

Oregon's use of IR Category 4c



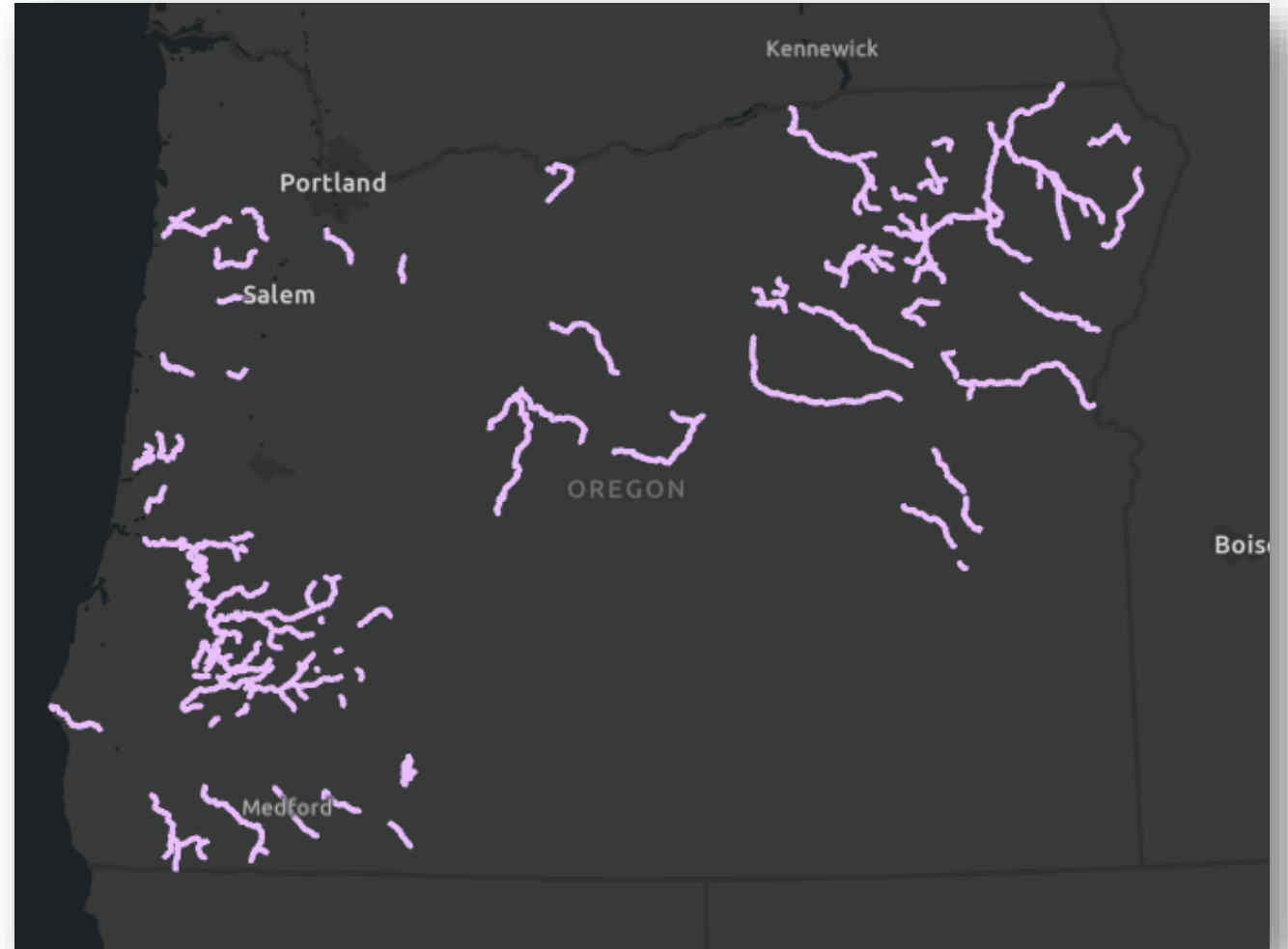
https://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/local_fisheries/rogue_river/updates/2017/09/index.asp

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1998 Assessment

- Added ~300 segments as Category 5 for flow or/and habitat modification
 - Most AUs have additional parameters in Cat 5
- Beneficial Use = Fish and Aquatic Life
- WQ criteria = narrative



1998 303(d) - Habitat Alteration

- Poor biological condition

- Bioassessment tools

AND

- Habitat conditions data

- Information indicating inadequate pool frequency and
 - Lack of large woody debris

- Examples of data used

- U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Watershed Analyses or Wild and Scenic River Environmental Impact Statements or other published reports

1998 303(d) List – Flow Alternation

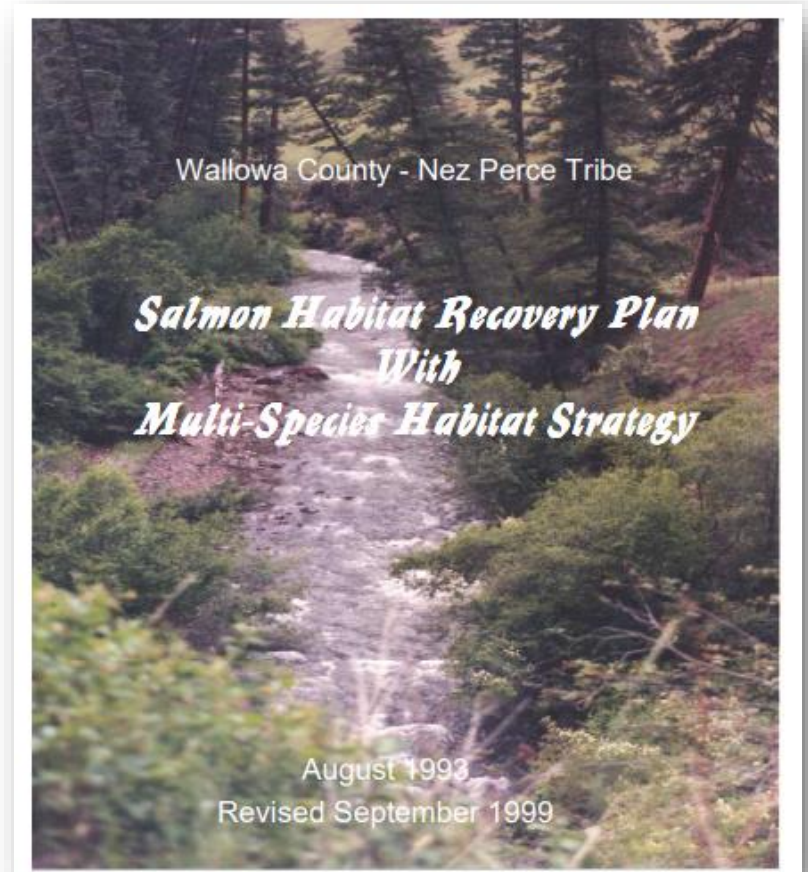
- Poor biological condition
 - Bioassessment tools

AND

- Inadequate flow to maintain instream water rights (IWR) purchased by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Examples of data used
 - U.S. Geological Survey or Water Resource Department Flow Summaries
 - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife or Northwest Power Planning Council Subbasin Fishery Plans
 - U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Watershed Analyses
 - Established or requested Instream Water Rights
 - Water Availability Summaries from the Water Resource Department

Examples of Rationales

- Flow
 - Redband Trout populations are fragmented and depressed in part due to low flows caused by stream diversions (ODFW, 1993)
- Habitat
 - Snake R Chinook runs are 10-15% of historic numbers and are listed under ESA. Redds have declined (35 in 1964, 0/92); Lack of LWD and pool/riffle ratio for salmon habitat have been identified as a high priority (Wallowa Co Salmon Recovery Plan, 1993).



Oregon's 2002 CLAM

A water body may be water quality limited but does not have to be included on the 303(d) list.

- A pollutant does not cause the water body impairment
- Flow and habitat are not considered pollutants under the Clean Water Act, these water bodies were removed from the 303(d) list, and placed in the category “water quality limited but a pollutant does not cause the impairment”.

Oregon delisted all flow and habitat modification assessments from Cat 5 to 4C

Post 2002 4C assessments

- Flow and habitat modification chapters were removed from subsequent assessment methodologies
- No new assessment for these parameters have been conducted since 1998
- 4C assessments continue to be carried forward with each IR cycle



Next steps - Questions

- What is the benefit of these assessments?
 - Most AU are impaired (Cat 5) for Fish and Aquatic Life Use
- Can we remove these assessments and start over?
 - Updated methodology
 - Stressor ID analysis

