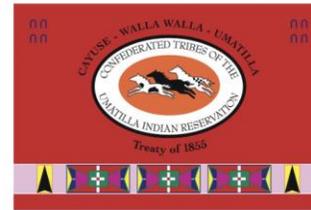


COLUMBIA BASIN RESTORATION INITIATIVE

DEVELOPED BY THE YAKAMA, UMATILLA, WARM SPRINGS, AND NEZ PERCE TRIBES
AND THE STATES OF WASHINGTON AND OREGON (THE “SIX SOVEREIGNS”)

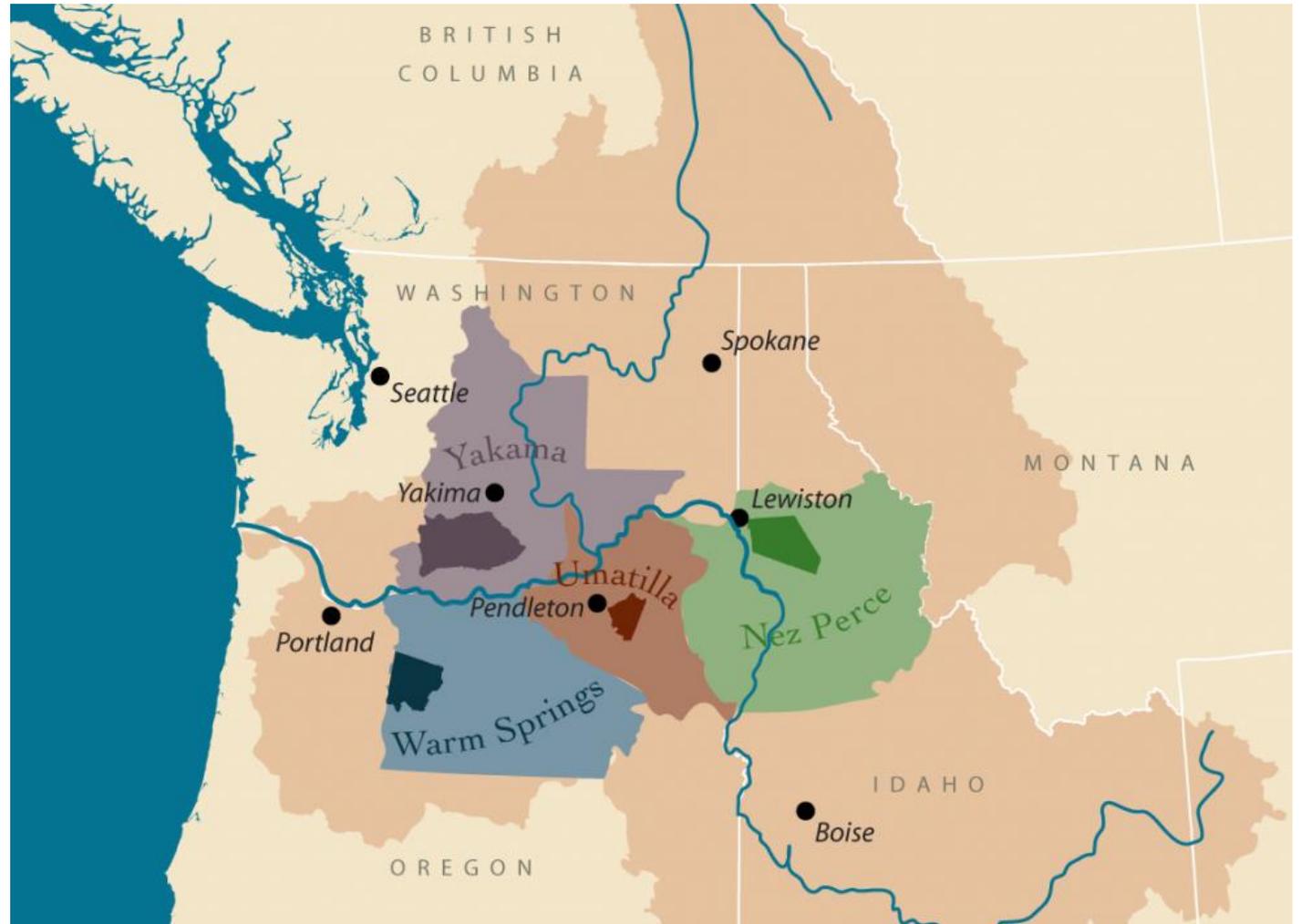
April 16, 2024
Presentation by YN to the
Columbia Gorge Fisheries and Watershed Science Conference



BACKGROUND

The Formation of the Six Sovereigns Coalition

- For years, the Six Sovereigns have each advocated for a comprehensive approach to addressing Columbia Basin salmon restoration and related energy, water, and development-related issues.
- Building on their shared perspectives, the Six Sovereigns developed and advanced recommendations to the USG on what a comprehensive strategy should include.



The Six Sovereign's Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative

The Columbia Basin Restoration Initiative (“CBRI”) represents the collaborative effort of the Six Sovereigns to develop a comprehensive solution for shared and complex challenges. It is informed by the Six Sovereigns’ significant technical expertise as fisheries co-managers, and by their sovereign obligations to their constituents.

The CBRI is intended as a roadmap to help the Six Sovereigns and the USG work in partnership together and with others in the region to restore Columbia Basin fisheries to healthy and abundant levels, honor commitments to Tribal Nations, and deliver affordable and reliable clean power while meeting the many resilience needs of stakeholders in the Columbia River basin and the Pacific Northwest.



COLUMBIA BASIN RESTORATION INITIATIVE

An overview of the CBRI's purpose, objectives, and recommended approach

PURPOSE

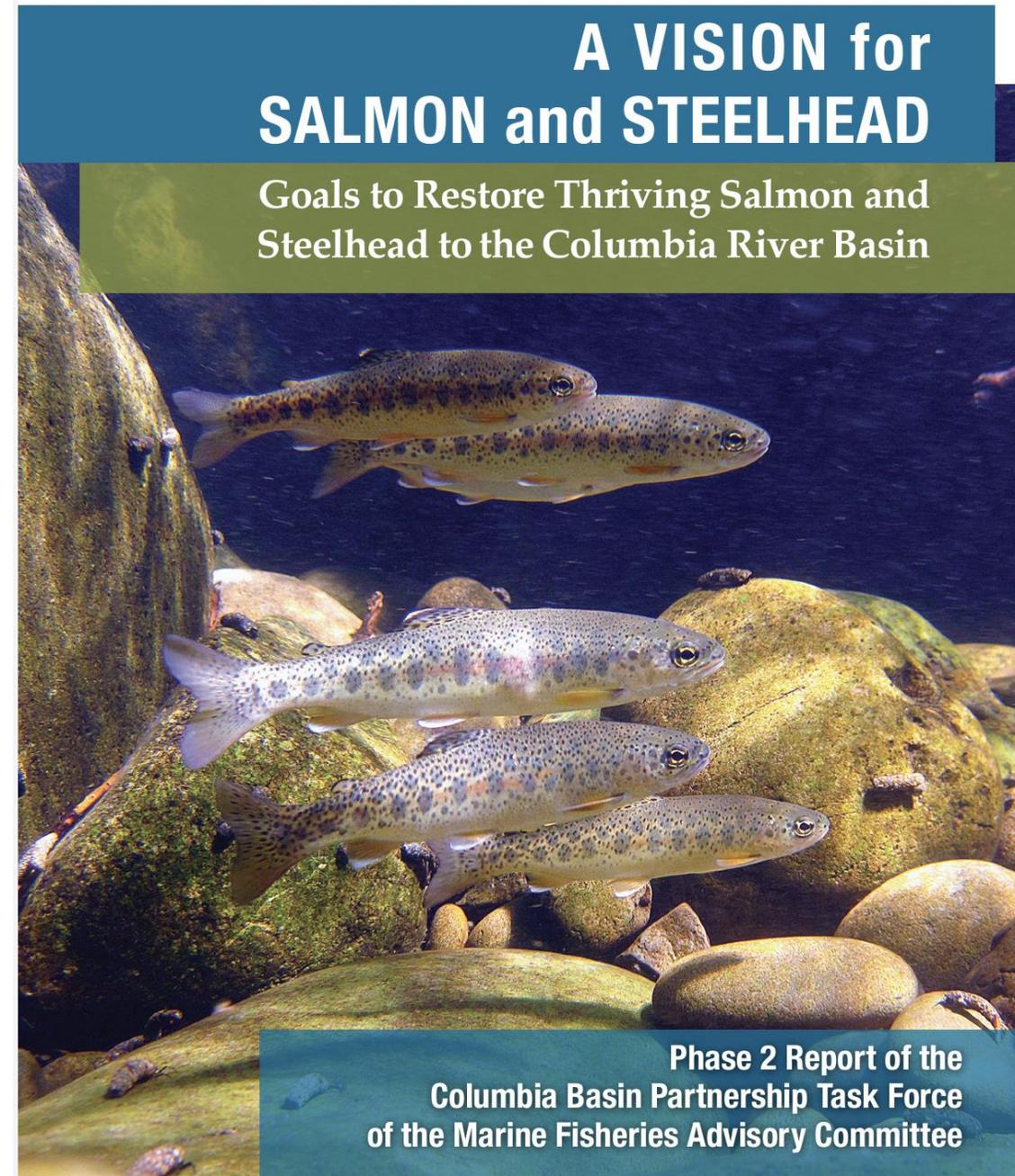
Why did the Six Sovereigns develop the CBRI?

Making a Collective Commitment to a Just and Prosperous Future

- Rapidly changing economic, energy and climate conditions in the Pacific Northwest – not to mention the dire status of the fishery resources in the Columbia Basin – requires leadership and urgent action to respond to inevitable changes and meet regional needs during the coming decades.
- We must act now and implement necessary federal investments and commitments across the whole of government to be successful.
- The CBRI helps advance the fulfillment of federal Treaty and trust obligations to the Tribal communities and fisheries left behind in the Columbia Basin's previous rush of development by restoring salmon, steelhead, and other native species and their habitats, and investing in critical fish infrastructure.
- The CBRI also protects and enhances the security of our communities and key service sectors by modernizing and investing in clean energy, agriculture, and transportation infrastructure, and by helping to restore vital ecosystem functions and services essential for local and regional resilience and adaptation to climate change.

Responding to Recent Columbia River Basin Efforts

- Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force Goals
- Columbia Basin Initiative – Rep. Mike Simpson
- Sen. Murray / Gov. Inslee LSRD Benefit Replacement Report and Recommendations
- Biden Administration government-to-government consultations with Columbia Basin Tribes
- FMCS Mediation and Biden Administration efforts to resolve ongoing hydrosystem litigation issues
- NOAA Fisheries 2022 Report on Rebuilding Interior Columbia Salmon and Steelhead



Securing USG Commitments to Help Position the Columbia Basin for Success

Advance “... a durable long-term strategy to restore salmon and other native fish populations to healthy and abundant levels, honoring Federal commitments to Tribal Nations, delivering affordable and reliable clean power, and meeting the many resilience needs of stakeholders across the region.”



CBRI OBJECTIVES

What does success look like?

Objective 1: Develop and advance an urgent, comprehensive strategy to:

- (a) restore salmon and steelhead to “healthy and abundant levels” consistent with NOAA’s Columbia Basin Partnership Task Force (CBP) and Rebuilding reports; and
- (b) complete the actions and investments necessary to secure continuity of services* associated with Lower Snake River (LSR) restoration prior to LSR dam breaching.

Objective 2: Ensure that all native species, regardless of ESA-listing status, are considered in the comprehensive strategy in a way that improves ecosystem function in the Columbia River and its tributaries.

Objective 3: Ensure interim fish measures minimize additional generational decline of fish populations.

**Continuity of services refers to the end service provided, not necessarily the existing means of providing that service. Examples of services associated with Lower Snake River dams include commodity transport, energy (production and transmission), water supply (agriculture, municipal, domestic) and recreation.*

Objective 4: Invest in and support communities and economic sectors in a manner that is

- (a) consistent with meeting decarbonization goals and mandates and integration of renewables;
- (b) delivers affordable and clean power;
- (c) improves resiliency and adaptability to climate change and supports the many resilience needs of stakeholders across the region; and
- (d) honors commitments to Tribal Nations.

Objective 5: Secure necessary regulatory compliance, authorizations, and appropriations for implementation of the strategy with an urgency reflecting the needs of the fish.

Objective 6: Ensure that the comprehensive strategy and associated federal actions “honor Federal commitments to Tribal Nations” and address past and ongoing inequities related to Columbia Basin development to reflect and uphold federal Treaty and trust responsibilities to Columbia Basin tribes.

RECOMMENDED APPROACH

What is the roadmap to achieve success?

Key Principles

- Empower Tribal & State Fisheries Co-Managers
- Significantly Increase Funding
- Fully Fund Fisheries Infrastructure Needs
- Lower Snake Restoration & Continuity of Services
- Identify a Feasible Approach to UC Reintroduction
- Ensure Accountability to Fisheries Recovery Goals
- Transparent 'Whole-of-Government' Approach
- Advance Key Elements Concurrently & Immediately

IMPLEMENTATION

All Six Sovereigns are committed to providing leadership to implement the shared vision of the CBRI.

Federal Commitments in Support of the CBRI

- In December 2023, the USG signed an historic Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) with the Six Sovereigns and the NGO plaintiffs in the *NWF v NMFS* litigation (together, the “MOU Parties”).
- The MOU provides for a package of initial federal actions (the “USG Commitments”) in support of the CBRI and in partnership with the Six Sovereigns, which will be implemented over the next 10 years.
- While the USG implements these USG Commitments and the MOU remains effective, the MOU Parties agree to support a continued stay of the *NWF v NMFS* litigation and refrain from similar litigation.

Relationship Between the USG Commitments and the Sept. 2023 Presidential Memorandum

The USG Commitments expressly clarify that they “do not represent the exhaustive suite of actions that will be developed and carried out under the [Sept. 27, 2023 Presidential Memorandum on restoring healthy and abundant salmon, steelhead, and other native fish populations in the Columbia River Basin]”, and that “The USG is committed to working with all regional sovereigns and with stakeholders to implement the Presidential Memorandum and achieve these important goals.”

Key Take Aways

- USG Commitments are organized around CBRI, but do not address all needs within CBRI
- USG Commitments are an historic “whole of government” approach to salmon recovery in CRB
- USG Commitments rely on near term commitments and future appropriations, Administration cannot promise future legislative commitments
- CRS Operations are only marginally better or marginally worse (depending on stock), but overall agreement provides a path to significant changes in future
- Most of USG Commitments are focused on modernizing the electric grid to address climate change and future sustainability

Advancing the CBRI with the USG and Others

- Additional federal, state, tribal, and regional action will be necessary to fully realize the purpose and objectives of the CBRI.
 - Although the USG Commitments in support of the CBRI are essential first steps toward implementing the CBRI, these initial USG Commitments are not intended to fully address the scope and magnitude of recommendations in the CBRI.
- The Six Sovereigns will continue to work in partnership with each another, and with other sovereigns and stakeholders, to implement the CBRI's recommendations.



QUESTIONS ?
