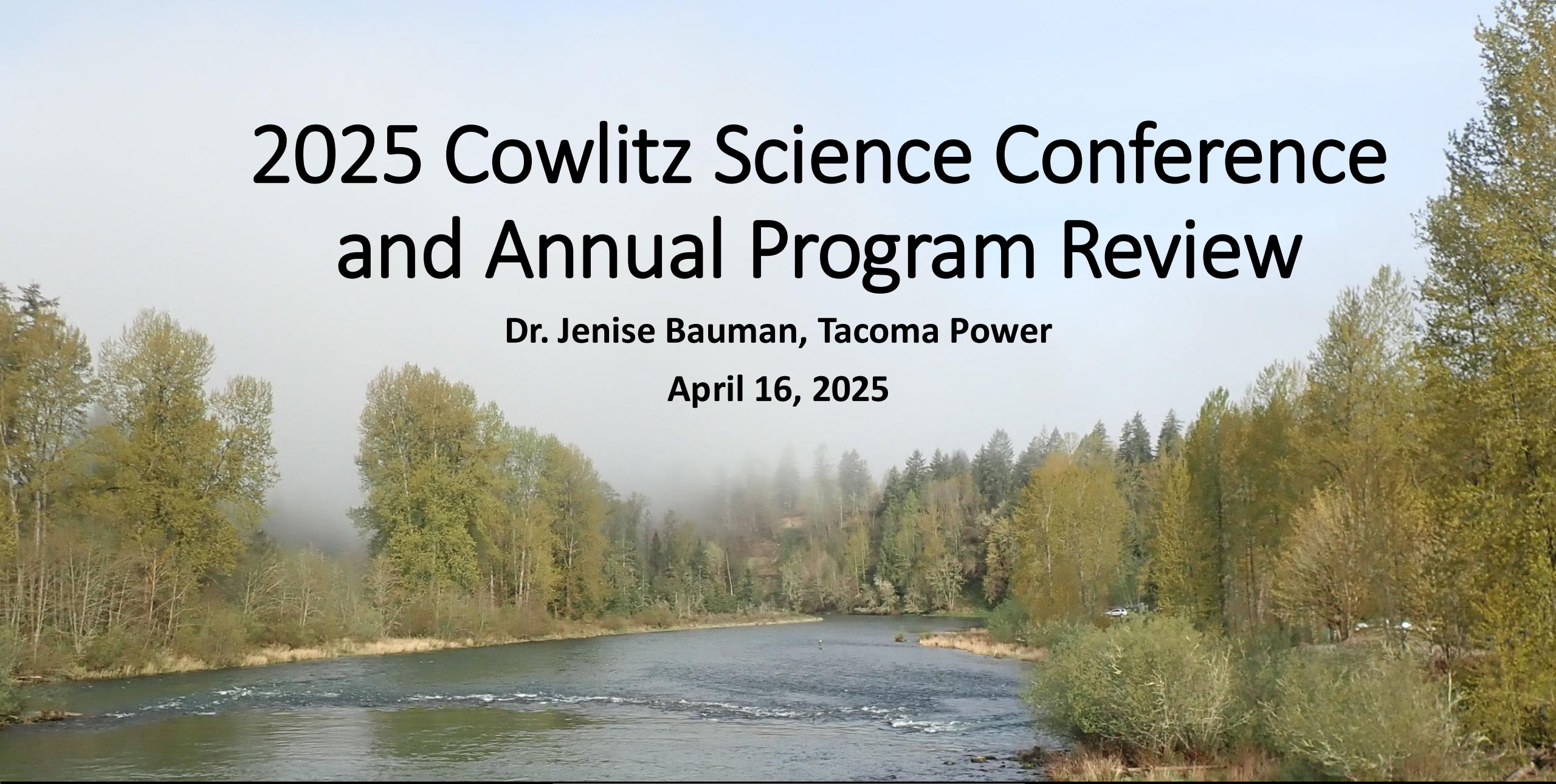


2025 Cowlitz Science Conference and Annual Program Review

Dr. Jenise Bauman, Tacoma Power

April 16, 2025



Extending a Values Moment:

Respect: We treat everyone with courtesy and professionalism.

Thank you:

- Partners
- Public Audience
- Speakers

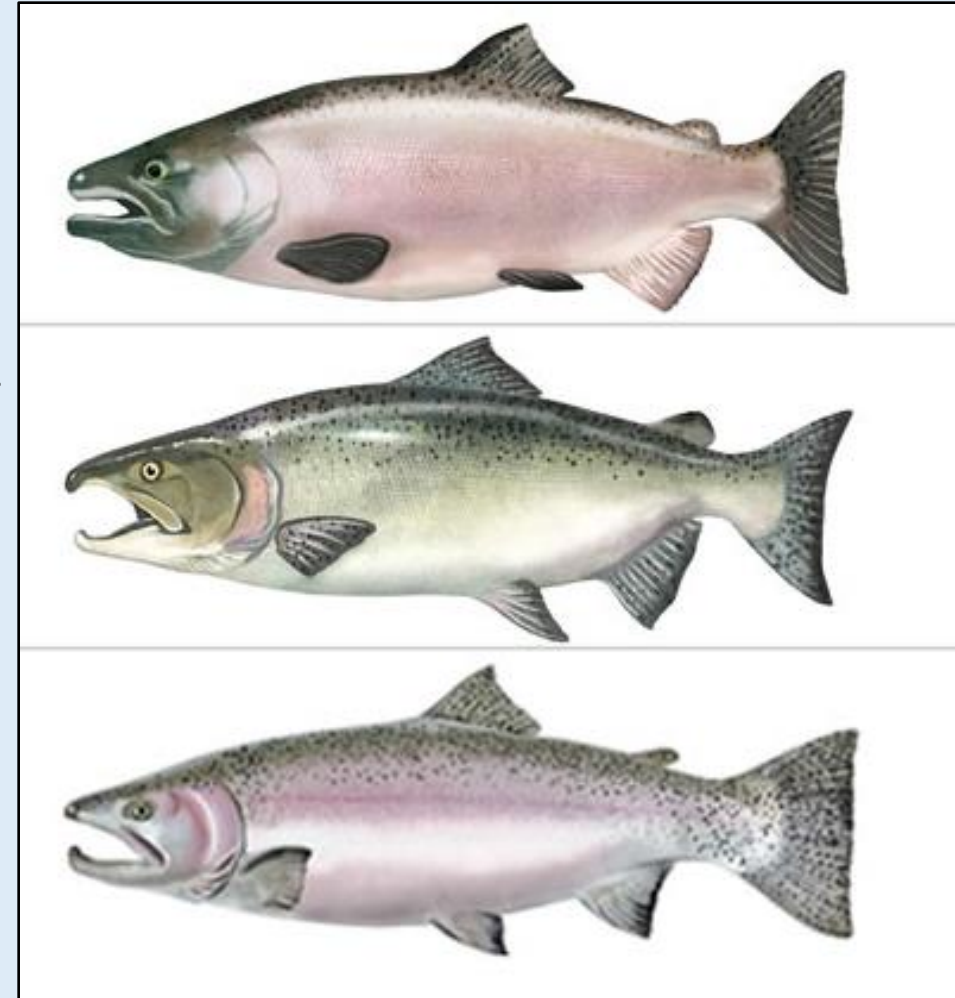
Together, we create a team of individuals who are striving for the same goal: the environmental recovery of the Cowlitz Watershed.



Reflections on where we have been:

Last Conference/APR: September 4, 2024

- M&E Plan approved - November 2024
- Finalized Acoustic Telemetry Study Contract – Dec 2024
- Coho Net Pen Project – December 2024
- Transition Talks Began - January 2025
- Mayfield Decision Document – February 2025
- Passing Coho Parr – February 2025



Reflections of where we have been:

What stands out to you?



Reflections of where we have been:

Anyone notice the angler?



New Projects for 2025:

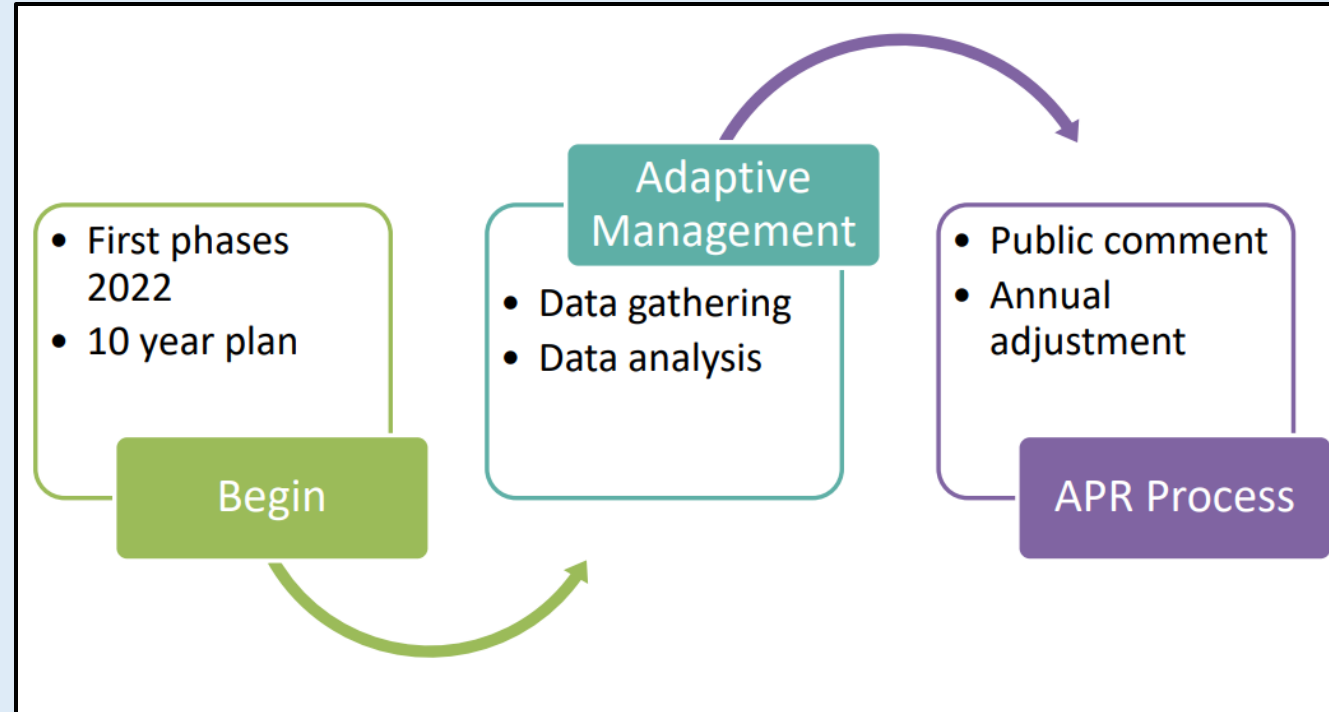
- AT Study at CFNSC Project – June 2025
- Secondary Separator – July 2025
- M&E Directed Studies
- Coho Parr Study Plan – August 2025
- Life Cycle Modeling with consultant – September 2025
- Trout Hatchery remodel – Phase 2
- Continuation and analysis of tagging strategy at CFNSC



Responses from last APR: September 4, 2024

Two comments regarding program changes:

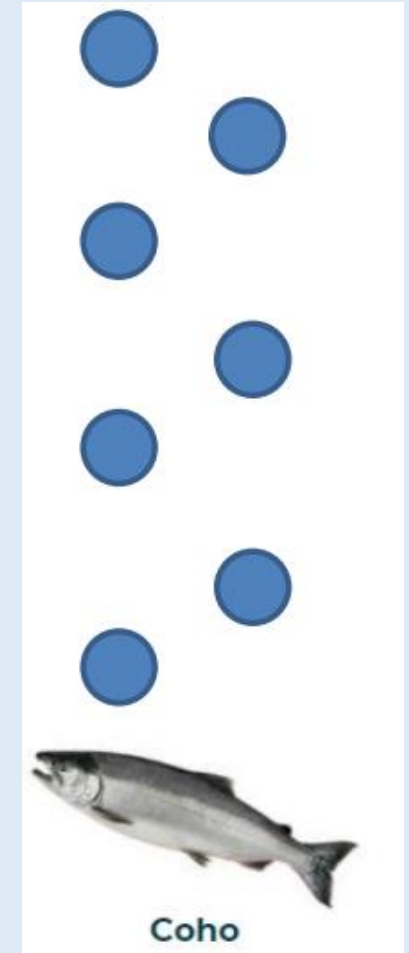
1. Shifting to a later timed coho program.
2. Reducing the Fall Chinook program in favor of additional Spring Chinook and shifting the broodstock source to Lower Cowlitz Natural Origin stock.



Responses from last APR: September 4, 2024

1. Shifting to a later timed coho program.

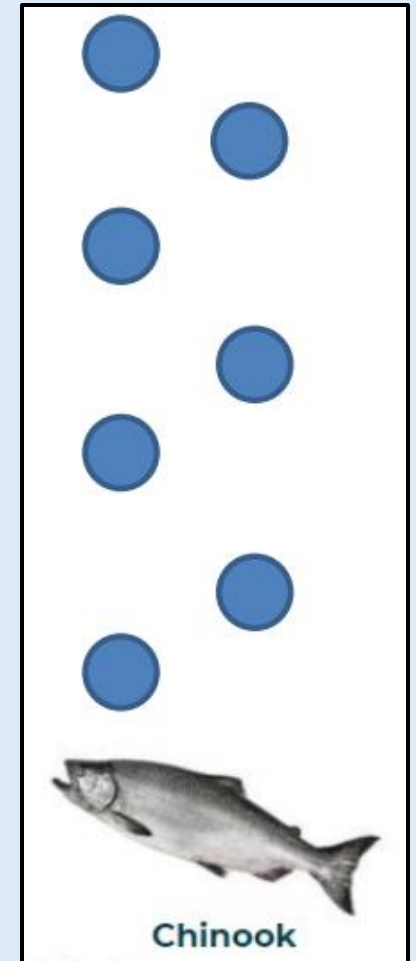
This recommendation was considered to have already been implemented via the Transition Plans that call for a single, integrated program that by default incorporates later timed NOR returns.



Responses from last APR: September 4, 2024

2. Reducing the Fall Chinook program in favor of additional Spring Chinook and shifting the broodstock source to Lower Cowlitz Natural Origin stock.

- The Transition Plans and M&E Evaluations are currently working towards the adaptive management strategies of all the target species.
- M&E Subcommittee has a four-step approach



M&E Subcommittee has a four-step approach:

Step 1: Comprehensive SAR analysis on the new tagging strategy at Mayfield.

Timeframe: 2025-2027 – presented today

- Is relative survival of hatchery Fall Chinook in the Cowlitz disproportionate to other programs?
- Are these observed trends hatchery specific?
- Are these observed trends basin specific?

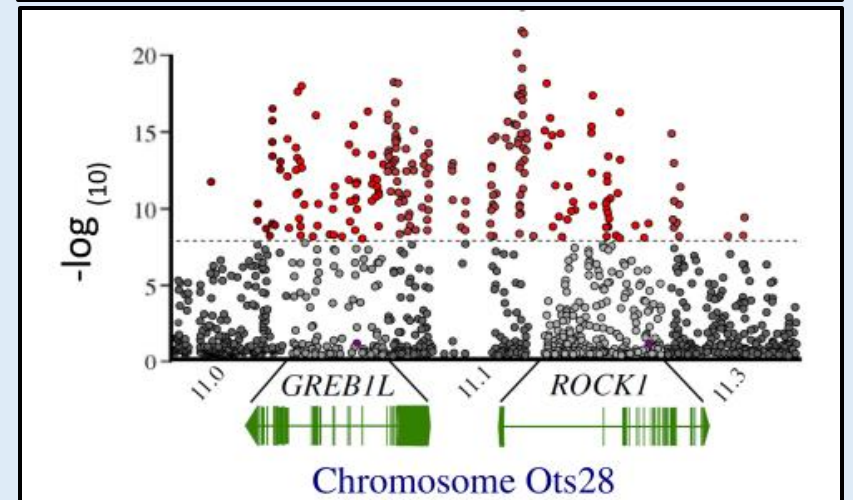
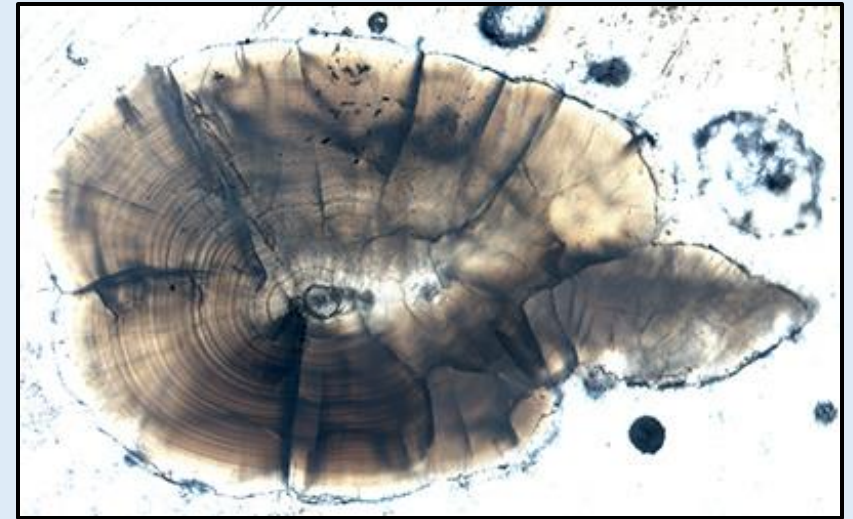


M&E Subcommittee has a four-step approach:

**Step 2: Evaluation of new tagging strategy at Mayfield
–identify origin of NOR Chinook arriving at the
Cowlitz Separator Facility – Lower Cowlitz or Tilton?**

Timeframe 2025-2026 - Identify data gaps required for further analysis:

- 2024-26 - Analyze adult returns.
- 2025 - Collect data for DNA and Otoliths.
- 2026 - Analyze, synthesize, adaptively manage

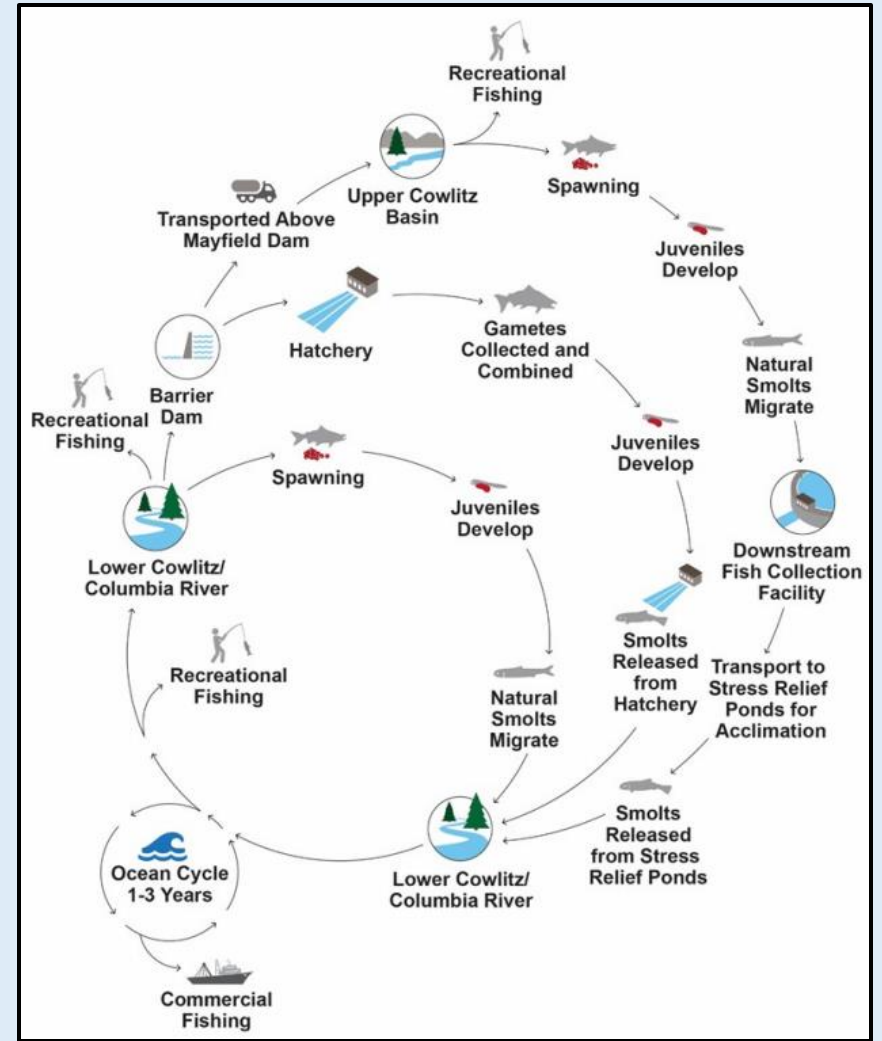


M&E Subcommittee has a four-step approach:

Step 3: Life-cycle modeling

Timeframe: 2025-2027

- 2025 specialized subcommittee to create RFP
 - Identify data gaps required for further analysis
- 2026 Begin with intact data sets (coho, steelhead)
- 2027 refine model with Fall Chinook

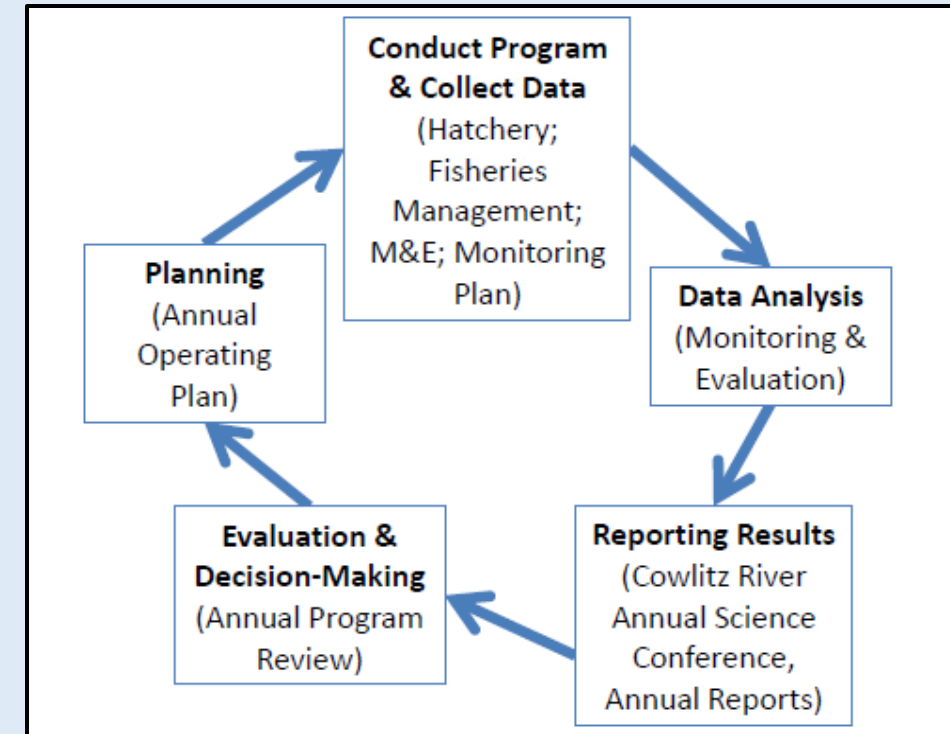


M&E Subcommittee has a four-step approach:

Step 4: Assess models and implement adaptive management

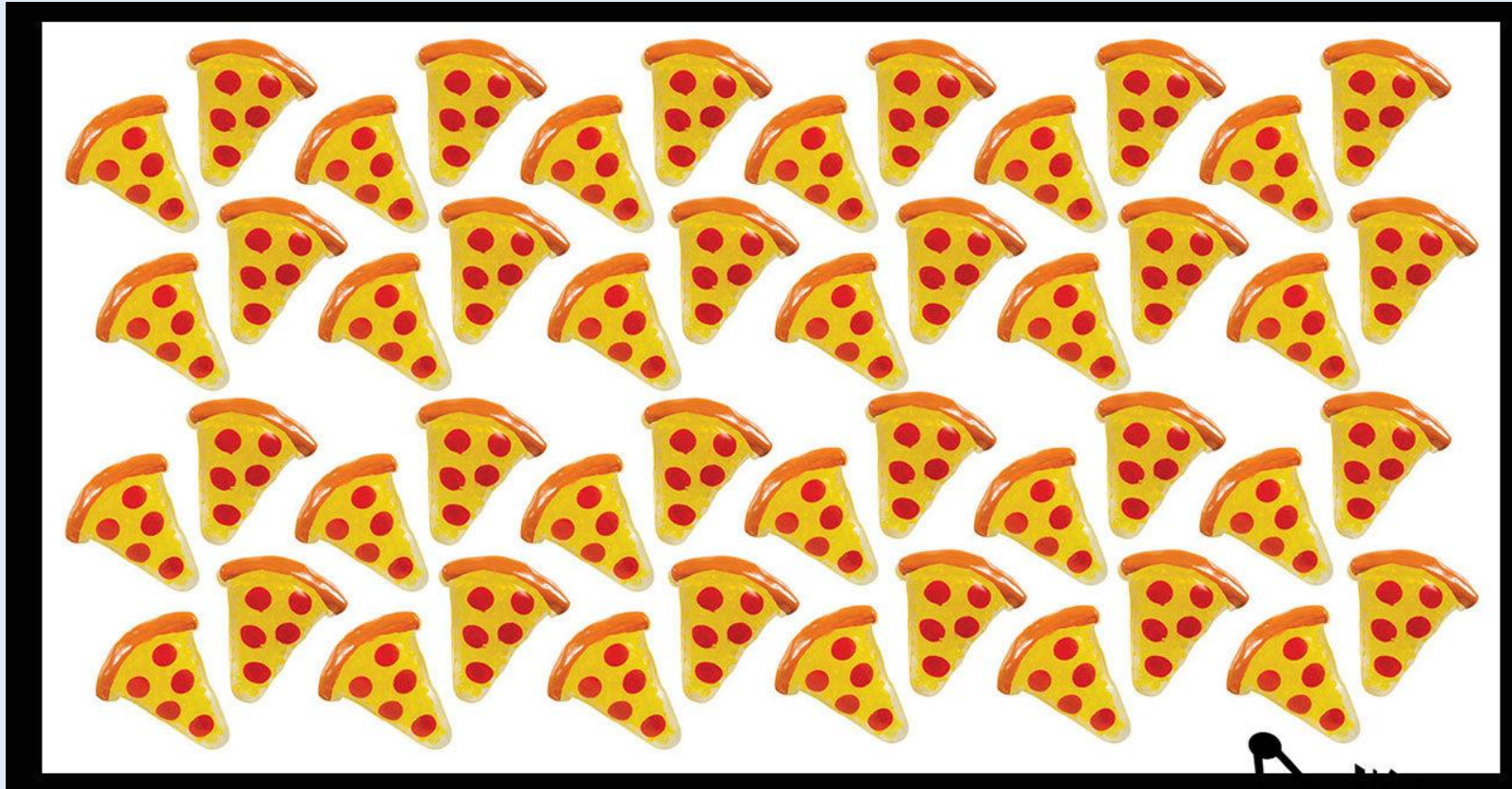
Timeframe 2026-2028

- Outline limiting factors of survival (disease, release size, etc.)
- Work within the M&E and transition plans to formulate into an adaptive management strategy potentially including directed studies.



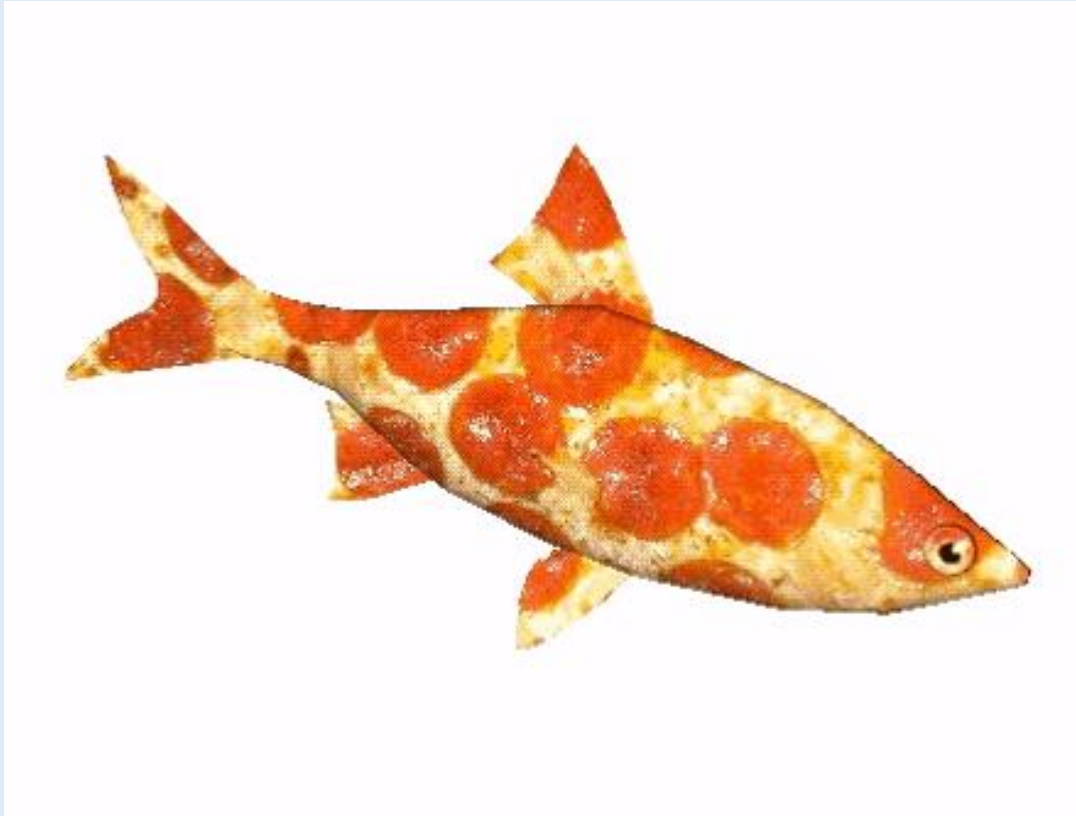
Oh yes... One more public comment to address:

No Peppers and olives on ***all*** the pizzas



As a team, this too can be resolved.

2025 Agenda Review:



10:00 AM	• Welcome and Engagement Procedure	Matt Bleich, Tacoma Power
10:10 AM	• Tech Check and Meeting Agenda	Jenise Bauman, Tacoma Power
Tacoma Power Operations		
10:30 AM	• 2024 Hydrology and Project Operations	Melora Shelton, Tacoma Power
10:50 AM	• Hatchery Operations	Eric Shoblom, Tacoma Power
11:10 AM	• Habitat Efforts	Matt Peter, Tacoma Power
11:30 AM	• Wildlife and Lands	Lindie Schmidt, Tacoma Power
Lunch Provided: 12:00 – 1:00 pm		
Fish Information		
1:00 PM	• Historical investigations into CFNSC FCE/FPS for adaptive management	Sean Luis, Tacoma Power
1:20 PM	• 2024 FCE and FPS at the CFNSC	Chris Vaughn, Tacoma Power
1:40 PM	• FCE CFNSC Alternative Tagging Strategy	John Best, WDFW
2:00 PM	• 2024 Adult Returns and Disposition	Jamie Murphy, Tacoma Power
Break: 2:20-2:30 PM		
2:30 PM	• Fall Chinook SAR and Fishery Contributions	Kris Warner, WDFW
2:50 PM	• Improvements to steelhead monitoring from using a spatio-temporal model	Jeremy Harris, WDFW
3:10 PM	• Stress Management: Fish Health	Sean Roon, WDFW
3:30 PM	• Angling Catch & Release Survival	Ian Courter, Mt. Hood Environmental
Break: 3:50 – 4:00 pm		
Annual Program Review		
4:00 PM	• APR Introduction	Matt Bleich TP, Bryce Glaser, WDFW
4:10 PM	• Cowlitz Hatchery Operation and Programs	Eric Shoblom, Tacoma Power
4:30 PM	• Public Comments and Response	
5:00 PM	• Conference End	

Conference Logistics:

Safety check:

- Review Exits
- Power Chords
- Bathrooms

APR Comment Cards are available at the table at the front entrance

Please sign-in

Enjoy the day!

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Extending FTC Meeting Norms:

- Begin and end on time
- Online participants: please mute audio
- All voices are heard
- Confidentialities are respected
- No interruptions or sidebars
- Cell phones “on stun”
- Have fun!





Thank you!

April 16, 2025

