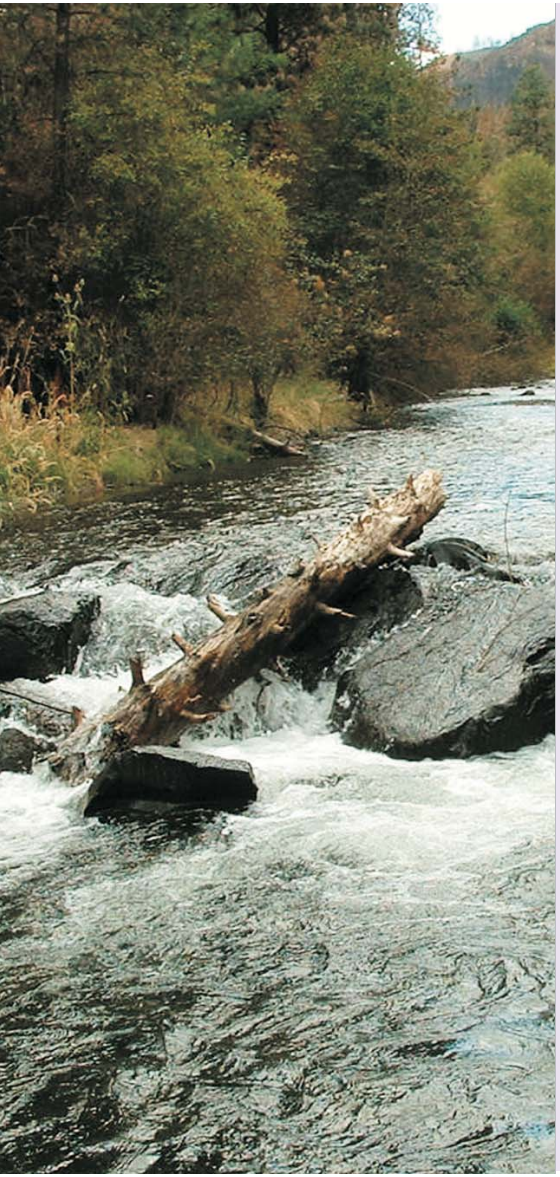
Snake River Salmon Recovery Region Plan[1]



SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD

GOAL

Develop and maintain a healthy ecosystem that contributes to the rebuilding of key fish populations by providing abundant, productive, and diverse populations of aquatic species that support the social, cultural, and economic well-being of the communities both within and outside the recovery region.

"Recovery plans are a vital part of the effort to combat the decline of salmon..."

SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD

Plan Timeframe
15 years

Estimated Cost
$115 million

Actions Identified to Implement Plan
264

Status
Habitat portion of plan submitted to NMFS/USFWS 10/2005

Human Population
213,508

Counties
Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, and portions of Whitman

Treaty Tribes
Nez Perce and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation

Listed Fish
Sockeye[2], steelhead, Chinook[3], and bull trout[4]

Regional Recovery Organization
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

MAJOR FACTORS LIMITING RECOVERY

- Hydropower system mortality on Columbia River
- Reduced summer stream flows
- Over harvest of fish
- Excessive sediment
- Elevated water temperatures
- Altered channel morphology
- Degraded riparian habitat
- Fish passage blockages

KEY ACTIONS RECOMMENDED TO RECOVER FISH

January 2006 to June 2007

- Reduce sediment
- Improve and protect riparian areas
- Improve fish passage
- Properly screen diversions
- Increase stream habitat complexity

Long Term

- Restore and maintain suitable stream flows
- Improve uplands
- Improve channel and floodplain conditions
- Improve riparian functions
- Monitor effectiveness of actions

[1] All H recovery plan integration is underway, including focus on out-of-sub-basin impacts. This process, involving the NMFS, Regional Board, WDFW, and GSRO is expected to be complete no later than June 2006. Roll up of entire ESU (Oregon and Idaho portions) underway.
[2] Sockeye do not reside in the region and are not addressed in the plan
[3] The ICTRT has not yet developed criteria for Snake River fall Chinook, so they are not yet addressed in the plan.
[4] USFWS previously published a bull trout recovery plan (2002). The status of bull trout is currently under review and is expected to be complete by early 2006. At that time, USFWS will work with the Regional Board, WDFW, GSRO to incorporate elements of the State's strategy and the Board's plan into the federal plan.

Snake River
Salmon Recovery Region
Mid-Columbia Steelhead

Snake River Region
Mid-Columbia Steelhead
Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU)
and Context Area

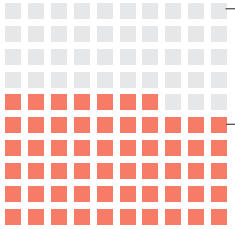
- ESU in Washington
- Major Population Group (MPG)
- In ESU, Not in Plan
- ESU in Oregon

Steelhead Spawner Abundance

Population	Present	Goal[1]
Touchet	310	701
Walla Walla	905	1,432
Total	1,215	2,133

Total Spawner Abundance Goal
2,133 (100%)

This is the number of adults needed on the spawning grounds to achieve recovery. Wherever possible it is expressed in natural spawner numbers.



1 BOX = 1%

Total Spawner Abundance Present
1,215 (57% of Goal)

[1] Goal established by recovery organization as habitat contribution to recovery. These goals are interim (15 years) and long range goals may exceed them.

Steelhead Productivity

Population	Present	Goal
Touchet	1.2	1.30
Walla Walla	1.4	1.45

Productivity: Population growth rate. This is how many fish return for each fish that spawns. A population must have productivity greater than 1 to increase over time.

CHRIS JOHNSON

Whiskey Creek Dam Removal

STEELHEAD
Oncorhynchus mykiss

Live 4-7+ years; typically spend 1-3 years in ocean before returning in late summer/early fall to spawn; in the Snake River system, steelhead are found in the Walla Walla and Touchet River systems, including Patit Creek + tributaries, Dry and Pine-Dry Creeks.

MID-COLUMBIA

Steelhead

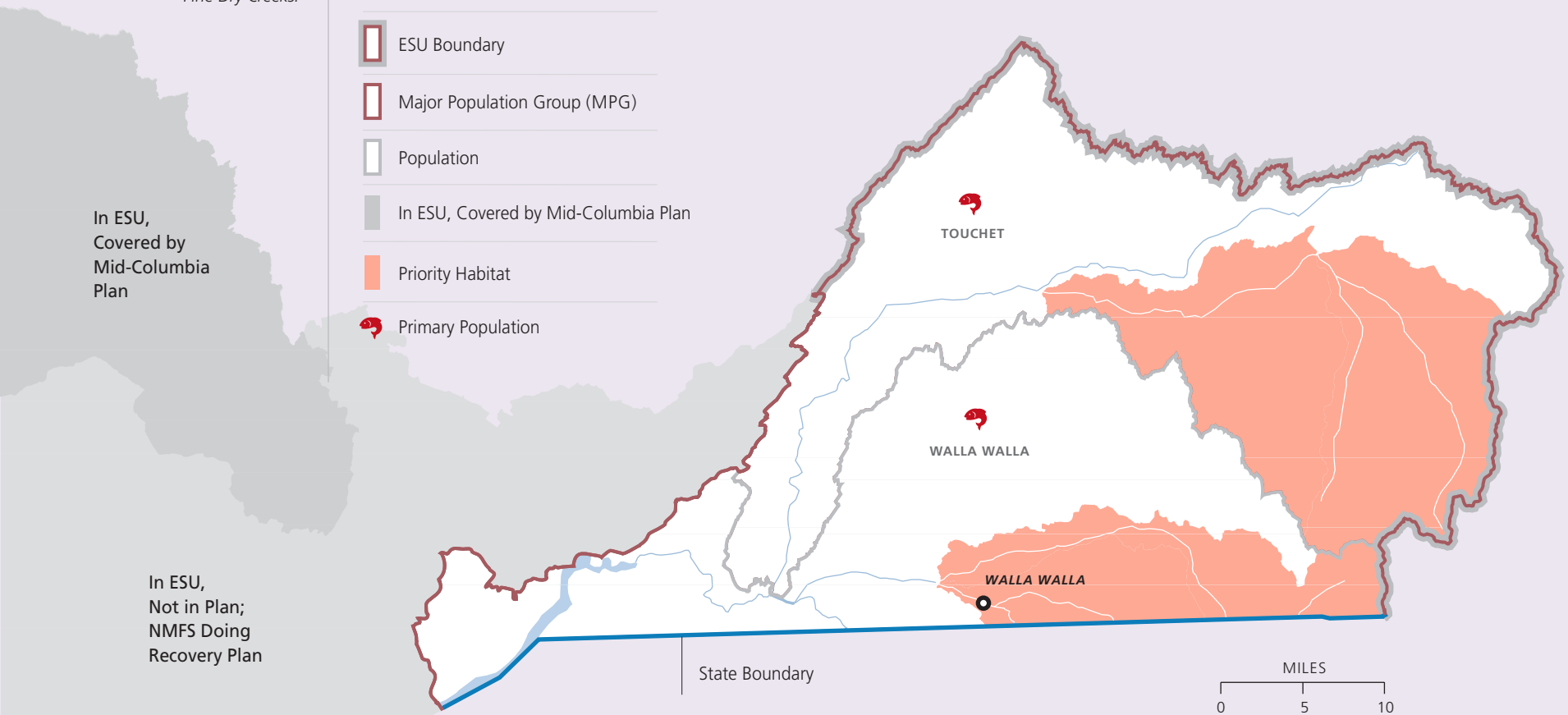
Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

Walla Walla MPG Key Actions

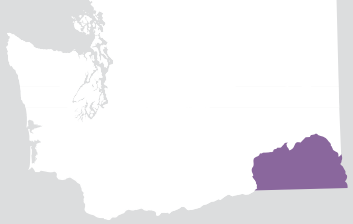
- Irrigation efficiency projects on 2,600 acres
- Lease/purchase 27 CFS annually
- 750 AF storage in Walla Walla
- 60,000 acres upland BMPs
- 3 miles bank stabilization in priority riparian areas
- 29 miles instream habitat modification
- Remove all passage barriers

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD

Removal of Kooskooskie Dam on Mill Creek



DATA SOURCE: NOAA FISHERIES AND SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD



Snake River Salmon Recovery Region Chinook

Snake River Region Chinook Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) and Context Area

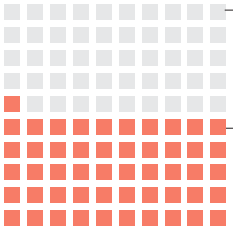
- ESU in Washington
- Major Population Group (MPG)
- ESU in Oregon and Idaho

Chinook Spawner Abundance

Population	Present	Goal[1]
Tucannon River	527	907
Asotin Creek	254	569
Wenaha River	334	337
Total	1,115	1,813

Total Spawner Abundance Goal
1,813 (100%)

This is the number of adults needed on the spawning grounds to achieve recovery. Wherever possible it is expressed in natural spawner numbers.



Total Spawner Abundance Present
1,115 (61.5% of Goal)

1 BOX = 1%

[1] Goal established by recovery organization as habitat contribution to recovery. These goals are interim (15 years) and long range goals may exceed them.

Chinook Productivity

Population	Present	Goal
Tucannon River	1.26	1.39
Asotin Creek	1.27	1.37
Wenaha River	1.5	1.50

Productivity: Population growth rate. This is how many fish return for each fish that spawns. A population must have productivity greater than 1 to increase over time.

SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD

Tucannon River Riparian Habitat Improvement from 1982 to 2004

Chinook
Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

CHINOOK
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha

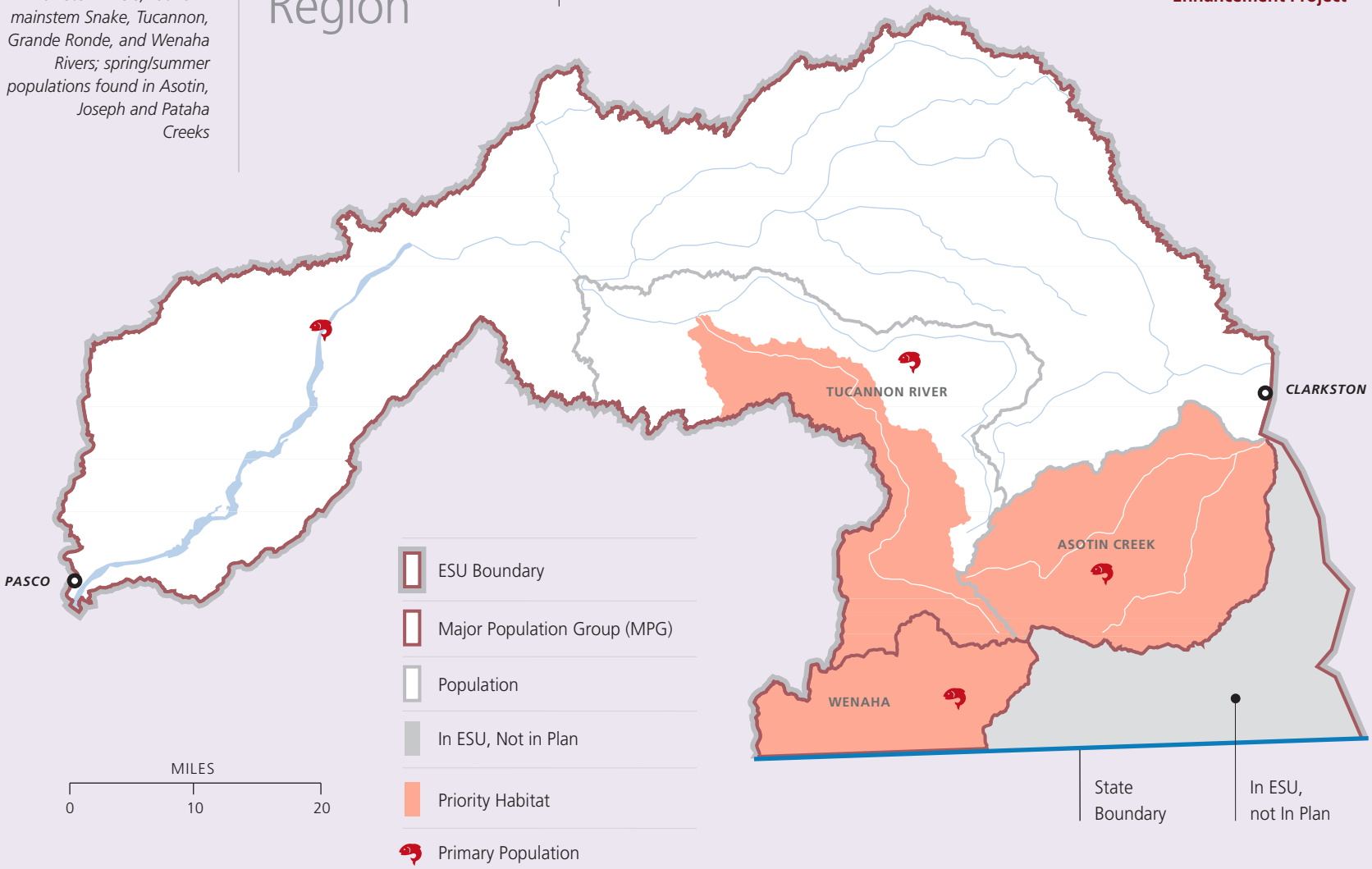
Live 3-6 years; life histories vary greatly, but spawn mainly in mainstem rivers; found in mainstem Snake, Tucannon, Grande Ronde, and Wenaha Rivers; spring/summer populations found in Asotin, Joseph and Pataha Creeks

Snake River Chinook MPG Key Actions

- 13 miles Tucannon River channel improvements
- 20,000 acres Tucannon and Asotin watersheds improved for water quality
- 2,000 acres riparian buffer and improvements in Tucannon and Asotin watersheds

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD

Tucannon-Touchet River Instream Enhancement Project



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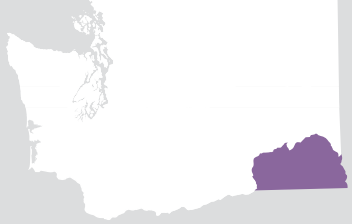


Snake River Salmon Recovery Region Steelhead

Snake River Region Steelhead Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU) and Context Area

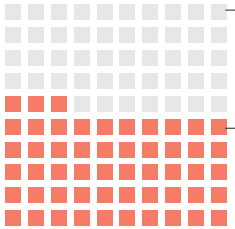
- ESU in Washington
- Major Population Group (MPG)
- ESU in Oregon and Idaho

Steelhead Spawner Abundance

Population	Present	Goal[1]
Tucannon River	900	1,348
Asotin Creek	435	712
Grande Ronde	1,516	1,681
Joseph Creek	558	1,658
Total	3,409	5,399

Total Spawner Abundance Goal
5,399 (100%)

This is the number of adults needed on the spawning grounds to achieve recovery. Wherever possible it is expressed in natural spawner numbers.



Total Spawner Abundance Present
3,409 (63.14% of Goal)

1 BOX = 1%

[1] Goal established by recovery organization as habitat contribution to recovery. These goals are interim (15 years) and long range goals may exceed them.

Steelhead Productivity

Population	Present	Goal
Tucannon River	1.27	1.32
Asotin Creek	1.20	1.30
Grande Ronde	1.42	1.43
Joseph Creek	1.08	1.28

Productivity: Population growth rate. This is how many fish return for each fish that spawns. A population must have productivity greater than 1 to increase over time.

SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD

Alpowa Creek Dam Removal

STEELHEAD
Oncorhynchus mykiss

Live 4-7+ years; may spawn more than once; utilize all parts of a river basin; found in Tucannon and Grande Ronde Rivers, Asotin Creek, and major tributaries

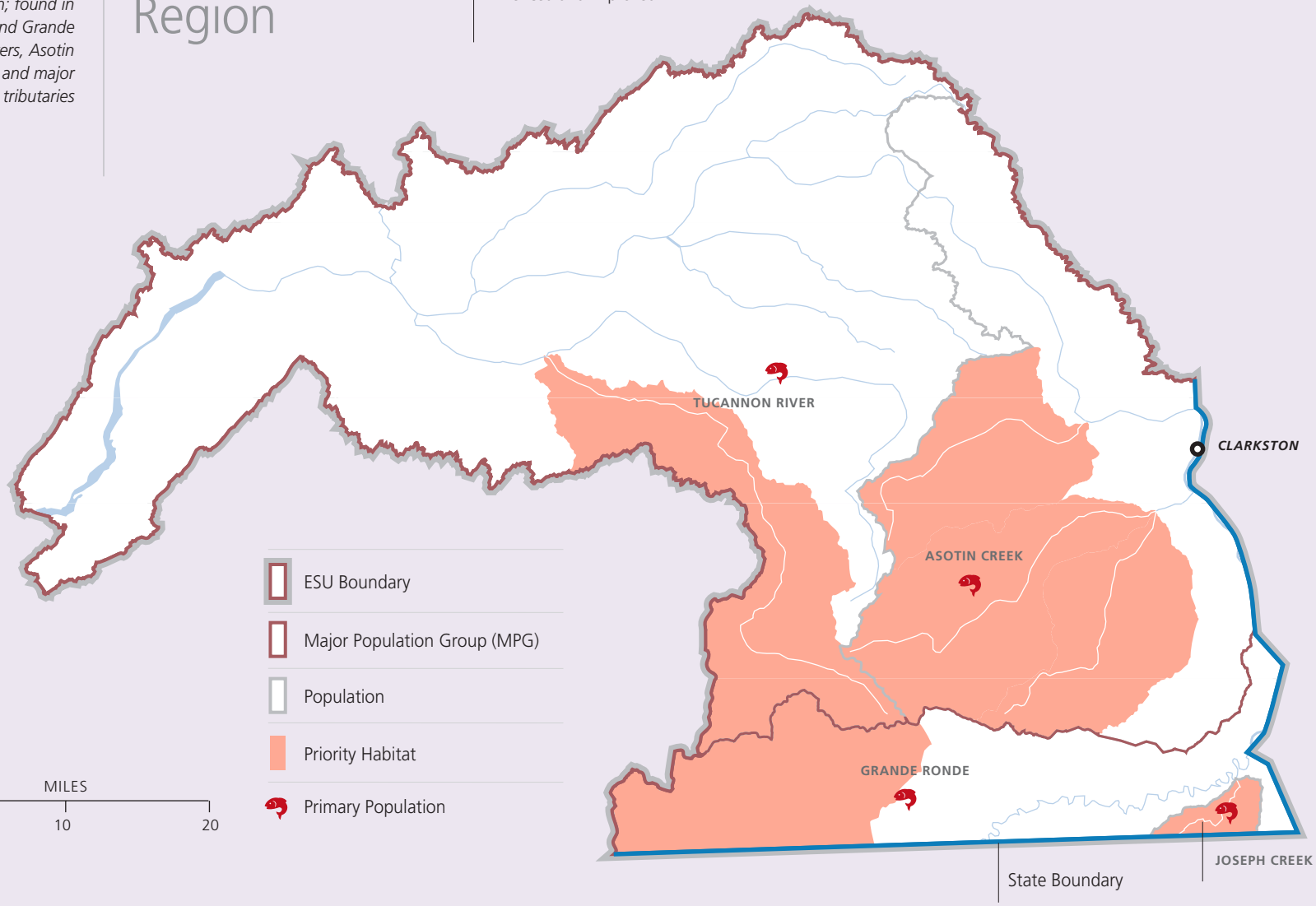
Steelhead
Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

Snake River Steelhead MPG Key Actions

- 13 miles Tucannon River and Asotin Creek channel improvements
- 50,000 acres upland BMPs
- 5,500 acres riparian buffers, 14,200 acres riparian areas fenced and improved
- Irrigation efficiency projects on 300 acres
- Lease/purchase 1.3 CFS annually
- 300 AF storage

SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD

Curl Lake Fish Barrier



DATA SOURCE: NOAA FISHERIES AND SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY BOARD