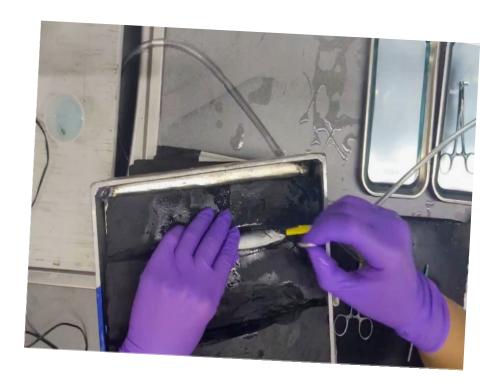
# Fish and Wildlife Quarterly Update April 18, 2022







# Why we're here today

➤ 2022 Subyearling Fish Evaluation

Lance Keller

➤ Home Water Preserve Update

Von Pope



# **Current Project Survival Results**

Project	Species	Juvenile Survival	Adult Survival	Combined
Rock Island	Steelhead	96.75%	99.31%	96.08%
	Spring Chinook	93.75%	99.89%	93.65%
	Sockeye	93.27%	98.37%	91.75%
Rocky Reach	Steelhead	95.79%	98.93%	94.77%
	Spring Chinook	92.37%	99.90%	92.28%
	Sockeye	93.59%	98.92%	92.58%

But what about subyearling fish survival??



# Why is it so difficult to study subyearling fish?

- Multiple life histories expressed
  - Protracted, variable outmigration (if at all)
- Active tag limitations size and battery life
- Biases in current statistical models



# Benefits of studying behavior

- Holding true to HCP commitment
- Ongoing evaluation of changing technology and methodologies
- The only way to ensure we're spilling the "right" amount of water for subyearlings in the summer is to understand how they behave and survive through the project



# What did we do in 2021?

- Used existing equipment installed for yearling study at Rock Island
- Tagged 606 fish from June 28 to August 6, 2021



# What did we learn?

#### Results

- All tagged subyearlings migrated through the Rock Island reservoir
- Route specific passage (RSP) proportions were similar to those of yearling Chinook

#### Uncertainties

- Are behavior and RSP driven by operations, river/environmental conditions, or both???
- Is predation occurring in the immediate tailrace and below RI dam???



# What are we proposing in 2022?

- BOC approval on March 7, 2022
- Hypothesis: subyearling Chinook behavior and passage is directly correlated to RI dam operations
- Collect, tag, release, and observe subyearling Chinook (900 RR tailrace, 400 RI tailrace)
- Why isn't this a HCP "Survival Study"?
  - Not initiating formal HCP Phase Designation study



# **Next Steps**

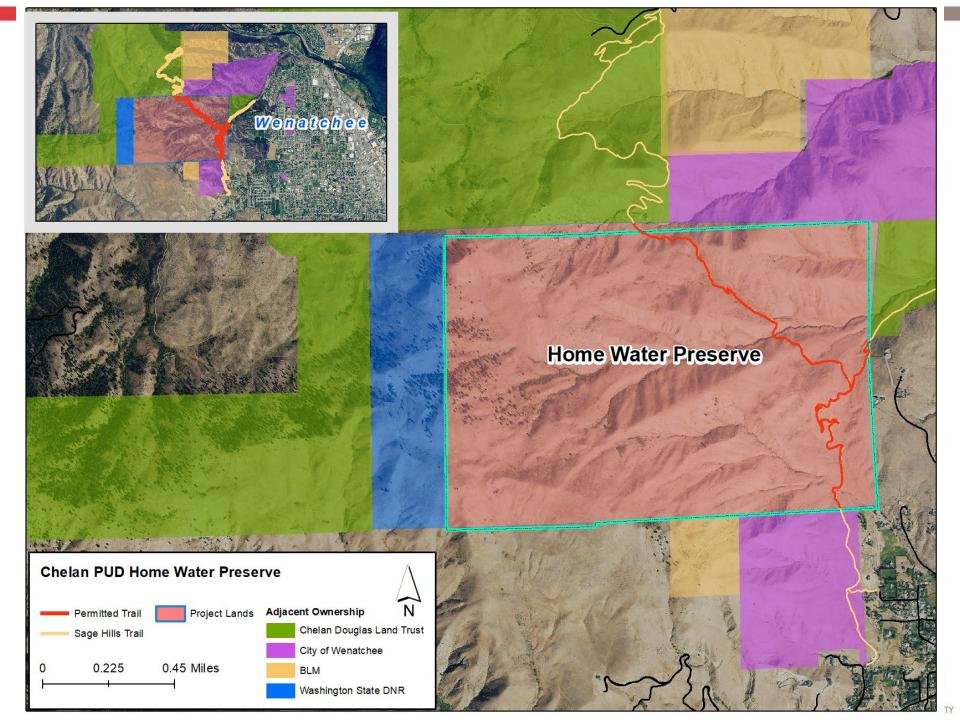
- May
  - Study set-up
- June-August
  - Collect, tag, release, and monitor fish
- September-December
  - Extract receivers
  - Process detection data (expected 1 million+ detections)
  - Report results



#### Home Water Preserve

- 960 acres
  - Purchased in 1990
  - Rock Island Project Mitigation
- Primary Purpose
  - Wintering Mule Deer and other Wildlife
- Trail Permitted in 2005
  - Closed December 1 March 31 annually
- Winter Closure Supported by CDLT





# What's new with Home Water

- District staff started meeting with the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) in 2018 to consolidate permitted trail use
- Desire to complete consultation prior to formal Rock Island Relicensing process
- January 2022 application to FERC
- February 2022 approval!



# Conditions of new Permitted Use

- CDLT will:
  - —enhance 4.6 miles of existing use
  - restore 4.5 miles of old road and trails to natural conditions
- Cultural assessment for all areas to be disturbed
- Continue winter closure for Mule Deer



# **Next Steps**

- 2022 CDLT to conduct cultural assessment
- 2023 CDLT begin rehabilitation of trails
- 2024-2025 new permit issued to CDLT

