

Current Status of Cowlitz River Salmonids

Annual Program Review
and Science Conference

Phil Sandstrom,
Tacoma Power

April 21, 2022



Today's Presentations

Tacoma Power Operations

8:40 AM

- Project Operations

9 AM

- Hatchery Operations

9:20 AM

- Habitat Efforts

Melora Shelton, Tacoma Power

Eric Shoblom, Tacoma Power

Travis Nelson, Tacoma Power

BREAK – 9:40 – 10 AM

Fish Information

10 AM

- Fish Passage

10:20 AM

- Pre-Terminal/Terminal Harvest

10:40 AM

- Lower Cowlitz Adult Estimates

11 AM

- Adult Returns to the Separator

11:20 AM

- Early Winter Steelhead Run Timing

Gabe McGuire, Tacoma Power

Josua Holowatz, WDFW

John Serl, WDFW

Jamie Murphy, Tacoma Power

Thomas Buehrens, WDFW

LUNCH – 11:40 AM – 12:40 PM

New Efforts

12:40 PM

- Steelhead Enumeration

1 PM

- Genetics for Early Winter-Run Steelhead

1:20 PM

- Carcass Tagging

1:40 PM

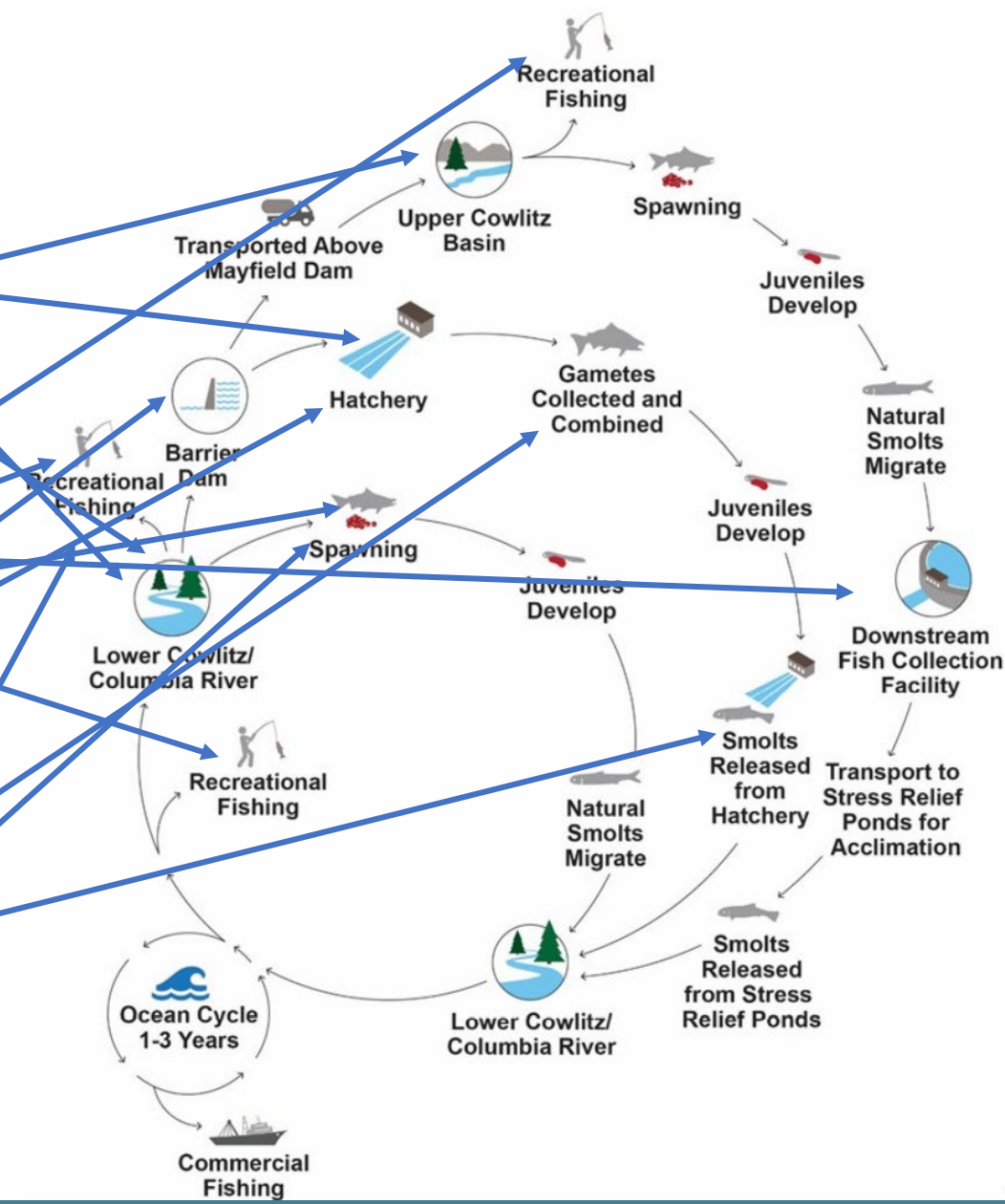
- Summer-Run Steelhead Recycling

Trevor Johnson, Tacoma Power

Todd Seamons, WDFW

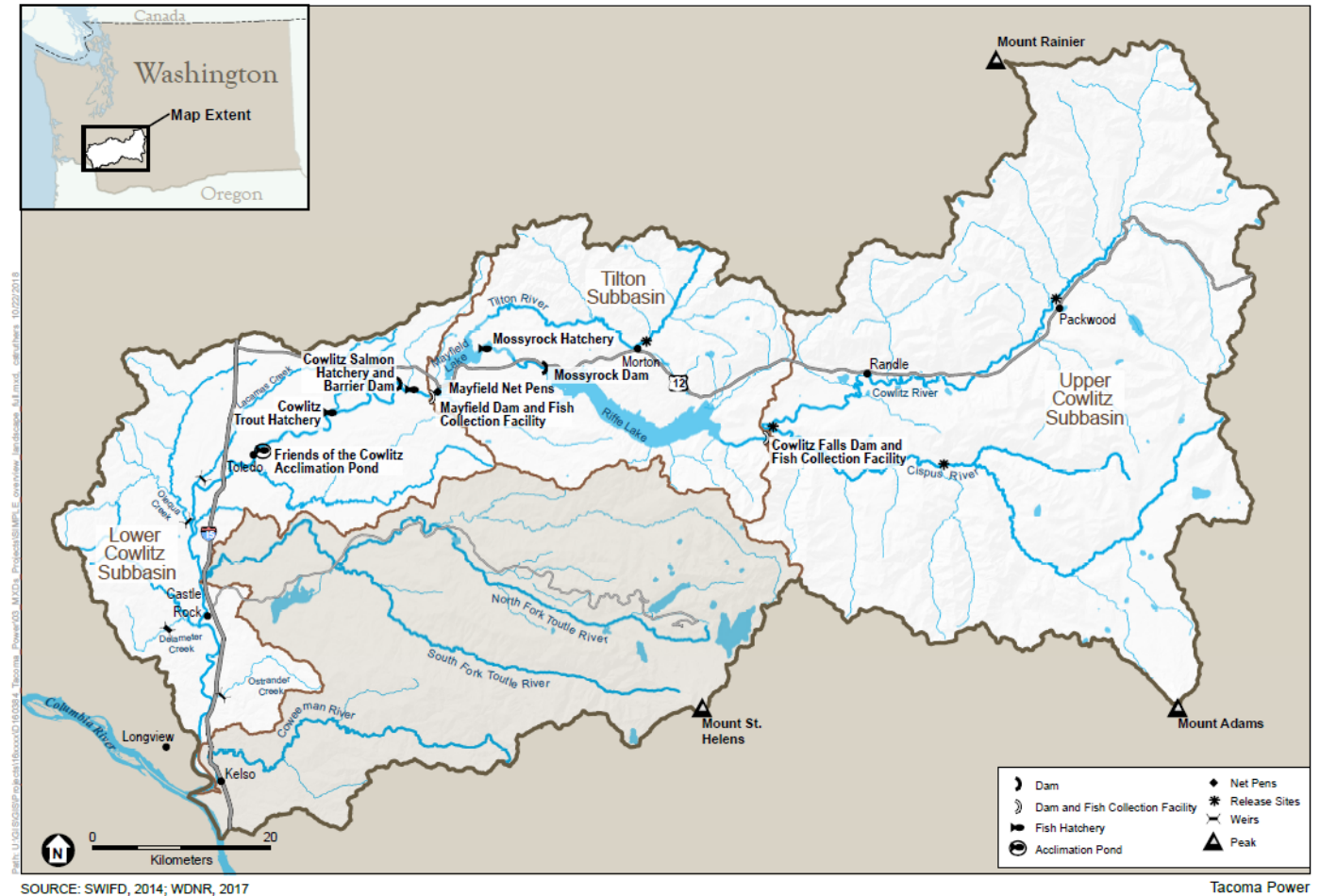
Kale Bentley/Chris Gleizes, WDFW

Scott Gibson, Tacoma Power



Current Status

- Lower Cowlitz Fall Chinook
- Upper Basin Fall Chinook
- Lower Cowlitz Coho
- Tilton River Coho
- Upper Cowlitz Basin Coho
- Lower Cowlitz Steelhead
- Tilton River Steelhead
- Upper Cowlitz Basin Steelhead

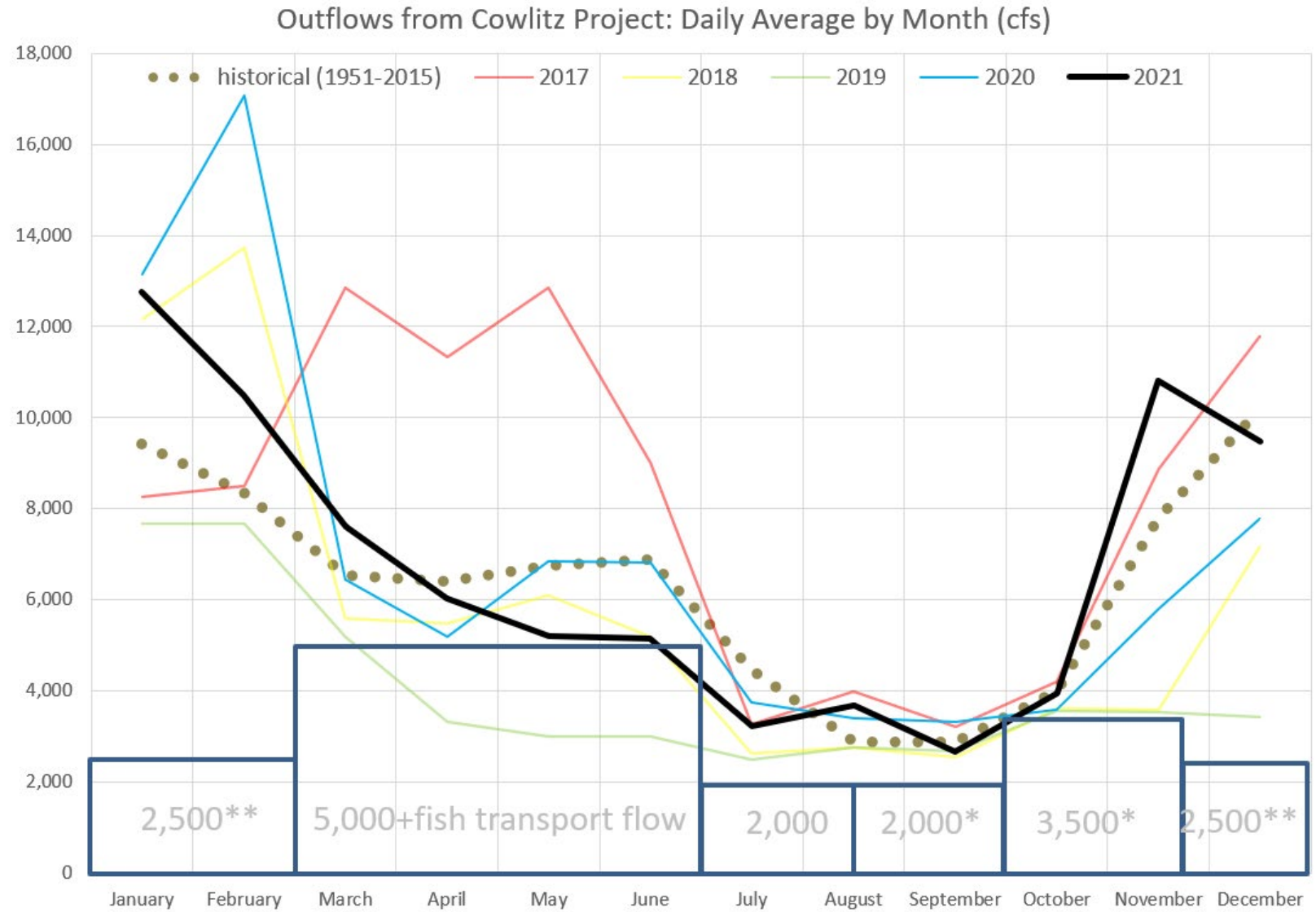
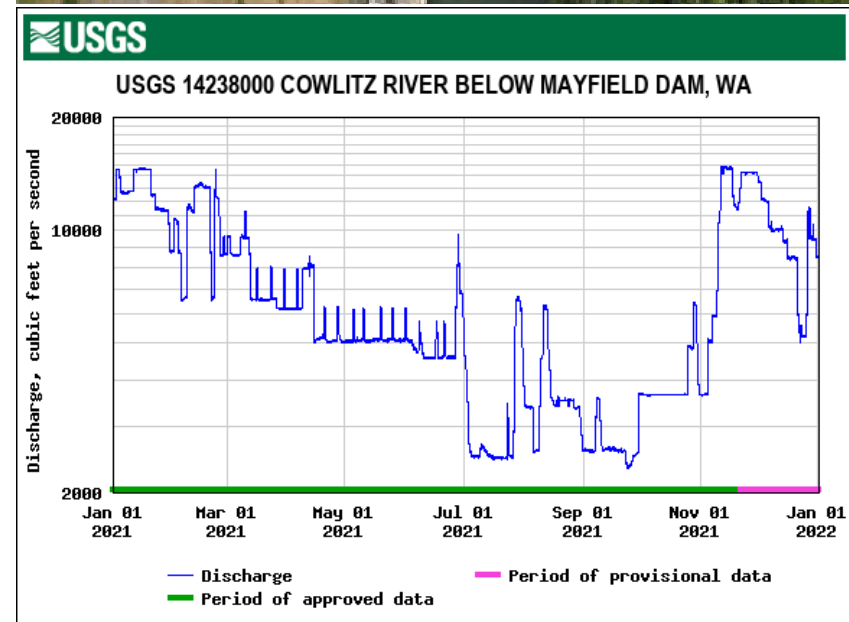


Tacoma Power
Figure 1
Cowlitz River Subbasins

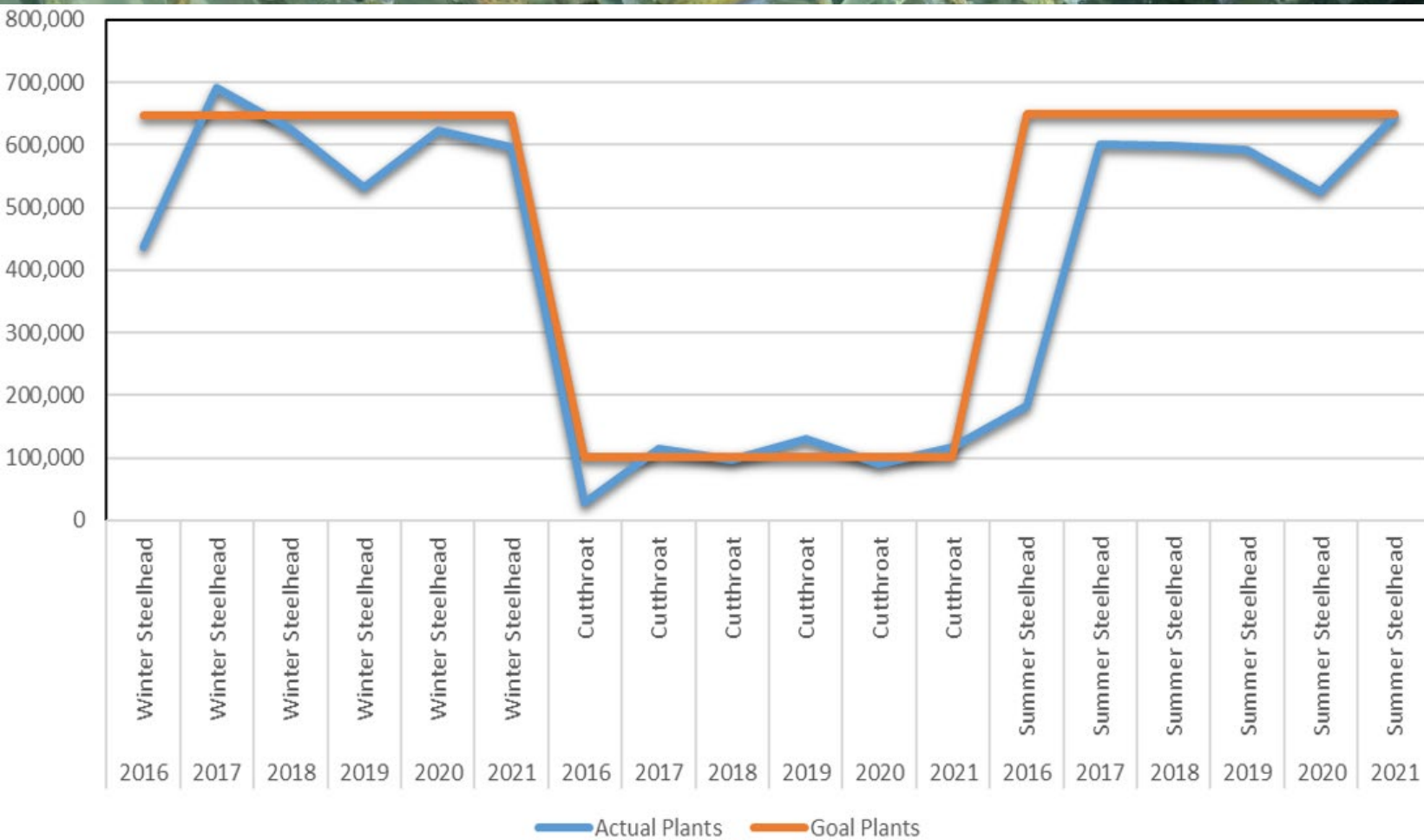
APR Status Data: Upper Basin Coho

Time Period	Adults		Jacks		Fish Spawned	Hatchery Production	Fish Captured	FCE	FPS	Harvest	
	HOR	NOR	HOR	NOR						HOR	NOR
2016	9,757	1,647	3,058	137	526		153,843	87.70		1,986	0
2017	8,177	6,025	1,976	116	579	1,201,922	26,196	50.30	52	1,353	0
2018	6,622	1,025	10,013	162	671	1,127,160	161,529	80.54	82	560	0
2019	6,648	3,883	818	133	566	1,055,449	184,713	90.36	93	TBD	TBD
2020	13,333	9,798	11,313	595	650	1,003,205	127,544	69.22	72	TBD	TBD
2021	21,089	10,576	4,241	478	741	968,489	158,096	66.00	68	TBD	TBD

Hydro Operations



Hatchery Programs





Habitat Program

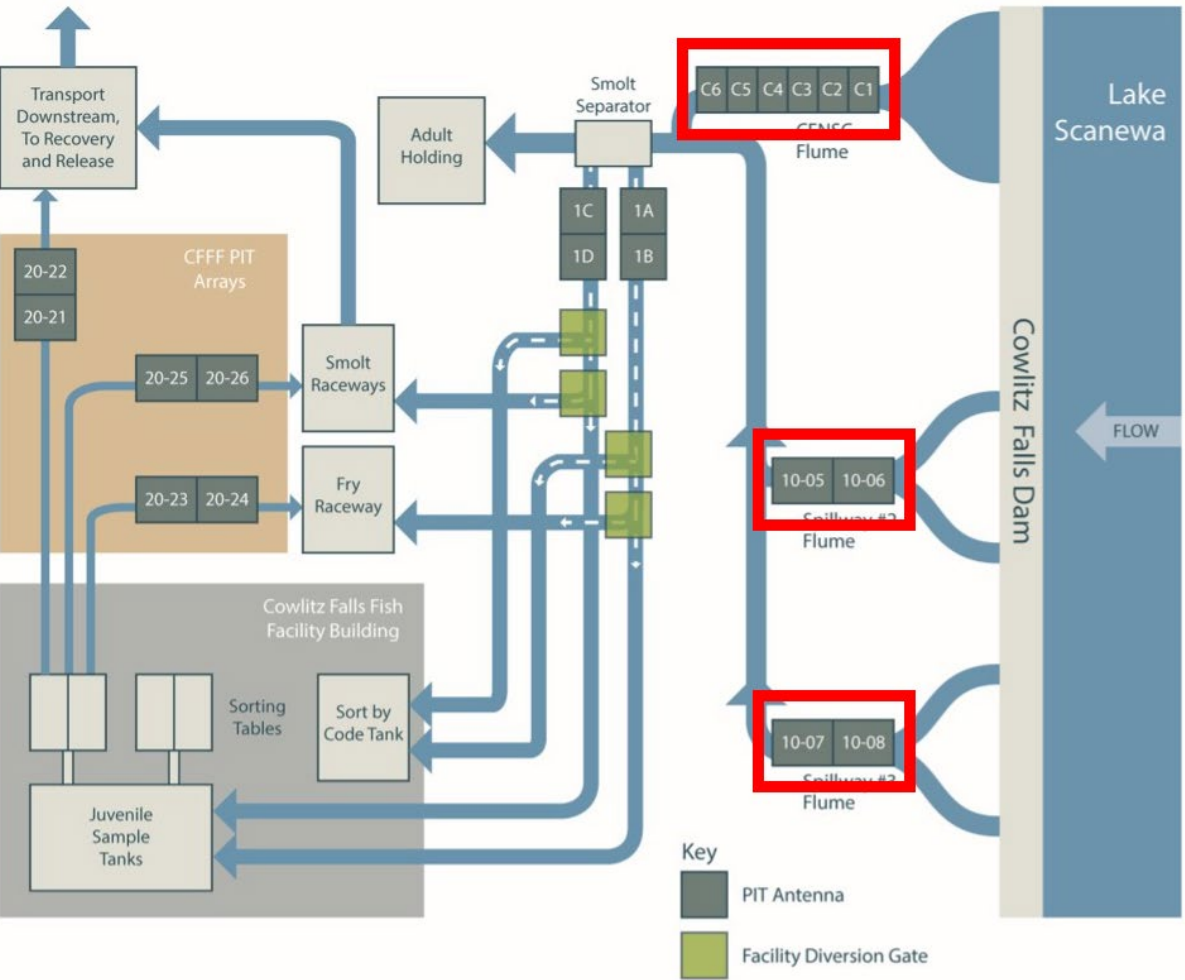
Gravel Augmentation

- Placement has occurred this year

CRR

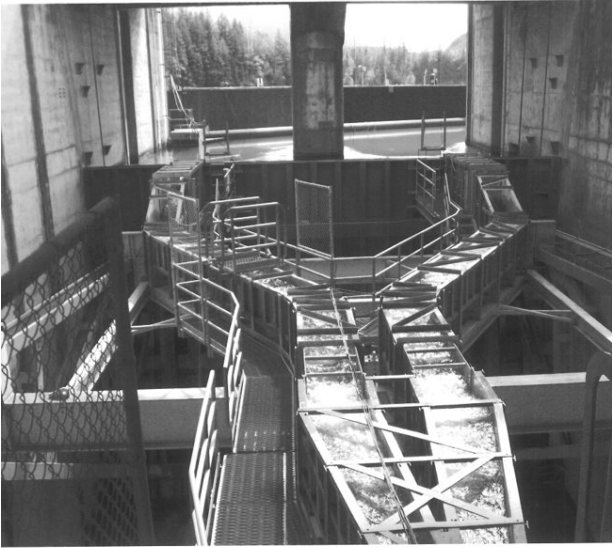
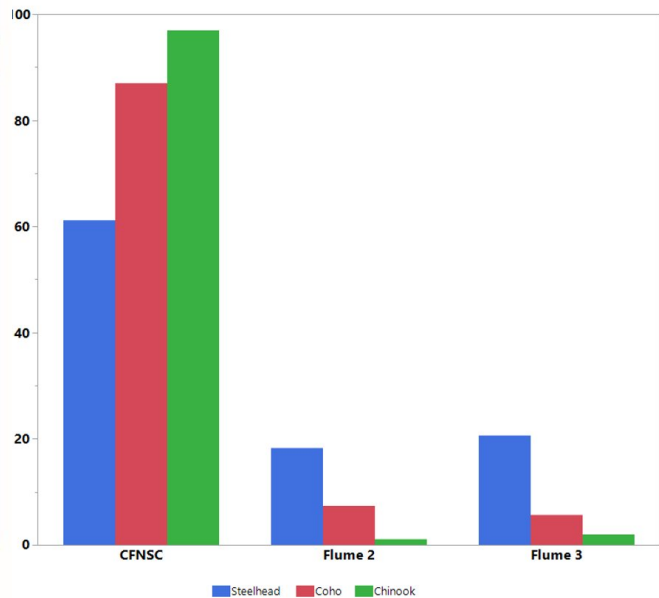
- HAB – Working with LCFRB to have funds administered

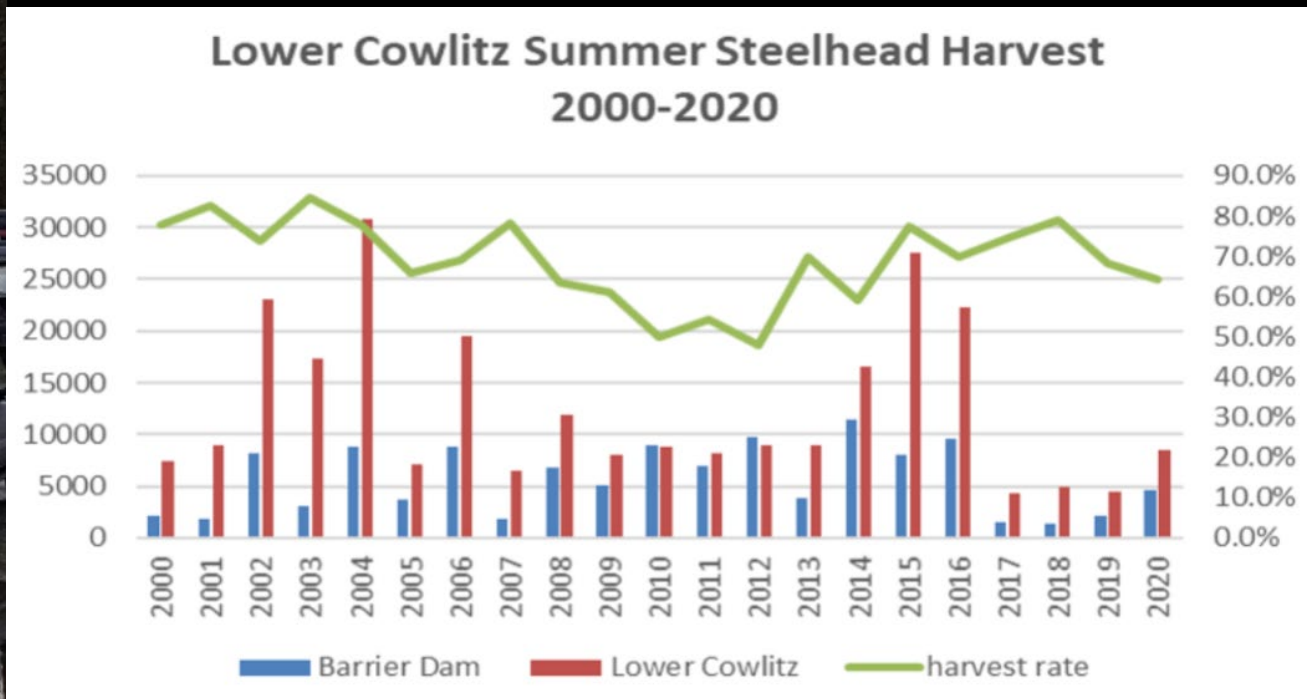
Fish Passage



Smolts – all age classes

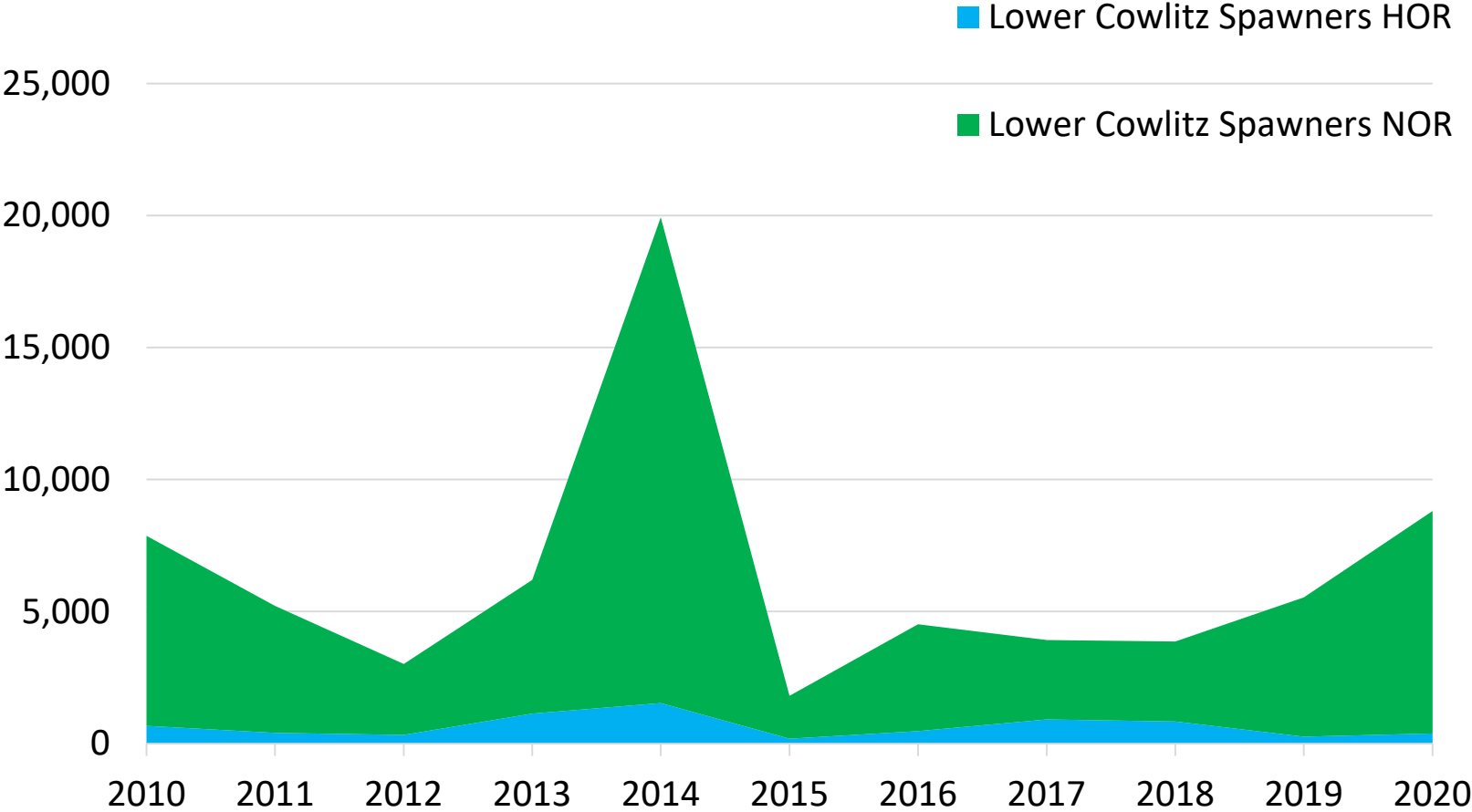
	Chinook	Coho	Steelhead	Cutthroat	Total
2017	56,345	26,196	4,860	952	88,353
2018	27,070	161,529	14,450	1070	204,119
2019	62,885	184,713	11,892	684	260,174
2020	7,315	127,544	8,287	1,171	144,317
2021	13,110	158,096	9,975	1,528	182,709





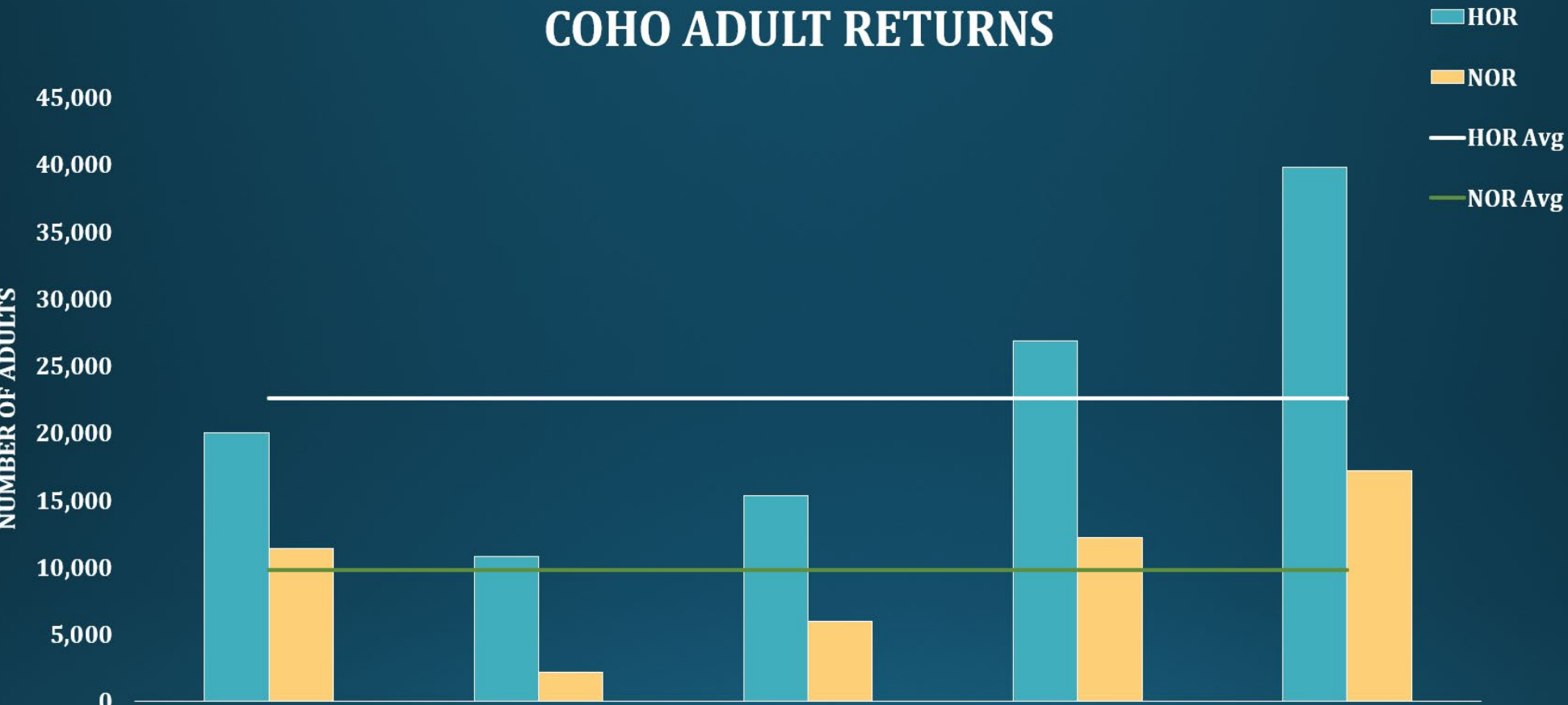
Pre-terminal and Terminal Harvest

Lower Cowlitz Adult Abundance Estimates



Returns to the Separator

COHO ADULT RETURNS



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
HOR	20,038	10,816	15,360	26,828	39,797
NOR	11,361	2,144	5,978	12,219	17,163



New Efforts

- Winter steelhead run timing
- Steelhead enumeration
- Carcass tagging
- Genetics for early returning winter steelhead
- Summer run steelhead recycling



G = Green/R = Ripe

Name of Agency & Person: DFW/ E. R. R. R. R. M. Blankenship

Location and Date: CSH 2/3/2022

Floy Tag #s 10---

Sheet # and WDFW Code: 2/22FA

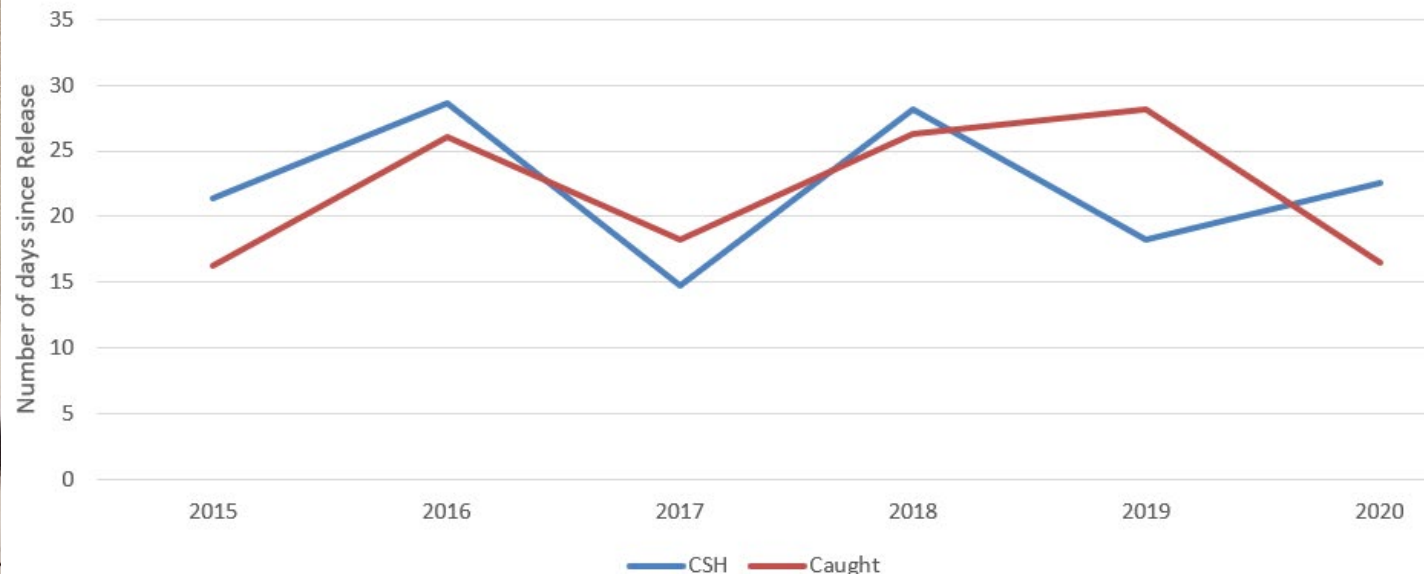
Target Species: Steelhead

Place a piece of fin tissue, about this size ☐ in grid

	1	2	3	4	5	6
A	#31 MVF 616 617 G	#32 MVF 618 619 620 G	#33 MVF 621 622 G	#34 MVF 623 624 G	#35 MVF 625 626 G	#36 MVF 627 628 R
B	#37 MVF 629 630 G	#38 MVF 631 632 G	#39 MVF 633 634 G	#40 MVF 635 636 G	#41 MVF 637 638 R	#42 MVF 639 640 G
C	#43 MVF 641 642 G	#44 MVF 643 644 G	#45 MVF 645 646 G	#46 MVF 647 650 G	#47 MVF 651 652 G	#48 MVF 597 653 G
D	#49 MVF 536 537 G	#50 MVF 540 542 G	#51 MVF 544 546 G	#52 MVF 548 549 G	#53 MVF 656 657 G	#54 MVF 658 659 G
E	#55 MVF 660 661 G	#56 MVF 662 664 G	#57 MVF 665 666 G	#58 MVF 667 668 R	#59 MVF 669 671 G	#60 MVF 672 673 G

Return To: WA Department of Fish & Wildlife, 1111 Washington St SE, NRB Room 665, Olympia, WA 98504 Phone: (360) 902-8313

Recycled Steelhead Average Time to Encounter



What Did 2021 Look Like for the Cowlitz

- Adult Abundances:

Fall Chinook: 2,273 HOR & 949 NOR

Spring Chinook: 2,709 HOR & 549 NOR

Coho Tilton: 18,708 HOR & 6,585 NOR Upper 21,089 HOR & 10,568 NOR

Winter Steelhead: Lower 2,998 HOR Tilton 57 HOR & 72 NOR Upper 167 HOR & 307 NOR

- Juvenile Production:

Fall Chinook: Tilton 81,746 NOR

Spring Chinook: Upper 13,110 NOR

Coho: Tilton 50,542 NOR Upper 158,096 NOR

Winter Steelhead: Tilton 8,037 NOR Upper 9,975 NOR

Way Too Early 2022 Information...

- Adult Abundances:

Fall Chinook

Spring Chinook 46 HOR & 5 NOR

Coho

Winter Steelhead Lower 3,983* HOR Tilton 239* HOR & 133 NOR Upper 558* HOR & 303 NOR



Questions?