

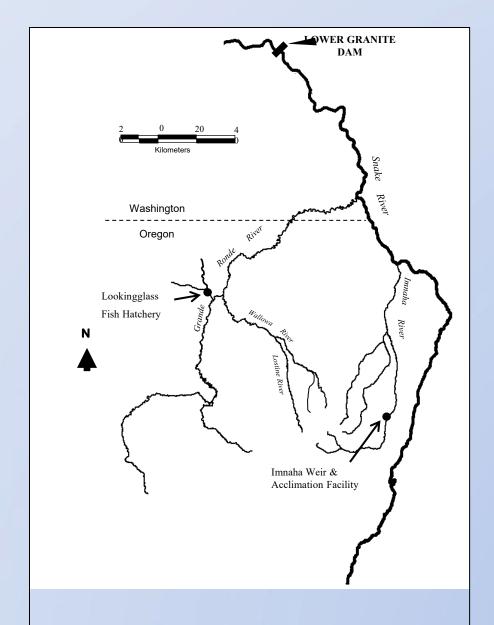
# Imnaha River Weir Cooperative Evaluations 2017-2020

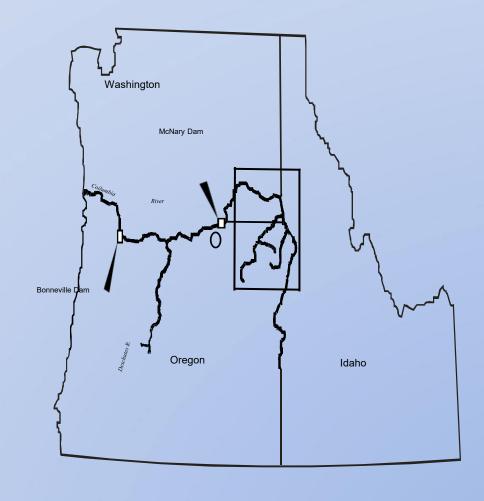




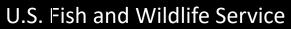












Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office







U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office

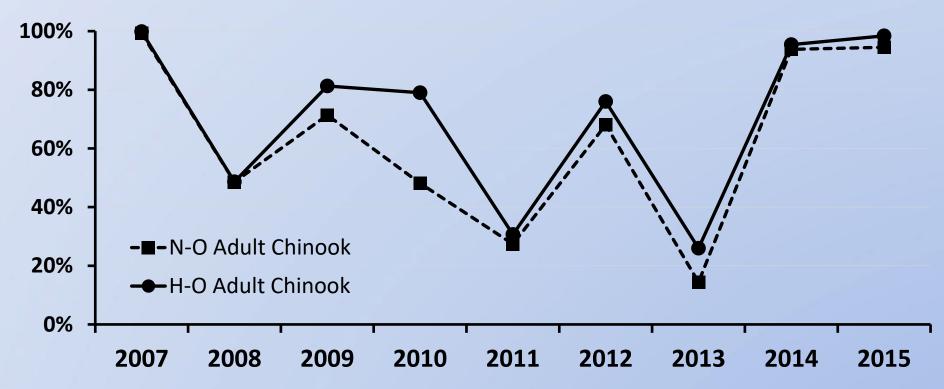








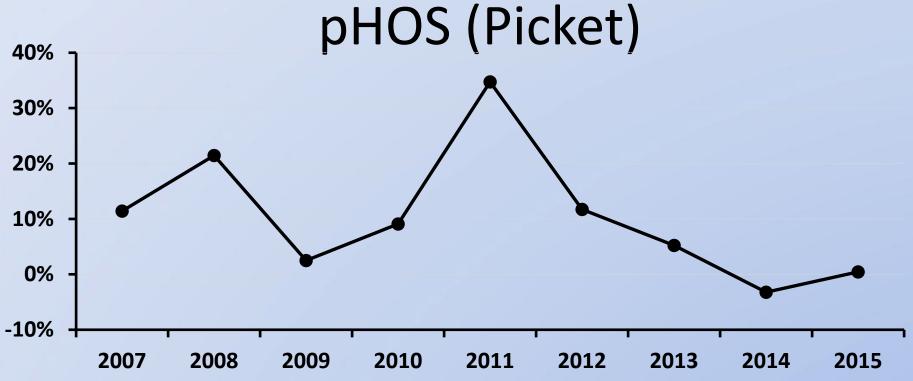
# Weir Efficiency (Picket)



Estimates of efficiency, by origin, of the the Imnaha River Picket Weir. Figure/data from Jeff Yanke – ODFW (2016)







Estimates of the proportion of hatchery spawners (pHOS) above the Imnaha River Weir, expressed as a percentage of the sliding scale maximum criteria set on post-season returns (Yanke – ODFW, 2016)



### New Weir

- Poor performance
- Safety
- HSRG/HRT/NOAA recommendations for new weir to manage pHOS and implement sliding scale.
- Permitting and Design 2008-2015
  - USFS special use
  - COE permitting
  - Archeological concerns
  - USFWS-ES, bull trout handling





### **Bi-OP Terms and Conditions**

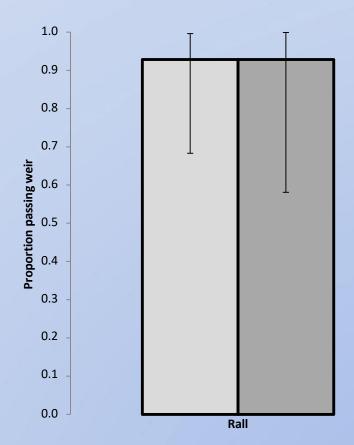
- Implement feasible sampling strategy for identifying impacts to bull trout during operations
  - Use existing PIT tagging (IPC et al.)
  - Assess passage and migration delays
  - LSRCP convened subject matter experts (Summer 2015).
    - NPT, ODFW, USFWS, Idaho Power Company, CTUIR.

Table 2. The number of Imnaha River bull trout PIT-tagged each year since 2006. In 2011, NPT staff started tagging bull trout caught in their screw trap, and in 2013 ODFW started tagging them at the Imnaha Satellite Facility (Idaho Power Company 2015).

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Bull Trout Tagged	17	24	41	40	32	139	130	188	217

# **Expert Analysis - Criteria**

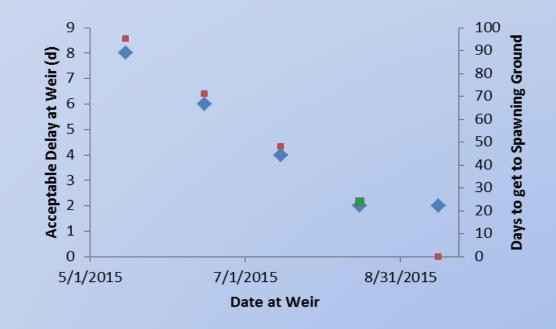
- Passage
  - 92.9% pass, 4 year running average.
  - Based predominantly on previous radio tag studies (n=14)

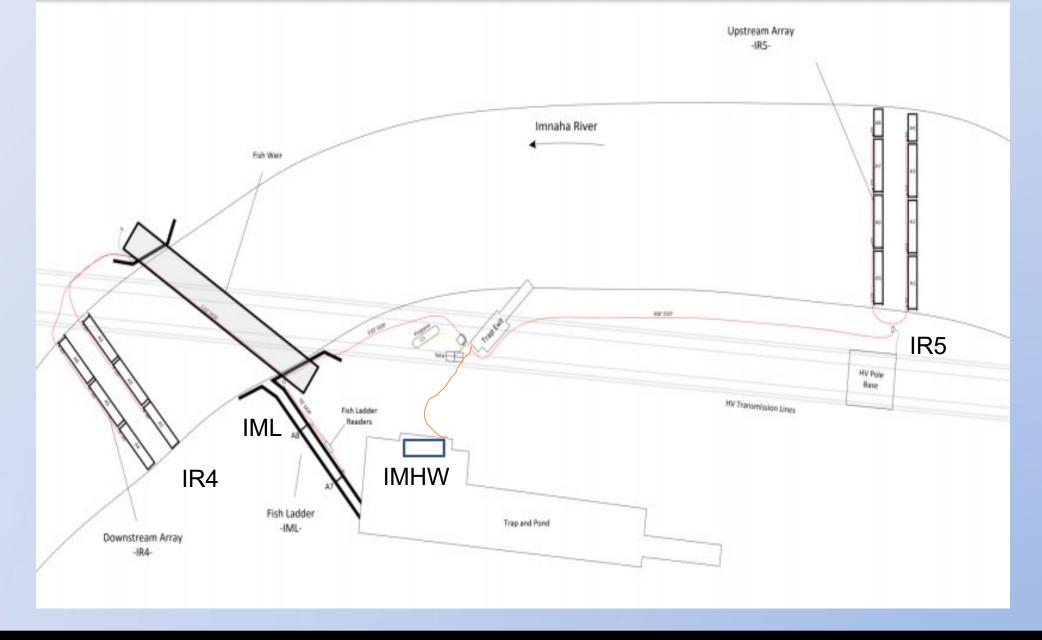


■95%CI ■99%CI

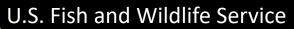
# **Expert Analysis - Criteria**

- Delay
  - May: median < 8 days</p>
  - June: median < 6 days</p>
  - July: median < 4 days</li>
  - August: median < 2 days</li>
  - September: < 2 days</p>
  - No fish >8 days
- Based on PIT tags (n = 100s), past existing arrays in lower river.

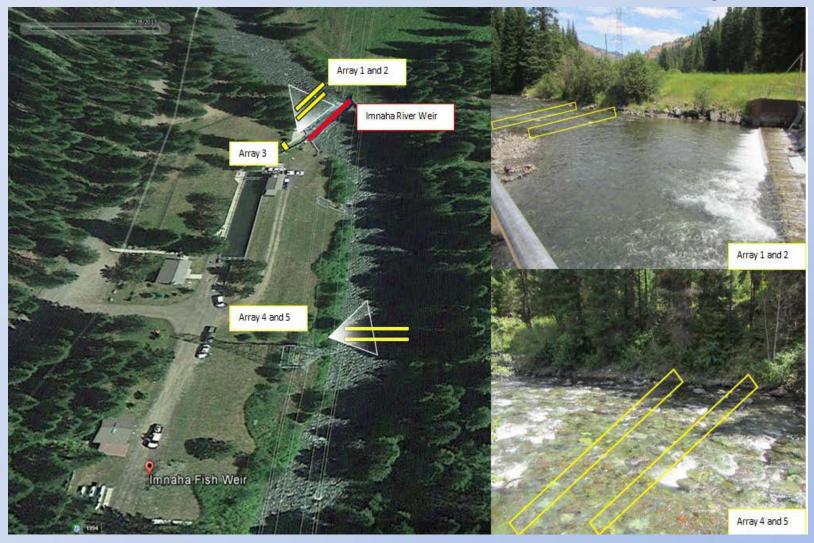








# Imnaha River Weir PIT Arrays





### 2017

- Weir fished July 3 through September 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Chinook brood collections met, pNOB met
    - pHOS?
  - 143 tagged bull trout used for evaluation of passage and delay
- 92.3% bull trout estimated to pass
- Delay and detection issues......

#### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Assessment of Bull Trout Passage and Delay during operation of the Imnaha River Weir for the Imnaha River spring/summer Chinook Salmon Program

2017 Annual Progress Report



Timothy A. Whitesel and Paul M. Sankovich

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Columbia River Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office Vancouver, WA 98683



# 2017 Bull Trout Delay

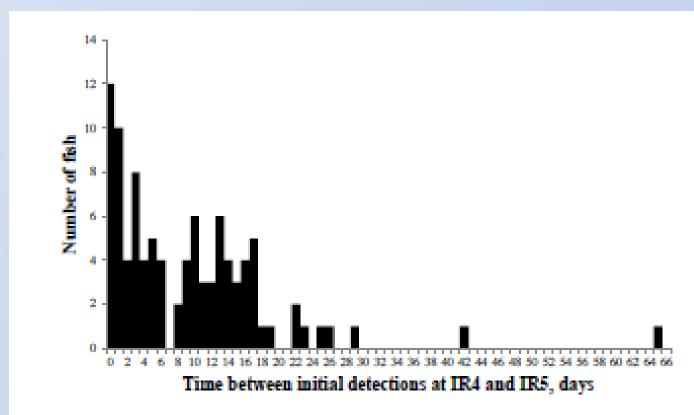


Figure 4. The number of days it took Bull Trout to move from IR4 to IR5. The number of days represents the time between the initial detection at IR4 and initial detection at IR5.

# Passing without handling?

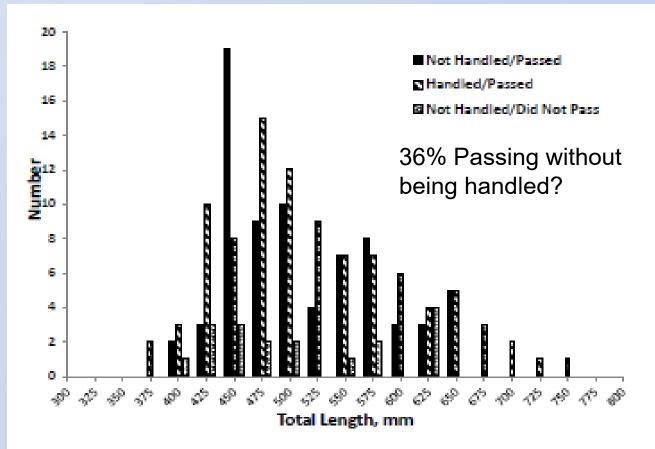


Figure 5. The size distribution of Bull Trout exhibiting various migratory behaviors (Passed or Did Not Pass the weir) and passage routes (not trapped and therefore Not Handled or captured in the trap and therefore Handled) at the Imnaha River weir (courtesy of R. Wilkinson, Idaho Power Company, personal communication).













### 2018

- Weir fished June 12th through September 7<sup>th</sup>
  - "Kick panels/clean chutes"
  - Chinook brood collections met and pNOB, pHOS met!!
    - 92% efficient for wild fish
    - 100% efficient for natural origin fish
  - 111 tagged bull trout used for evaluation of passage and delay
- 94.1% estimated to pass site (105)
- Delay and detection issues......

#### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Assessment of Bull Trout Passage during Operation of the Imnaha River Weir

2018 Annual Progress Report



Paul M. Sankovich and Timothy A. Whitesel U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Columbia River Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office Vancouver, WA 98683









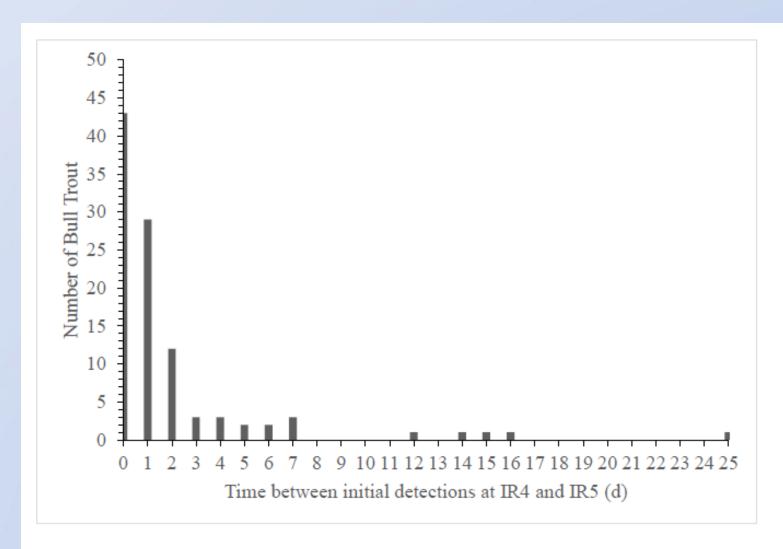


Figure 4. The number of days it took Bull Trout to move from IR4 to IR5. The number of days represents the time between the initial detection at IR4 and initial detection at IR5.

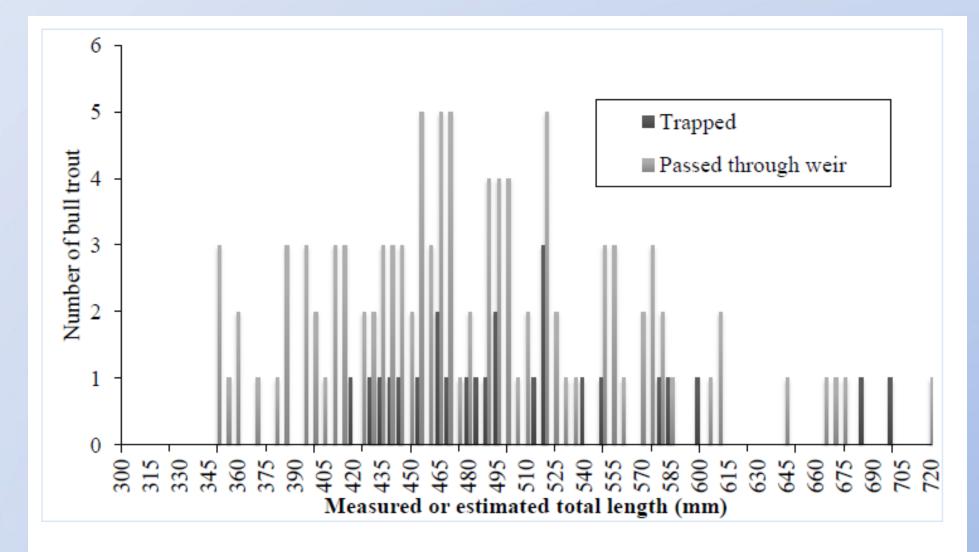


Figure 5. Length frequency distribution of Bull Trout that were trapped and released above or passed through the Imnaha River weir in 2018.

### 2019

- Weir fished June 21 through September 11<sup>th</sup>
  - "Kick panels, clean chutes"
  - Chinook brood collections met and pNOB, pHOS met!!
  - 107 bull trout used in analysis
- 94.4% estimated to pass site (101)
- Delay and detection issues
- Fish using chutes, "Are they injuring themselves?"
  - Addresses Take in Permitting

#### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

#### Assessment of Bull Trout Passage during Operation of the Imnaha River Weir

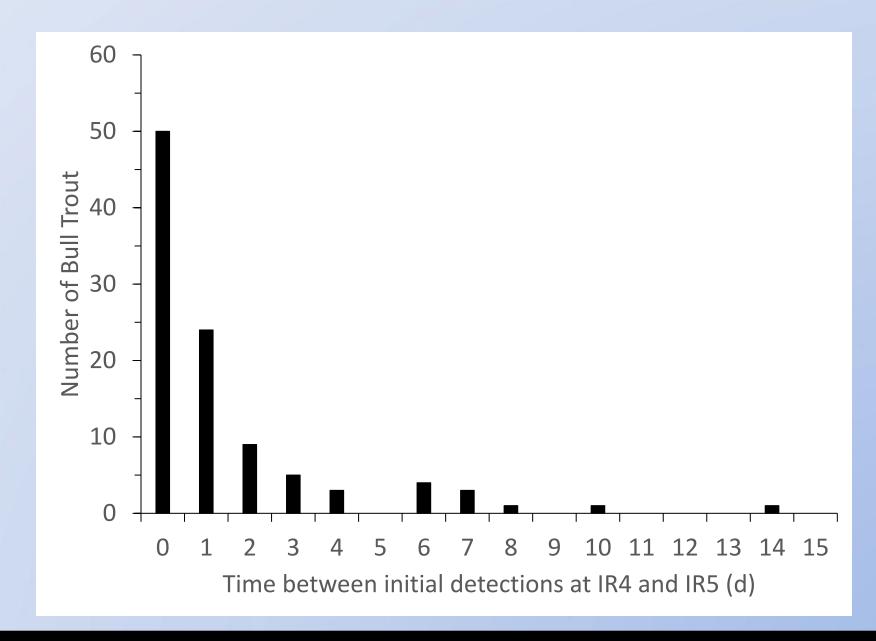
2019 Annual Progress Report



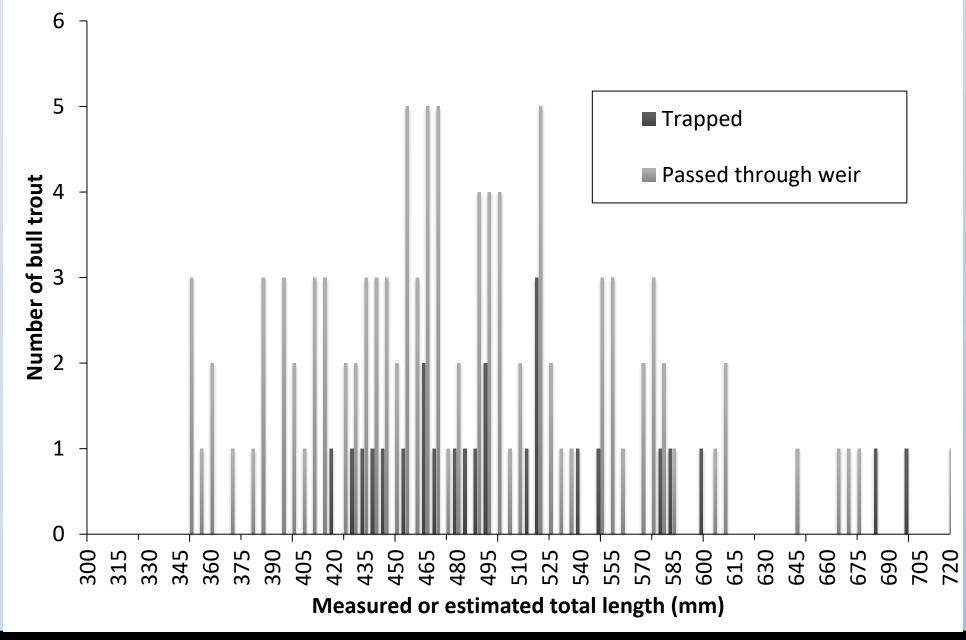
Paul M. Sankovich and Timothy A. Whitesel U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Columbia River Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office Vancouver, WA 98683





























U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### 2020

- Weir fished June 12 through September 10<sup>th</sup>
  - "Kick panels, clean chutes"
  - Chinook brood collections met.
  - 147 bull trout used in analysis
- 91.9% estimated to pass site (136/147)
- Delay and detection issues



# Assessment of Bull Trout Passage during Operation of the Imnaha River Weir

2020 Annual Progress Report



Paul M. Sankovich and Timothy A. Whitesel
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Columbia River Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office





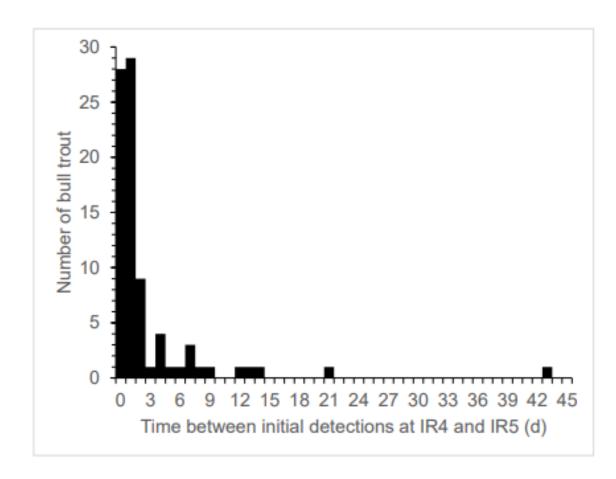


Figure 4. The number of days it took Bull Trout to move from IR4 to IR5. The number of days represents the time between the initial detection at IR4 and initial detection at IR5.

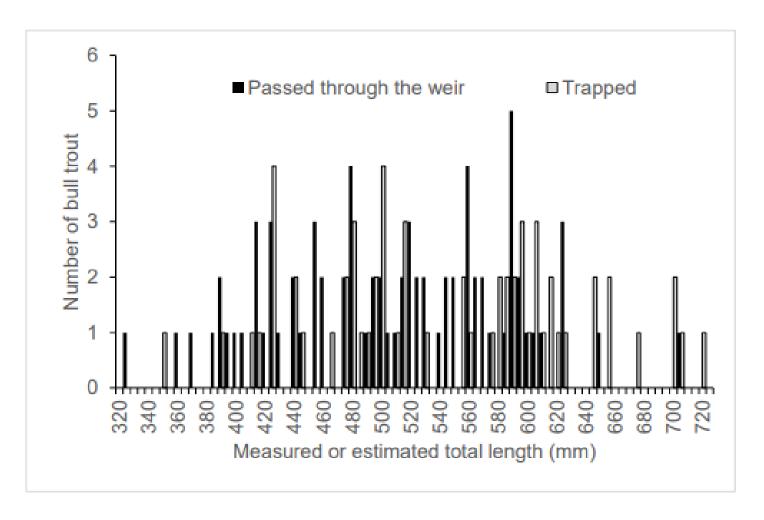


Figure 5. Length frequency distribution of Bull Trout that were trapped and released above or passed through the Imnaha River weir in 2020.

## Summary

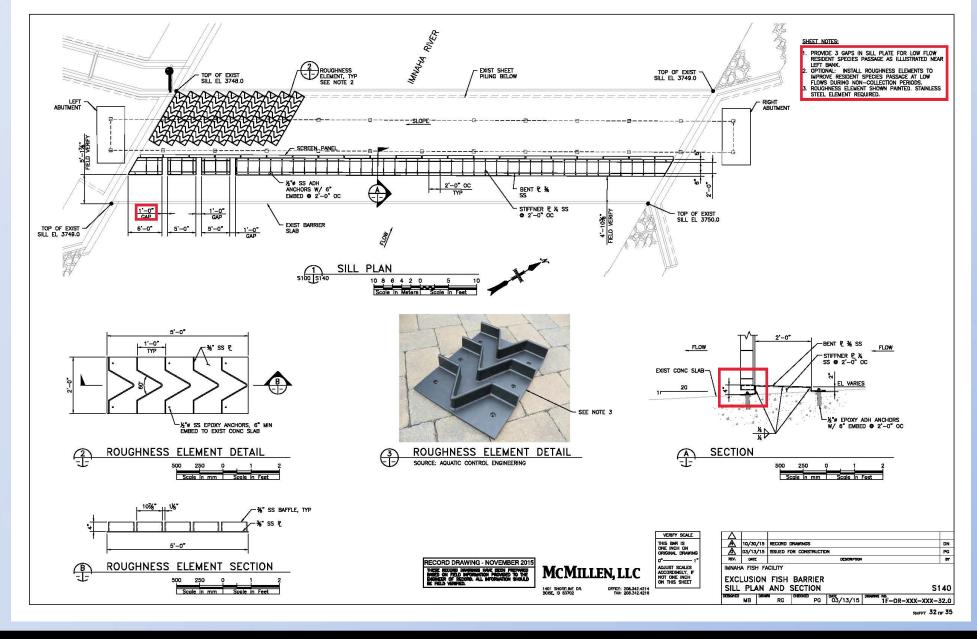
- Clean passage chutes!
- 91.4% 4 year average
  - Some did not pass weir consistently
- Take Home
  - Passage criteria was essential
  - Delay criteria informative to adaptive management
  - Limited handling desirable... trade offs.
  - Passage chutes are integral.
  - Staff training/knowledge key to success.

Thanks to all USFWS, NPT, ODFW, CTUIR, IPC and LSRCP staff involved in small work group from 2015-2020.









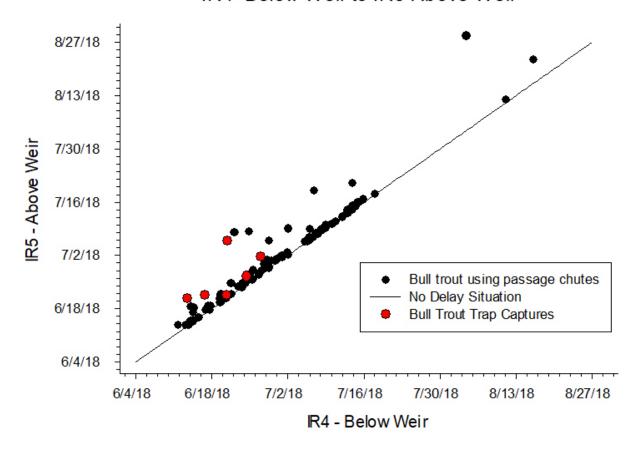
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office

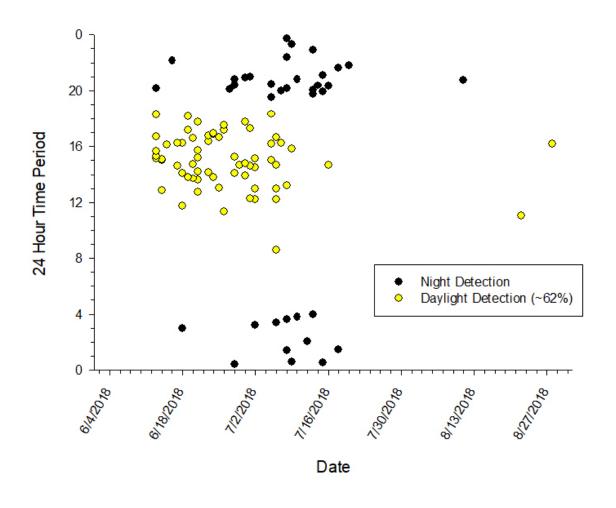




### 2018 Imnaha Weir Bull Trout Detections IR4- Below Weir to IR5-Above Weir



2018 Detections at IR5
Date and Time - Only Passage-Chute Bull Trout Moving Upstream







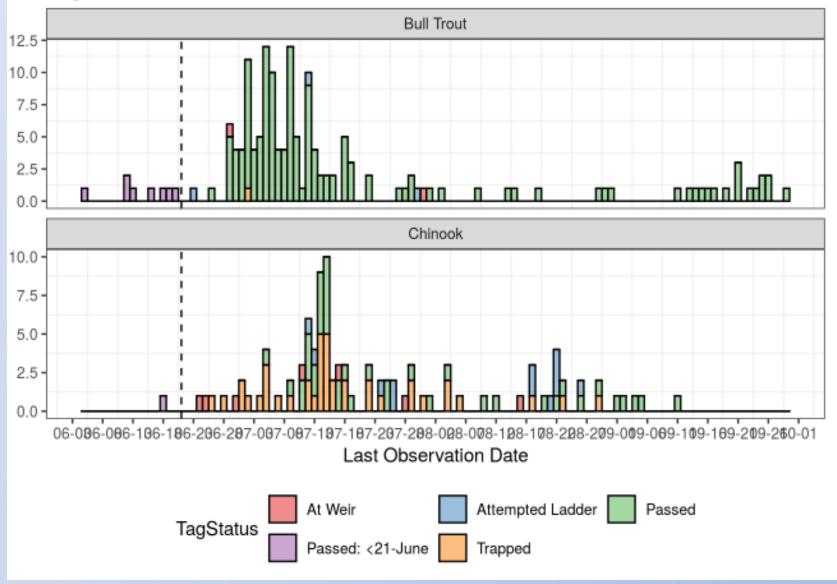
Shiny App

2019 Summary













Lower Snake River Compensation Plan Office



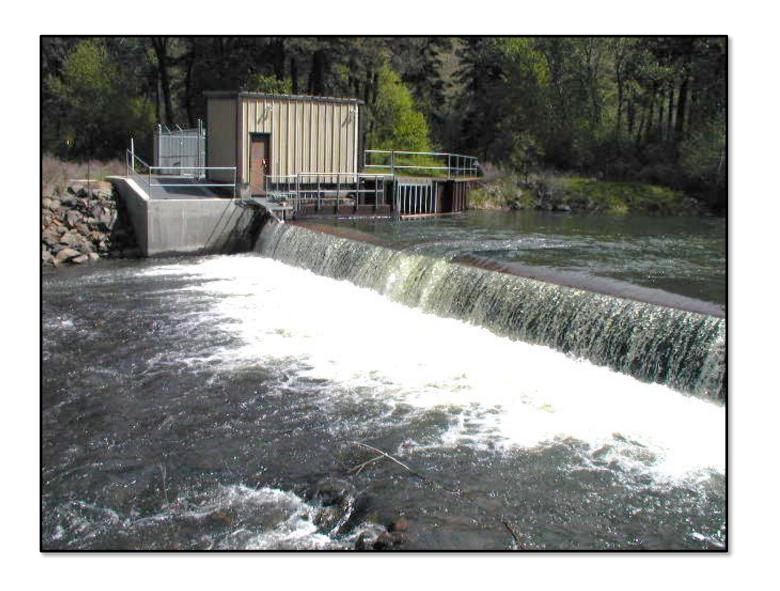
# Assessment of Bull Trout Passage at the Tucannon River Adult Weir/Trap

Joe Bumgarner

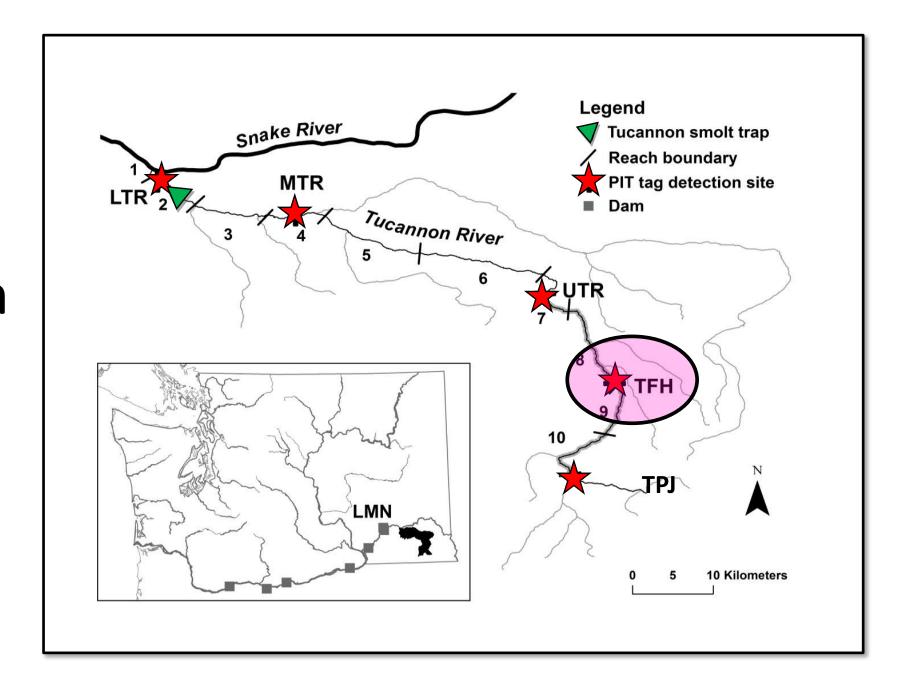
**Rod Engle** 



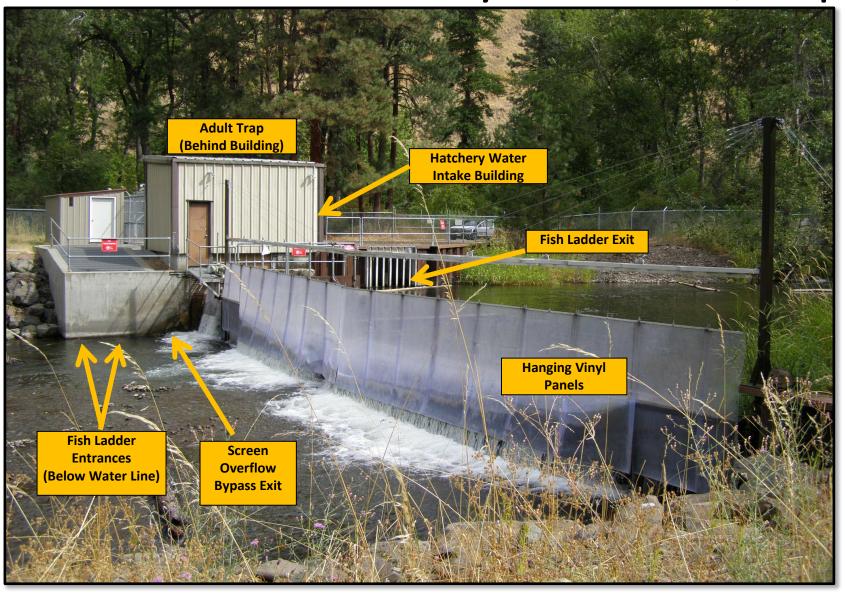




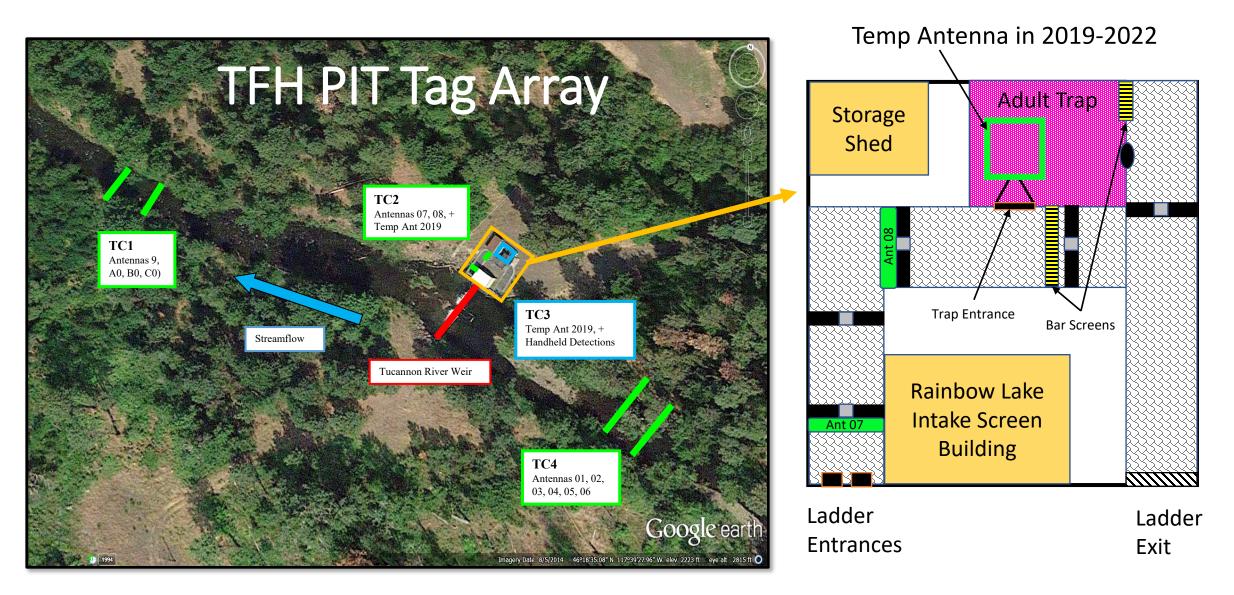
# Tucannon River Basin PIT Tag Arrays



## Tucannon Fish Hatchery Adult Weir/Trap



### Tucannon Fish Hatchery Adult Weir/Trap



# Today's Presentation

#### Passage Conversion

Percent of bull trout detected downstream that convert upstream of dam.

#### Passage Delay

Time it takes fish to move upstream past the dam.

#### Trap Escapement

Have we fixed the escapement problem identified in 2019?

# Previously PIT Tagged Bull Trout

<u>Year</u>	ВТ
2015	12
2016	13
2017	46
2018	33
2019	14
2020	1
2021	4
2022	21

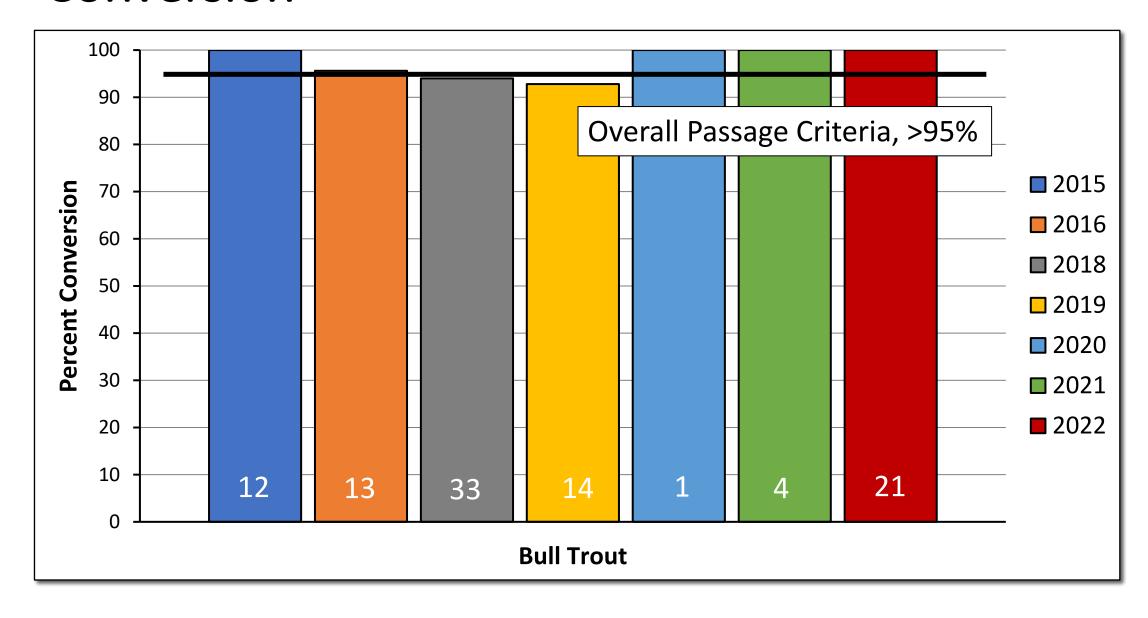
#### **Tucannon Bull Trout**

#### Passage Criteria

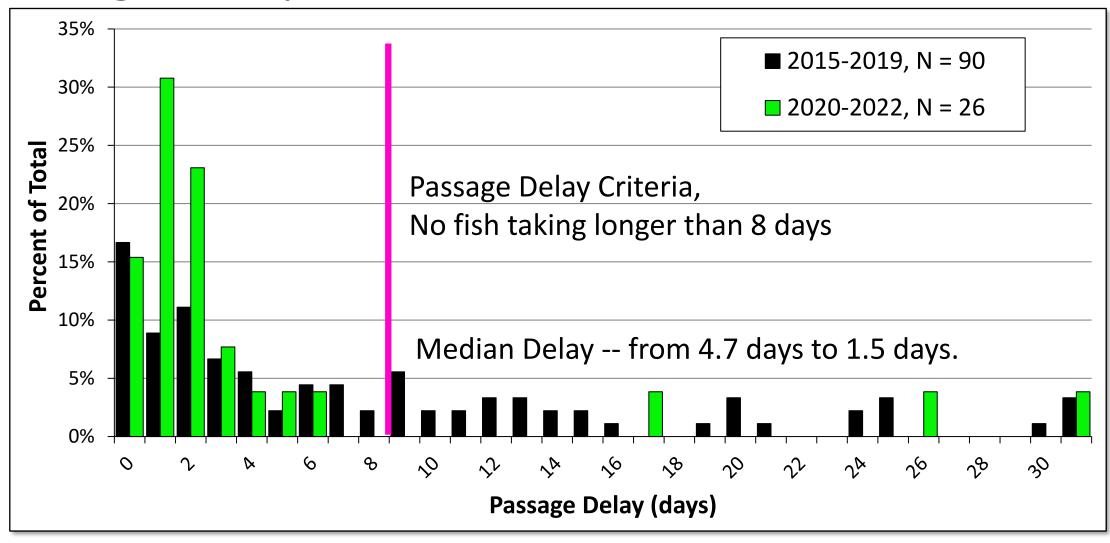
- Conversion Rate
  - Five-year average of at least 95%, with no less than 75% in any given year
- Passage Delay Rate
  - Median passage time from first detection downstream to either

     capture in the adult trap, or 2) detection immediately
     upstream of no longer than 8 days for May, 6 days for June, 4 days
     for July and 2 days for August and September, with no individual
     taking longer than 8 days in any month.

#### Conversion



# Passage Delay



# Trap Escapement 2019

#### **Y-Axis Legend**

5 = Trap Capture

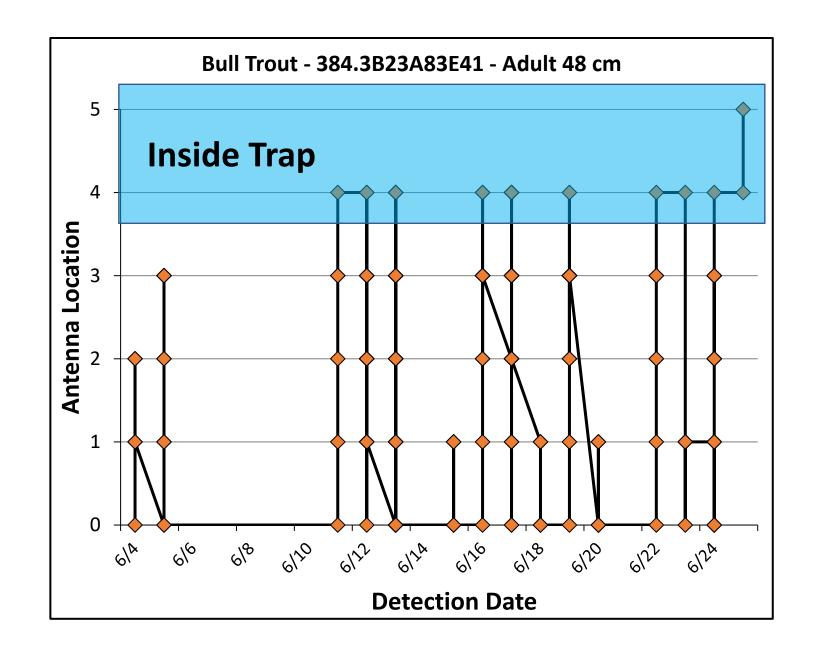
4 = Trap Antenna

3 = Upper Ladder

2 = Lower Ladder

1 = Downstream Upper Row

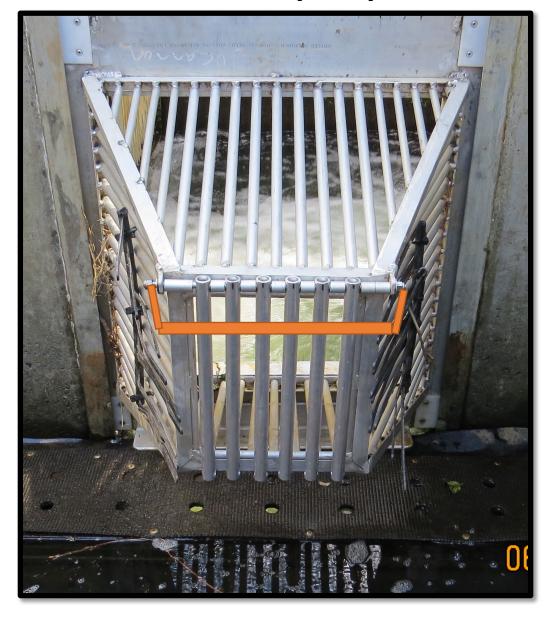
0 = Downstream Lower Row



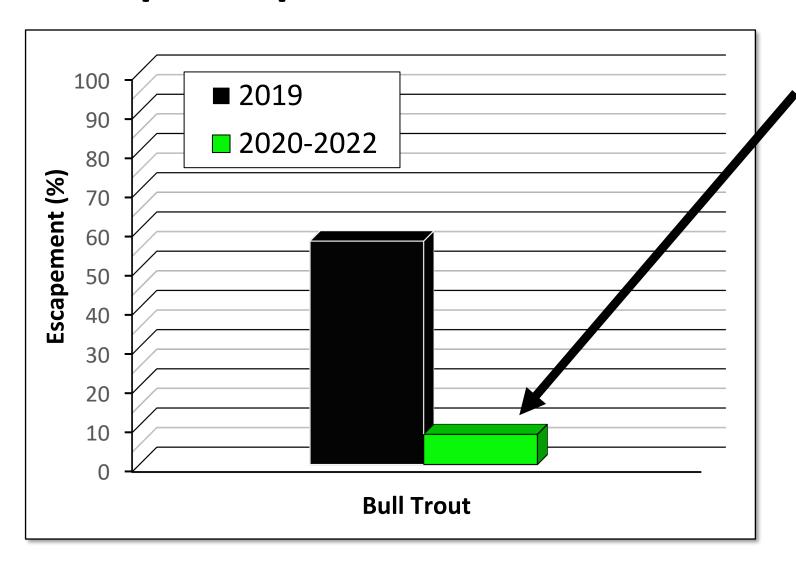
# Old Trap Fyke



# New Trap Fyke



#### **Trap Escapement Rates**



#### 2 of 26 fish

Entered trap at nearly the same time late in the afternoon 5/16/22.

Exited the trap within an hour of each other early in the morning on 5/17/22

Bar(s) got stuck in up position for a short time??

# Conclusions:

- Overall Conversion Rates \*\*\*
  - Bull Trout conversions have remained similar each study year(>95%).
  - Increased conversion of spring Chinook and steelhead compared to previous years – critical in years of low returns.

# Passage Delay Rates



- Some Bull Trout still taking longer than 8 Days, but passage delay of fish (all species – SH, SPCH) has decreased since the trap fyke was changed.
- The new trap fyke has nearly eliminated escapement

