The first statewide stream macroinvertebrate bioassessment in Washington State with a relative risk and attributable risk analysis for multiple stressors

> Chad Larson Environmental Assessment Program Washington State Department of Ecology









#### Freshwater systems under threat



Vörösmarty et al. (2010) Nature

Freshwater systems comprise only a fraction of the total water found on the planet, yet supply nearly two-thirds of the water used in the world

#### **Biodiversity matters**



Hooper et al. (2005) *Ecological Monographs* 

## Background

Clean Water Act – restore & maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waters

Prior to 2009, WA had no comprehensive stream biological monitoring program

Beginning in 2009, Watershed Health Monitoring Program implemented GRTS random sample survey design

50 sites in each of 7 Salmon Recovery Regions & 1 unlisted region





### **Measuring Chemical, Physical and Biological Parameters**



11 major transects evaluated for substrate, riparian habitat and fish habitat

Physical, chemical and sediment parameters evaluated

262 habitat metrics generated with the data

8 randomly selected transects are sampled for invertebrates and periphyton

#### **Standardized Sampling Protocol:**

Composite sample from 8 randomly selected transects at a stream reach (8 ft<sup>2</sup>)

500 µm D-net kick-net sampler

**30-second 'kick' sample at each transect** 

Minimum of 500 organisms subsampled and identified to 'lowest practical level' (i.e., typically genus & species)

10% of samples are recounted by different taxonomist and sorting efficiency, taxonomic precision, percent taxonomic disagreement, and percent difference in enumeration are calculated; all measures must be within acceptable industry criteria (e.g., Bray-Curtis index of at least 90%)

10% of sites are revisited within a given year







## **Benthic Index of Biotic Integrity (B-IBI)**

	<u>/letric</u>	Predicted response to stress
Ţ	axa richness	Decrease
E	phemeroptera richness	Decrease
Р	lecoptera richness	Decrease
T	richoptera richness	Decrease
С	linger richness	Decrease
L	ong-lived richness	Decrease
lr	ntolerant richness	Decrease
Ρ	ercent dominant	Increase
Р	redator percent	Decrease
T	olerant percent	Increase

B-IBI ranges from 0-100 with higher scores indicating greater biological health





## **Status**



# Extent



# Regional Extent



# **Stressor Identification**





# Trends



## **Causal Analysis: Structural Equation Model**



# Summary:

- In general, nearly 1/3 of stream kilometers assessed in WA in poor biological condition
- Regionally, Puget Sound and far eastern WA had highest proportion of stream kilometers in poor biological condition
- Poor substrate conditions prevalent across the state
- Poor B-IBI scores 4 times more likely when associated with elevated % sand/fines
- AR suggests that nearly 60% of streams now in poor biological condition could be improved with reduction of sand/fines
- Loss of sensitive taxa with impairment

# CLIMATE CHANGE, WILDFIRE AND A MESSAGE OF RESILIENCE FROM THE "RIVER OF NO RETURN"



#### **Colden Baxter**

Stream Ecology Center, Department of Biological Sciences Idaho State University



Davis, Baxter, Rosi-Marshall, Pierce, & Crosby Ecosystems 2013

## **Study Location**



Salmon River Basin Frank Church 'River of No Return' Wilderness Area

B. Crosby photo

# Bastion of native biodiversity, complexity and connectivity





#### A landscape on fire



NASA MODIS image August 12, 2007



## Post-fire trajectories...changing?



## Post-fire: Limited conifer regrowth?



#### Mortar Creek Fire, Burned 1979, Photo 2012

### Dramatic changes in physical habitat...



#### (2015) > 7m channel incision

#### (2000) pre-fire wetted edge

# Divergent Riparian Regrowth...



### Divergent Riparian Regrowth...



# Retaining relatively open canopy, or...

# Rapidly regaining closed canopy



- Resistance & resilience
- Is the "mid-term" the new "long-term" state?
- Are changes
- reversible or no?
- We can't tell without
- long term studies...



Gunderson & Holling 2001

# Need for decadal-scale studies... 30-yr monitoring – started by G.W. Minshall



## Time series - Periphyton & Invertebrates



Davis, Baxter et al. Fresh. Biol. 2013; Rugenski & Minshall Ecosphere 2014





Multi-trophic level responses mediated by riparian regrowth & light



Matt Schenk, M.S. student

Schenk et al In prep.

# 2X terrestrial invert subsidy of salmonids under closed canopy



Schenk et al In prep.

## ...which may mediate "top-down" control


...paired stream findings corroborated by 12 stream, basin-wide comparison

# Best models: (for fish biomass)

- light
- nutrients
- invert biomass



Schenk et al In prep.

### Responses "reverberate" between land and water



Baxter et al. Fresh. Biol. 2005

### Rachel Malison, former M.S. student



Malison & Baxter. 2010. Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.

### via emerging insects, responses extend to riparian wildlife

Malison & Baxter. 2010. Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.





## **Bird responses**

High severity burn sites...

- Greater overall abundance & richness
- Greater incidence of riparian obligates

(e.g., dippers) & fly-catchers

Low severity burn and unburned sites...

- Greater incidence of generalists (e.g., crows)



Mazeika Sullivan & Kerri Veirling

#### THE ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF SEVERE WILDFIRES: SOME LIKE IT HOT

RICHARD L. HUTTO<sup>1</sup>

Hutto, Eco Apps 2008

#### Jackson, Malison, Sullivan & Baxter, 2015

### Network dynamics & the "fire pulse"



Export of habitatforming sediment and wood

Export of insects from tributaries disturbed by fire & debris flows?



## Network dynamics & the "fire pulse"

Hannah Harris, M.S. student



# Burned + debris flow (n = 5)





### Disturbance increases insect export from tributaries to mainstem





Harris, Baxter & Davis 2016 Freshwater Science

## Fish Use of Confluences



Harris, Baxter & Davis Aquat. Sci. 2018



- Confluence habitat proportionally small
- Strong selection for confluences
- Preference for confluences with disturbed tribs

### Other signs of resilience...



Riparian veg responses mediated by wolfungulate interactions?

## **Summary & Discussion**

- Post- severe wildfire "pulse" of productivity may extend more than a decade
- Trajectory of riparian regrowth and light regime mediate longer term patterns in post-fire productivity
- Effects reverberate between land & water and propagate through networks (e.g., debris flows)
- Some signs point to state changes, but what most would consider "positive" rather than "doomsday"
- Overall, message of resistance and resilience in face of dramatic disturbance
- "Time will tell..."

# **Management Discussion**

- additional lines of evidence...
- warming of central Idaho headwater streams slow; role as "climate refugia" Isaak et al. 2016. PNAS
- pulses of juv anadromous salmonids from these drainages post-fire Copeland et al. 2017, pers. comm.
- low salmon returns driven by "out of basin" impacts; notably Snake River dams Thurow et al. 2016; pers. comm.

Slow climate velocities of mountain streams portend their role as refugia for cold-water biodiversity

Daniel J. Isaak<sup>a,1</sup>, Michael K. Young<sup>b</sup>, Charles H. Luce<sup>a</sup>, Steven W. Hostetler<sup>c</sup>, Seth J. Wenger<sup>d</sup>, Erin E. Peterson<sup>e</sup>, Jay M. Ver Hoef<sup>f</sup>, Matthew C. Groce<sup>a</sup>, Dona L. Horan<sup>a</sup>, and David E. Nagel<sup>a</sup>



## **Management Discussion**

- no need to "fortify" against natural effects of wildfire especially in wilderness
- such actions (in name of "forest health") may be misplaced and erroneously credited as restoration or mitigation
- could be diversions from addressing actual problems
- may even have unforeseen, undesired effects





# **Management Discussion**

- "manage for the mess" J. Sedell
- preserve dynamism, processes that create and maintain complexity in nature (habitat and organisms)
- these are keys to resilience and adaptive capacity in face of climate change





## Acknowledgments

### **ISU Stream Ecology Center**

- Dr. G. Wayne Minshall
- Pre-2005 J. Barger, J. Davis, P. Dey, K. Harris, P. Hulet, J. Hopkins, A. Kleven, P. Koetsier, D. Lawrence, J. Mann, T. Mihuc, J. Minshall, M. Monaghan, J. Morris, D. Moser, C. Myler, S. Owen, A. Prussian, H. Ray, C. Relyea, S. Relyea, C. Robinson, T. Royer, J. Schomberg, E. Snyder, R. Snyder, S. Thomas, L. VanEvery, R. Vannote, J. Varricchione
- Post-2005 R. Blackadar, A. Bell, J. Benjamin, J. R. Bellmore, K. Behn, J. Cornell, K. Crismon, B. Crosby, J. Davis, A. Eckersell, T. Gardner, J. Giersch, S. Godsey, H. Harris, K. Heinrich, M. Lamb, M. Lyon, R. Malison, R. Martin, S. Owen, J. Ortiz, N. Olsen, J. Paris, M. Scharer, M. Schenk, M. Ventura, I. Verkaik

### Funding & Support

DeVlieg Foundation, National Science Foundation, US Forest Service, Idaho State University, James Morris Endowment, Taylor Wilderness Research Station



# **Submerged aquatic vegetation and its potential effect on salmonid cold-water refuges** Francine Mejia<sup>1</sup>, Christian Torgersen<sup>1</sup>, Eric Berntsen<sup>2</sup>, and Joseph

<sup>1</sup>USGS Forest and Rangeland Ecosystem Science Center, Cascadia Field Station, Seattle, Washington, USA <sup>2</sup>Kalispel Tribe Natural Resources Department, Usk, Washington, USA

 $Maroney^2$ ,





# How does submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) potentially influence fish habitat?

(Vilas et al. 2017)

- SAV can influence many physicochemical aspects of the aquatic environment:
- Light penetration
- Water temperature
- Water velocity
- Fine sediments
- Phosphorus cycling
- Dissolved oxygen



# What is a thermal refuge?

Areas that may be either cold or warm in relation to the surrounding water.

**Cold-water refuge** = a thermal refuge in the summer that is colder than the surrounding water.



Primer -- Torgersen et al 2012



# How does submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) potentially influence cold-water refuge?



Source: Raymond Ostlie

Westslope cutthroat trout



Source: Western native trout initiative



Trout needs

- High DO
- Cool temperatures
- Flowing water

### SAV creates conditions with

- Lower DO
- Warm temperatures
- Slow moving water

# **Study Goal**



# Evaluate how removal of SAV influences water temperature and dissolved oxygen

# **Hypotheses:**

1) Dense SAV areas exhibit stronger vertical temperature gradients and have lower bottom dissolved oxygen than areas without SAV (open).

2) Areas where SAV is removed exhibit **weaker vertical temperature gradients** and **have higher bottom dissolved oxygen** (more like open areas).

# **Study Area**

### Pend Oreille River Aug 9 – Aug 12



WA

### Renshaw Creek rkm 65.9 (2017)







Bottom SAV Surface SAV Bottom Open Surface Open



8/28

Date/Time

8/29

8/30

8/27

8/26



# **Methods**

PME miniDOT logger dissolved oxygen/temperature HOBO pendant<sup>®</sup> temperature/light data logger







### Nitrogen & Phosphorus



Water velocity using an Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ACDP)











# Proximity and spatial arrangement of treatment types





## Proximity and spatial arrangement of treatment types



# Placement of logger in the water column – proximity to sediment



# **Preliminary Conclusions**

• Pilot study. Need to collect more data to tease out bottom DO dynamics.

• Work around logistical issues (e.g. vandalism, reservoir fluctuations).

 Enhancement of cold-water refuges likely need more than just removing SAV. Need to understand the existing preferential path as well.

## Acknowledgements

Angel Klock University of Washington Tyler Klock, Volunteer Ken Merrill, Kalispel Natural Resources Department Darren Reeves, Kalispel Natural Resources Department Darren Lantzer, Tshimakain Creek Labs





O Ave DO

#### ≊USGS


#### Minimal differences in water temperature



# Dissolved oxygen gradient steepest at dense patches of SAV



O= Open S= SAV



# Lower/Middle Columbia River - Cold Water Refuges Project

Peter Leinenbach – EPA Region 10 May 1, 2018

Brief overview of <u>some</u> of the technical efforts

Many, many people are working on this project



# Project Background

- NMFS 2015 Jeopardy Biological Opinion on EPA's Approval of Oregon's Temperature Water Quality Standards
- Oregon Columbia & Lower Willamette River Temperature Criteria
  - 20C numeric criteria, plus
  - Cold Water Refugia (CWR) narrative criteria
    - "must have CWR that's sufficiently distributed so as to allow salmon and steelhead migration without significant adverse effects from higher temperatures elsewhere in the water body"
    - "CWR means those portions of a water body where, or times during the diel cycle when, the water temperature is at least 2C colder than the daily maximum temperature of the adjacent well mixed flow of the water body"
- NMFS concluded CWR narrative criteria is not an effective criteria due to lack of implementation
  - Jeopardy for Steelhead (LCR, UWR, MCR, UCR, SRB); Chinook (LCR, UWR); Sockeye (SR); SR Killer Whales
  - Reasonable and Prudent Alterative (RPA) EPA develop a Columbia River Cold Water Refuges Plan by November 2018

# Background - EPA Columbia River CWR Plan

- 1. Map and characterize the CWR areas in the Lower Columbia River
- 2. Characterize the extent to which salmon and steelhead use CWR
- 3. Assess whether current CWR is sufficient to meet Oregon's narrative criteria
- 4. Identify actions to protect, restore, or enhance CWR

# EPA Columbia River CWR Plan

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#### Predicted August Daily Average Stream Temperature (1993 – 2011) - NorWeST







#### **Observed Values**



and the Columbia River						
Site Name	June	July	August September			
Tributary #18 – Grays River	4.2	5.1	6.4	6.4		
Tributary #30 – Elochoman River	0.5	2.0	2.5	4.6		
Tributary #37 – Clatskanie River	No Data	1.8	3.3	5.5		
Tributary #38 – Mill Creek	4.3	4.9	6.4	7.0		
Tributary #40 – Abernethy Creek	No Data	4.6	5.5	6.0		
Tributary #41 – Germany Creek	3.7	3.7	5.2	6.2		
Tributary #49 – Cowlitz River	No Data	4.1	5.8	5.8		
Tributary #52 – Kalama River	4.8	4.1	5.4	6.3		
Tributary #62 – Multnomah Channel	-0.4	-1.8	-0.9	-0.6		
Tributary #70 – Willamette River	-0.1	-1.2	-0.9	0.4		
Tributary #77 – Sandy River	1.6	0.9	2.8	3.8		
Tributary #78 – Washougal River	1.8	0.3	2.2	3.8		
Tributary #83 – Bridal Veil Creek	6.4	7.5	9.0	8.4		
Tributary #85 – Wahkeena Creek	6.2	8.8	10.9	10.0		
Tributary #88 – Woodward Creek	4.7	6.2	7.6	6.6		
Tributary #88b – Hamilton Creek	4.3	4.9	5.8	5.8		
Tributary #91 – Tanner Creek	5.8	7.7	9.3	9.2		
Tributary #92 – Eagle Creek	4.3	3.9	5.2	6.0		
Tributary #94 – Rock Creek	2.7	2.7	3.7	4.7		
Tributary #96 – Herman Creek	4.3	7.2	9.2	8.9		
Tributary #100 – Wind River	2.7	4.6	6.6	7.3		
Tributary #112 – LWS River	6.3	7.6	9.1	8.4		
Tributary #115 – White Salmon River	4.7	8.0	10.4	10.2		
Tributary #116 – Hood River	3.7	4.4	5.8	6.9		
Tributary #119 – Rock Creek	0.2	3.1	5.1	6.3		
Tributary #120 – Mosier Creek	0.8	0.8	2.5	4.3		
Tributary #123 – Major Creek	-1.3	-0.9	1.6	4.3		
Tributary #125 – Klickitat River	2.5	2.6	4.7	6.0		
Tributary #127 – Chenoweth Creek	-1.4	-0.1	1.5	4.1		
Tributary #127a – Mill Creek	-1.3	0.3	1.8	3.7		
Tributary #129 – 15 Mile Creek	-1.1	-0.7	1.8	4.1		
Tributary #135 – Deschutes River	-1.6	0.4	2.9	3.7		
Tributary #147 – John Day River	-5.0	-3.9	-1.2	1.0		
Tributary #153 – Rock Creek	-1.2	1.0	2.1	2.6		
Tributary #159 – Chapman Creek	-0.3	1.8	3.8	4.4		
Tributary #166 – Pine Creek	-0.1	1.1	2.6	3.2		
Tributary #167 – Willow Creek	-4.1	-0.5	2.2	4.3		
Tributary #170 – Alder Creek	-1.6	0.3	2.8	4.2		
Tributary #176 – Umatilla River	-2.7	-3.0	0.0	1.9		
Tributary #188 – Walla Walla River	-4.3	-6.0	-2.5	1.3		

# Screening Criteria to Identify Potential CWR Tributaries

- August mean temperatures at least 2°C cooler than Columbia River and August mean flow greater than 10 cfs
- Added small cold tributaries (August mean of 16°C or cooler and August mean flow 7-10 cfs)
- Added larger rivers (Aug. mean flow 10 cfs or greater) that have periods of time at least 2°C cooler than Columbia River
- Removed tributaries that have limited or no access to the cold water plume



# EPA Columbia River CWR Plan

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# EPA Columbia River CWR Plan

- 1. Map and characterize the CWR areas in the Lower Columbia River
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- 3. Assess whether current CWR is **sufficient** to meet Oregon's narrative criteria

#### 4. Identify actions to protect, restore, or enhance CWR

**Sufficiency** is determined through the application of the HexSim model developed by EPA Corvallis ORD staff

Several HexSim model inputs were developed by EPA Regional staff

- Potential CWR locations,
- Volume and temperature associated with these CWR areas

### Estimating CWR Plume Volume – CorMix Modeling





Assess whether current CWR is sufficient to meet Oregon's narrative criteria

Results used in HexSim model development

#### Estimating CWR Plume Volume – Modeled from Field Data



Results used in HexSim model development

### Estimating CWR Plume Volume – Modeled from Field Data















### Estimating CWR Plume Volume – Modeled from Field Data

Table 1. "Cold" water volume (m<sup>3</sup>), within specific temperature ranges, observed at the confluence zone between several sampled tributaries and Columbia River during the summers of 2016 and 2017

River and Sample Date	Less than 16*C	Between 16*C and 18*C	Between 18*C and 20*C
Elochoman Slough 8/18/2016	0	0	0
Washougal River 8/16/2016	0	0	0
Rock Creek 8/17/2016	0	0	8,845
Wind River 8/15/2016	0	20,390	123,616
Little White Salmon River 8/17/2016	90,723	440,801	1,267,874
Herman Creek 8/16/2017	30,499	36,558	68,583

Results used in HexSim model development

### **Estimating CWR Riverine Volume**

Tributary CWR Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)

= Stream Length (SL) providing CWR habitat for Columbia River migratory salmonids (m) \* Average Tributary Cross Sectional Area ( $\overline{A}$ ) within this designated area ( $m^2$ )

 $\bar{A} = \frac{Stream \, Discharge \, {\binom{m^3}{s}}}{Stream \, Velocity \, {\binom{m}{s}}}$ 

Table 1. Estimated Potential Riverine Cold Water Refugia Volume							
Tributary Code	Tributary Name	Stream Length Providing CWR Habitat (m)	Average August Stream Discharge (m³/s)	Average August Stream Velocity (m/s)	Potential Riverine CWR Volume (m³)		
28	Skamokawa Creek	317	0.57	0.17	1,033		
38	Mill Creek	283	0.29	0.19	446		
40	Abernethy Creek	337	0.29	0.12	806		
41	Germany Creek	329	0.24	0.18	446		
49	Cowlitz River	1,764	102.86	0.27	684,230		
52	Kalama River	1,932	7.48	0.25	57,089		
63	Lewis River	2,549	40.12	0.21	493,455		
77	Sandy River	1,763	13.29	0.18	129,372		

#### Information used in HexSim model development



### Information used in HexSim model development

						Plume CWR	Stream CWR	Total CWR
	River	Mainstem	Tributary	Temp	Tributary	Volume	Volume	Volume
Tributary Name	Mile	Temp <sup>1</sup>	Temp <sup>2</sup>	Difference	Flow <sup>3</sup>	$(>2^{\circ}C \Delta)^4$	(> 2°C ∆) <sup>5</sup>	(>2°C ∆)
		°C	°C	°C	cfs	m3	m3	m3
Skamokawa Creek	30.9	21.3	16.2	-5.1	23	450	1,033	1,483
Mill Creek	51.3	21.3	14.5	-6.8	10	110	446	556
Abernethy Creek	51.7	21.3	15.7	-5.6	10	81	806	887
Germany Creek	53.6	21.3	15.4	-5.9	8	72	446	518
Cowlitz River	65.2	21.3	16.0	-5.4	3634	870,000	684,230	1,554,230
Kalama River	70.5	21.3	16.3	-5.0	314	14,000	57,089	71,089
Lewis River	84.4	21.3	16.6	-4.8	1291	120,000	493,455	613,455
Sandy River	117.1	21.3	18.8	-2.5	469	9,900	129,372	139,272
Washougal River <sup>6</sup>	117.6	21.3	19.2	-2.1	107	740	32,563	33,303
Bridal Veil Creek	128.9	21.3	11.7	-9.6	7	120	0	120
Wahkeena Creek	131.7	21.3	13.6	-7.7	15	220	0	220
Oneonta Creek	134.3	21.3	13.1	-8.2	29	820	54	874
Tanner Creek	140.9	21.3	11.7	-9.6	38	1,300	413	1,713
Bonneville Dam								
Eagle Creek	142.7	21.2	15.1	-6.1	72	2,100	888	2,988
Rock Creek <sup>6</sup>	146.6	21.2	17.4	-3.8	47	530	1,178	1,708
Herman Creek	147.5	21.2	12.0	-9.2	45	168,000	1,698	169,698
Wind River	151.1	21.2	14.5	-6.7	293	60,800	44,420	105,220
Little White Salmon River	158.7	21.2	13.3	-7.9	88	1,097,000	4,126	1,101,126
White Salmon River	164.9	21.2	15.7	-5.5	715	72,000	81,529	153,529
Hood River	165.7	21.4	15.5	-5.9	374	28,000	0	28,000
Klickitat River	176.8	21.4	16.4	-5.0	851	73,000	149,029	222,029
The Dalles Dam					1			
Deschutes River	200.8	21.4	19.2	-2.2	4772	300,000	580,124	880,124
John Day Dam								
Umatilla River <sup>6</sup>	284.7	20.9	20.8	-0.1	169	0	46,299	46,299

# **HexSim Modeling**

Refuge use has many benefits, but also presents some risks.

Quantifying consequences of refuge use is difficult.

Evaluating impacts on the population level dynamics is even harder.

Constructed the HexSim mechanistic model to conduct virtual experiment that rank proposed management action on salmon and steeelhead, for both individuals and populations.

Marcía Snyder, Nathan Schumaker (OSU), Joseph Ebersole, and Randy Comeleo EPA ORD Corvalis





HexSim uses bioenergetics equations to keep track of the available energy for a fish.

The equations take into account the fish weight and thermal exposure.



HexSim is an individual based model used to model patchy landscapes

The individuals in HexSim move through a landscape of hexagons



## HexSim Riverscape: temperature

Thermal regimes (and other simulation model inputs) can be characterized by tributaries, their plumes, and the Columbia River.



# HexSim-Fish Model Overview



# **Behavioral Decision Tree**



Individual salmon and steelhead enter the model with associated characteristics.

## **HexSim Simulation Outcomes**

Track individual exposure through space and time

- Measure cumulative exposure and impacts to multiple stresses
- Aggregate individual outcomes to the population scale

How do the costs and benefits of cold water refuges manifest at population and landscape scales?



# **Temperature Time Series**



# **Effect of Density**



Total individuals per refuge through time for steelhead and chinook combined. Effective density per refuge through time for steelhead and chinook combined.

# **Energy Use**



# **Fish Fitness Model Outcomes**



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### Calculate Stream Temperature using the SSN Model (NorWeST)



### NorWeST Spatial Covariates

- 1) Air Temperature
- 2) Stream Discharge
- 3) Elevation
- 4) Latitude
- 5) Canopy %
- 6) Cumulative drainage area
- 7) Stream Slope %
- 8) Mean annual precipitation
- 9) Base Flow index (BFI)
- 10)Glacier %
- 11)Lake %
- 12)Tailwater (Y/N)

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- 12)Tailwater (Y/N)


	~!	1 01 1
Temp	Change	by Shade

How does altering riparian shade affect stream temperature?

	Торо.	Pres.	Pot.
Pres.	Pres./	Pres./	Pres./
	Topo.	Pres.	Pot.
2040	2040/	2040/	2040
	Topo.	Pres.	/Pot.
2080	2080/	2080/	2080/
	Topo.	Pres.	Pot.

#### **Topographic Shade and Present Climate**



Matthew Fuller, and Naomi Detenbeck (EPA ORD Narraganset), and Dan Isaak (USFS)

# Temp Change by Climate

How will future climate shifts affect stream temperature?

	Торо.	Pres.	Pot.
Pres.	Pres./	Pres./	Pres./
	Topo.	Pres.	Pot.
2040	2040/	2040/	2040
	Topo.	Pres.	/Pot.
2080	2080/	2080/	2080/
	Topo.	Pres.	Pot.

Present Veg. Shade and Present Climate



Matthew Fuller, and Naomi Detenbeck (EPA ORD Narraganset), and Dan Isaak (USFS)

### Calculate Stream Temperature using the SSN Model (NorWeST)

All tributaries (198)

#### LOWER-COLUMBIA

n=116 Largest: Willamette

#### **MID-COLUMBIA**

n=82 Largest: Deschutes



Potential Input into the HexSim Model

# Individual Tributary Management



Pres.

2040

2080

**Potential Input into the HexSim Model** 

### Currently we are starting the "what if" runs with the HexSim Model

Thank You

# Extra Slides

### Big Cold Small Cold RARE Project

Vs.



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dT_i}{dt} &= \frac{Q_{i-1}}{V_i} T_{i-1} - \frac{Q_i}{V_i} T_i - \frac{Q_{ab,i}}{V_i} T_i + \frac{E_{i-1}}{V_i} (T_{i-1} - T_i) + \frac{E_i}{V_i} (T_{i+1} - T_i) \\ &+ \frac{W_{h,i}}{\rho_w C_{pw} V_i} \left( \frac{\mathrm{m}^3}{\mathrm{10}^6 \mathrm{\,cm}^3} \right) + \frac{J_{h,i}}{\rho_w C_{pw} H_i} \left( \frac{\mathrm{m}}{\mathrm{100 \, cm}} \right) + \frac{J_{s,i}}{\rho_w C_{pw} H_i} \left( \frac{\mathrm{m}}{\mathrm{100 \, cm}} \right) \end{aligned}$$



### Calculate Effective Shade using Methods Presented at 2016 NWMod meeting





### Calculate Effective Shade using Methods Presented at 2016 NWMod meeting



Identify actions to protect, restore, or enhance CWR

50

### Calculate Stream Temperature using the SSN Model (NorWeST)





### Calculate Stream Temperature using the SSN Model (NorWeST)









### CITY OF BOISE 316(A) DEMONSTRATION PROJECT FOR IDAHO POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (IPDES) PERMITS

Dorene MacCoy, Water Quality Environmental Coordinator, Public Works Department Darcy Sharp, Environmental Data Analyst, Public Works Department

# AGENDA

- Area overview
  - Receiving water Lower Boise River
  - Water Renewal Facilities Lander Street and West Boise
  - Temperature discharge limits
  - Need for thermal variance
- 316(a) thermal variance
- Temperature data
- Temperature modeling
- Biological data
- Demonstration results

- North Fork
- Middle Fork
- South Fork
- Reservoirs/irrigation
  - Diversion Dam/NY Canal - 1909
  - Arrowrock 1915
  - Anderson Ranch 1950
  - Lucky Peak 1955





data > Re:

## **CITY** of **BOISE**

# **MULTIPLE USES**



















# LOWER BOISE RIVER





Overview

### **CITY** of **BOISE**

## Water Renewal Facilities

Lander Street Water Renewal Facility

#### West Boise Water Renewal Facility







# **DISCHARGE PERMIT LIMITS**

#### Idaho water quality standards (Integrated impairment status report)

- Beneficial use support
- Cold Water Criteria max 22°C, max daily average 19°C
- Salmonid Spawning Criteria max weekly max 13°C, Nov 1 May 30.

#### Antidegradation policy and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

- Temperature impaired Veterans Bridge to mouth (4 segments)
- Protect existing uses

#### Discharge mixing zone criteria

- Plume 2 seconds from discharge max 32°C, >5% of cross-section >25°C, >25% of cross-section >21°C
- Plume in spawning areas max weekly max 13°C, during spawning no increase >0.3°C

# DISCHARGE PERMIT LIMITS CONT.

#### Lander Street

### Existing thermal limits (°C)

To be met by Aug 2022 (10 years after permit issuance)

#### West Boise

### Existing thermal limits (°C)

To be met by Aug 2022 (10 years after permit issuance)

These limits proved to be more restrictive than necessary

Date	Max Wkly Max	Ave Daily limit	Max limit
Nov – April 30	15.8	NA	NA
May	16.4	NA	NA
July 16 – Sept 30	NA	19.0	22.0
October	NA	22.2	27.3
Date	Max Wkly Max	Ave Daily limit	Max limit
Nov 1 – March 31	13.5	NA	NA
Nov 1 – March 31 April	13.5 13.3	NA NA	NA NA
Nov 1 – March 31 April May	13.5 13.3 13.5	NA NA NA	NA NA NA
Nov 1 – March 31 April May June 1 – July 15	13.5 13.3 13.5 NA	NA NA NA 22.6	NA NA NA 26.1
Nov 1 – March 31 April May June 1 – July 15 July 16 – Sept 30	13.5 13.3 13.5 NA NA	NA NA NA 22.6 19.0	NA NA NA 26.1 22.0

# WHY THERMAL VARIANCE?



athogen 200

ent en



Turbidity



ata 🔪 Result



# **ALTERNATIVE THERMAL LIMITS**

Requested (using current and predicted air temperature and instream temperatures upstream and down stream of the water renewal facilities)

Date	Lander daily max <sup>0</sup> C	West Boise daily max <sup>0</sup> C
Jan - March	23.3	18.8
April - June	25.8	24.5
July - Sept	25.1	25.4
Oct - Dec	26.0	23.3

data 💙 Res



# 316(A) THERMAL VARIANCE

Alternative thermal effluent limits (ATEL) must be protective

- Protect Balanced Indigenous Community (BIC)
- Demonstration 1 no prior appreciable harm to BIC
- Demonstration 2 proposed ATELs will be protective of BIC and representative important species (RIS) in the future

aldata 🗲 I

# **TEMPERATURE DATA**





# HEAT LOAD





# **TEMPERATURE MODELING**

- CORMIX plume model
  - Meets mixing zone criteria
- StreamTemp river model
  - No exceedances of Representative Important Species
  - 95<sup>th</sup> percentile low flow year—CWAL average exceedances with or without effluent

Stream Temperature of Lower Boise River Downstream of West Boise WRF Predicted in an Extreme Low Flow Year





# **ENVIRONMENTAL HEAT SOURCES**

- Air Temperature
- Channel Morphology
- Shade
- Diffuse Sources
  - Groundwater
  - Overland Runoff





# **RIVER DISCHARGE**

≊USGS USGS 13206000 BOISE RIVER AT GLENWOOD BRIDGE NR BOISE ID second Median daily statistic (35 years) Period of approved data Discharge — Period of provisional data

Discharge, cubic feet per

# **BIOLOGICAL DATA**

#### Sampling reaches

- Boise River below Eckert Road (Eckert)
- Boise River above Glenwood Bridge (Glenwood)
- Boise River near Middleton (Middleton)
- Boise River at Caldwell (Caldwell)
- Boise River at the Mouth (Mouth)



# **MACROINVERTEBRATE DATA**



# MACROINVERTEBRATE DATA CONT.





# **REPRESENTATIVE IMPORTANT SPECIES**

Native cold-water fish



# RESULTS

- Flow alteration and habitat loss affect biological communities
- Alternative thermal effluent limits (ATELs) are protective
- Balanced Indigenous Community (BIC) is protected
- Demonstration 1 no prior appreciable harm to BIC
- Demonstration 2 proposed ATELs will be protective of BIC and representative important species (RIS) in the future

# **NEXT STEPS**

- Continuous temperature monitoring
- Biological Community assessment 3 to 5 year interval
- Habitat assessment 3 to 5 year interval
- Continue to investigate WRF temperature reduction
- Discharge reduction and water reuse

# THANK YOU

Dorene MacCoy Water Quality Environmental Coordinator City of Boise Public Works Department dmaccoy@cityofboise.org 208-608-7515

Darcy Sharp Environmental Data Analyst City of Boise Public Works Department dsharp@cityofboise.org 208-608-7538



## That Lower Priest River's so hot right now: Describing thermal heterogeneity in a dam-influenced river

Eric Berntsen and Todd Andersen Kalispel Tribe Natural Resources Department

Francine Mejia and Christian Torgersen U.S. Geological Survey






# To describe the spatial and temporal thermal heterogeneity in the lower Priest River



# Mechanisms that induce thermal diversity

B. L. KURYLYK et al.





### Kalispel Adjudicated Lands





# Study area



# rkm 70





# Near confluence with Pend Oreille River

# Temperature decreases downstream (from Berger et al. 2014)







### Binarch Creek





## **Methods - Temperature loggers** (June 26 - Sep 3, 2018)

70

66

64

Ν

n = 36

29 24

(16

<u>10 km</u>



#### August 21, 2018 hermal profiling



Attached tow line Probe top to show hole for bolt Attached bolt Bolt Flexable conduit Top. Container bottom 8 1 8 Assembled Wrapped Probe container neoprene

From Vaccaro and Maloy 2006

handle



# Thermal profiling – August 21, 2018





### Hottest day sampled - August 10, 2018 (Maximum air temperature 40°C)



Upstream

### n = 36

#### Water temperature (°C)



# Longitudinal profile –August 10, 2018



# Longitudinal profile –August 10, 2018







Time/Distance



Notes indicate that volunteers passed 100+ fish off rock bank!

# Implications

- Helps inform efforts to preserve, augment, and/or create thermal heterogeneity
- Provides information for developing a Temperature Total Maximum Daily Load for the Lower Priest River



# Acknowledgments



**Trout Unlimited** Panhandle Chapter Sean Stash, IPNF Idaho Master Naturalists Angel Klock and Zach Johnson, University of Washington David Bluff, Darren Reeves, Jim LeMieux, Mike Lithgow, Kalispel Tribe Department Natural Resources







# Questions?

### A Biological Condition Gradient (BCG) Model for Benthic Macroinvertebrate Assemblages in Puget Lowland & Willamette Valley Streams



Presented by: Robert Plotnikoff, Snohomish County Public Works Chad Larson, Washington Department of Ecology

Pacific Northwest Chapter – Society for Freshwater Science Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Ketchum, ID

# Acknowledgements

### **Construction and Calibration of the Puget Lowlands and Willamette Valley BCG**

### Thank You - A Team Effort!

#### **Tetra Tech**

Jen Stamp Jeroen Gerritsen Erik Leppo

#### **US EPA**

Susan Jackson Gretchen Hayslip (ret) Britta Bierwagen



Organization	Expert Panelist	
Oregon Department of Environmental Quality	Shannon Hubler	
Washington Department of Ecology	Chad Larson	
King County	Kate Macneale	
Snohomish County	Rob Plotnikoff	
Rhithron Associates, Inc.	Sean Sullivan	
EcoAnalysts, Inc.	John Pfeiffer	
Aquatic Biology Associates	Bob Wisseman	
Cole Ecological, Inc.	Mike Cole	
Apolysis, LLC	Rick Hafele	
US Geological Survey	Ian Waite	
US Environmental Protection Agency	Dave Peck	
(USEPA) Office of Research and Development (ORD)	Ryan Hill	
Oregon State University	Alan Herlihy	
Portland State University	Patrick Edwards	

# Outline

- **1. BCG Overview**
- 2. Calibration and Development
- **3. Historical Conditions**
- 4. Practical Uses for State and Local Governments
- 5. Future Work and Expansion of the PS & WL BCG
- 6. R Tool Development



# **OVERVIEW**



Effects of human disturbance

# **The Biological Condition Gradient (BCG)**

A scientific framework for identifying biological response to anthropogenic stress.

### The Building Blocks of the BCG

- Longstanding, accepted science
- Measurable and predictable
- Based on bioassessments
- Generalized scale
- Fixed anchor to minimize shifting baseline
- Biologically meaningful and robust thresholds
- Expert ecological judgement

# **Key Concepts**

### The BCG has two key concepts

1) Attributes

*measurable components of a biological system* (Karr and Chu 1999) Examples  $\rightarrow$  Organism condition, pollution tolerance

### 2) Levels

Levels are the discrete levels of biological condition across a stressor-response gradient

Example:

Level 1 = undisturbed, pristine;

Level 6 = severely degraded

## **BCG Attributes**

Attribute	Description
I	Historically documented, sensitive, long-lived, or regionally endemic taxa
II	Highly sensitive taxa
111	Intermediate sensitive taxa
IV	Intermediate tolerant taxa
V	Tolerant taxa
VI	Non-native or intentionally introduced species
VII	Organism condition
VIII	Ecosystem function
IX	Spatial and temporal extent of detrimental effects
X	Ecosystem connectance

# **BCG Levels**

- 1. Natural structural, functional and taxonomic integrity
- 2. Structure and function *similar to natural community* with some additional taxa and biomass or the first detectable shifts in expected composition. Ecosystem level functions fully maintained.
- **3.** Evident changes in community structure with loss of some highly sensitive native taxa & shifts in relative abundance. Ecosystem level functions fully maintained.
- 4. Ecosystem functions *largely* maintained, but some sensitive ubiquitous taxa replaced by more tolerant taxa.
- **5.** *Reduced* ecosystem function, with diminished sensitive taxa, unbalanced distribution of major taxonomic groups and organisms showing signs of physiological stress
- 6. Extreme changes in structure and ecosystem function with wholesale changes in taxonomic composition and poor organism condition

# The BCG: biological response to increasing stress

Levels of Biological Condition



water chemistry as naturally occurs.

Chemistry, habitat, and/or flow regime severely altered from natural conditions.

# **The BCG Process**

- 1. Identify participants and expert panel
- 2. Compile data
- 3. Assign BCG attributes to taxa
  - Perform analyses to help inform assignments
  - 4. Assign BCG levels to samples
- 5. Develop & refine BCG rules
- 6. Assess BCG model performance
  - Calibration
  - Confirmation
- 7. Automated BCG model (with narrative decision rules) that assigns BCG levels to samples

#### Iterative –

These steps are revisited throughout the process

# **BCG CALIBRATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

Narrative Levels and Attributes  $\rightarrow$  Ecoregional Numeric Decision Rules

## **Assigning Samples to BCG Levels**



Describe why you make an assignment, in BCG terms – e.g., what is missing or present?

Participant	Score	Reasons	
	4-	Doesn't seem as nice as the other greenbrier site (421) its	
Jason		bigger but not much more diversity and seem less	
		balanced	
Royce	6+	Very elevated counts possible nutrient enrichment?	
Rick	4	Presence of introduced taxa lowered my rank.	
Brett	5+	Short taxa list for catchment area. Expect more species of	
		darters, sculpins, and madtoms.	
Mortz	4-	Over half of individuals are att. 5 or 6 taxa, but relatively	
IVIAI K		balanced community	
Ryan	5+	Number of fish suggest a possible nutrient loading/human	
		distrubance nearby, lots of stonerollers	

# **Timeline of BCG Model Development**

### September - December 2016

- Held calls with Steering Committee
- Obtained data and prepared sample worksheets for the BCG workshop
- Held pre-workshop webinars (Dec 8 & 15) to introduce the group to the BCG

### January 10-12, 2017

• Conducted expert workshop in Portland, OR.

### February-September 2017

- Refined taxa attributes, develop decision rules, rated samples.
- Held four webinars to refine decision rules)
- Sent out confirmation samples (June 28)
- Compiled confirmation results, assessed model performance

#### October 2017

- Status update webinar (Thurs Oct 12)
- BCG report
- Climate pilot webinar (Monday Oct 16)

#### November 2017

- PNW-SFS meeting (Nov 7-9); presentation only (no BCG workshop)
- Begin next phase of work with Britta and David (restoration potential, improving resiliency)

#### March 20-22, 2018

Second expert panel meeting (Olympia, WA)

#### Summer/fall 2018

• Finalize deliverables (Version 1 of the BCG model, report, R tool)



One foot of snow in Portland, OR; January 2017

# **Calibration Dataset**



- Puget Lowlands & Willamette Valley Ecoregions
- Streams from Watershed Areas of 1 to 100 mi<sup>2</sup>
- Low and high gradient
- 500-count target
- Lowest practical taxonomic resolution (with some exceptions from early on)
- At least 8 ft<sup>2</sup> sampling area (with some exceptions from earlier years)
- ODEQ, WA ECY and Puget Sound Stream Benthos sampling methods
  - WA ECY method is multi-habitat (random)
  - Other Organizations target riffle/run habitat

Level 3 ecoregion	Entity	# Samples in full calibration dataset	# Samples assessed by experts
Puget Lowland	King County - DNRP	212	35
	Snohomish County	107	7
	Kitsap County	105	2
	WA ECY	91	18
	City of Seattle	64	1
	City of Everett	24	
	City of Redmond	15	
	City of Kirkland	12	
	Snoqualmie Tribe	5	
	City of Bellevue	3	
	City of Issaquah	2	
Willamette Valley	ODEQ	35	21
	Yamhill Basin Council	3	1
	Totals	678	85

### **Characteristics of the Calibration Dataset**


### Drainage Area versus # Total Taxa



- Surprisingly high number of taxa at very small sites!
- Based on plots like this, we did not see reason to adjust expectations based on stream size

## **Slope (Stream Gradient)**





BCG Level (panelist median)



State boundary

177

## Spatial Distribution of Calibration Dataset

Assessed samples (85)

### **Calibration Dataset**

PCC lovel	F	Puget Lowland	ds	Willamette Valley			
BCG level	Low	High	Total	Low	High	Total	
2	4	7	11	0	1	1	
3	8	17	25	2	3	5	
4	5	9	14	2	2	4	
5	2	8	10	5	2	7	
6	1	2	3	4	1	5	
Totals	20	43	63	13	9	22	

Tally of assessed samples (Low & High Gradient Streams)

#### Calibration Dataset by: Ecoregion

- Puget Lowlands 63
- Willamette Valley 22

#### Stream Type

- Low gradient 33
- High gradient 52

#### **Calibration Sites in each BCG Level**

- Level 2 14%
- Level 3 35%
- Level 4 21%
- Level 5 20%
- Level 6 9%

### **Calibrated BCG Level 2 Rules**

BCG level 2: Minimal changes in structure of the biotic community and minimal changes in ecosystem function - virtually all native taxa are maintained with some changes in biomass and/or abundance; ecosystem functions are fully maintained within the range of natural variability. **Numeric Rules Narrative Descriptions** Metric High Low Diverse assemblage with moderate to high numbers of Number of total taxa  $\geq$  30 (25-35) total taxa A fair number of highly sensitive species are present Number of Attribute li+ll taxa > 5 (3-8) A third or more of total taxa belong to one of the three sensitive groups, with slightly higher proportions expected % Attribute li+ll+lll % taxa ≥ 35% (30-40) ≥ 40% (35-45) in higher gradient streams Sensitive taxa comprise a almost a guarter of the % Attribute li+II+III % individuals ≥ 20% (15-25) organisms % Attribute V+VI taxa ≤ 5% (3-7) Tolerant and non-native taxa make up a very small fraction of the organisms (or are absent) % Attribute V+VI individuals ≤ 5% (3-7) Sensitive EPT species are present in high numbers Number of Attribute Ii+II+III EPT taxa ≥ 15 (10-20) Tolerant non-insect taxa comprise a small percentage of % Attribute IV+V+VI non-insect<sup>1</sup>, the individuals (or are absent). Juga and Rissooidea are individuals, excluding Juga and ≤ 15% (10-20) excluded from consideration for reasons described below<sup>2</sup> Rissooidea<sup>2</sup>

### **Calibrated BCG Level 5 Rules**

**BCG level 5:** Major changes in structure of the biotic community and moderate changes in ecosystem function - Sensitive taxa are markedly diminished; conspicuously unbalanced distribution of major groups from that expected; organism condition shows signs of physiological stress; system function shows reduced complexity and redundancy; increased build-up or export of unused materials

		Rules	
Narrative Descriptions	Metric	Low	High
Total richness ranges widely; at a minimum, at least thirteen total taxa are present	Number of total taxa	≥ 13 (8-	-18)
At least -20% of the subsampling target is achieved (in our calibration dataset, the target is 500 organisms; if the target was 300, the rule would be $\ge$ 240 total organisms)	Number of total individuals	≥ 400 (3 410)	390-
At least one EPT taxon is present	Number of EPT taxa	> 0 (0-1	)
Up to a third of total taxa may be tolerant or non-native	% Attribute V+VI taxa	≤ 35% (	(30-40)
Tolerant non-insect individuals comprise up to three-quarters of organisms.	% Attribute IV+V+VI non-insect <sup>1</sup> individuals	≤ 75% (	(70-80)

Numeric

## **Model Performance: Predictive Capacity**

Compared panelist consensus calls to BCG level outputs (automated in Excel, and now R).

- <u>Calibration</u> 97.4% accurate within <u>+</u> 0.5 BCG Level
- <u>Confirmation</u> 100% accurate within <u>+</u> 0.5 BCG Level

				Difference					
-	Stream Type (Gradient)	Dataset	Unit	Model 1 level better	Model 1/2 level better	Exact match	Model 1/2 level worse	Model 1 level worse	Total
		Colibrata	Number		1	29			30
	Low	Canorale	Percent		3.3%	96.7%			100%
	LOW	Confirm	Number			3			3
			Percent			100%			100%
		Calibrate	Number	1	1	41	3	1	47
	Llich		Percent	2.1%	2.1%	87.2%	6.4%	2.1%	100%
	Fign	Confirm	Number			4	1		5
			Percent			80.0%	20%		100%
	Total	Calibrate	Number	1	2	70	3	1	77
			Percent	1.3%	2.6%	<i>90.9%</i>	3.9%	1.3%	
		Confirm	Number			7	1		8
			Percent			87.5%	12.5%		100.0%

## **Historical Conditions**

What do we know about BCG Level 1?



#### **BIOLOGICAL CONDITION GRADIENT: Level I Puget Lowland Ecoregion**

Historical Accounting of Stream Condition in Puget Sound

#### **Quantification of Habitat Loss from Historical Conditions**

#### Magnitude of Change from Reference

- Majority of streams have lost more than 20% of habitat <u>historically accessible</u> (Haring 2002);
- Majority of streams have lost more than 66% of wetted area (Haring 2002);
- Loss of large woody debris (Haring 2002);
- Loss of pool habitat (Haring 2002);
- Degradation or loss of riparian habitat (Haring 2002); and
- Less than 60% of watershed with forest stands aged 25 years or more (Haring 2002)



#### **BIOLOGICAL CONDITION GRADIENT: Level I Puget Lowland Ecoregion**

**Historical Accounting of Stream Condition in Puget Sound** 



#### **Changes in Stream Condition from 1895:**

> 25 times return spawners

> 2.5 times intact area

< 0.5m/sec average water velocity > 3 times the tributary wetted area

Woody debris

- > 1.25 times more useable habitat > 3m tributary stream width
  - **Snohomish Count** R. W. Plotnikoff

#### Pre-EuroAmerican Scenario ca. 1851





Computer simulation of the upper Willamette River and floodplain between Harrisburg and Eugene-Springfield, ca. 1850 and ca. 1990. (From USEPA 2002b).

#### Summary of Changes in Willamette Basin Conditions from 1850 to current (1990 or 2005)



### **Historical Condition Narrative for BCG Level 1**

Streams with high habitat complexity; natural disturbance regimes to refresh micro-habitats; year-round flow without anthropogenic impacts to hydrology, temperature, or water quality; water often dominated by cool-cold water flow from springs, groundwater accretion, and/or natural runoff; high resilience to disturbance including drought and flood extremes; exemplary biological diversity with high taxa richness of rheophilic, lotic-depositional, and micro-habitat specialist macroinvertebrates; non-native invasive species absent; biotic community supports all ecosystem functions.

#### Expanded narrative description of BCG level 1 (by Bob Wisseman, Rick Hafele, and Rob Plotnikoff)

Fundamental	Description		
Characteristics			
Stream channel	Channel connected to hyporheos and flood plain including wetlands, beaver ponds, etc.; diverse habitats present (e.g. braided channels, side channels, debris jams, mixture of steps and pools consistent with stream gradient); wood debris typically present and may be abundant; quality habitat and refugia persists during periods of both low and high stream-		
	flows.		
Riparian & watershed	Riparian zone supports intact community of overstory, understory and groundcover plants (including a mixture of mature conifer and hardwood trees with a diverse age structure in forested watersheds); upper watershed vegetation intact, supporting delivery of water of high chemical and thermal quality to lower reaches.		
Hydrologic regime	Hydrologic regime natural, without alteration from dams and/or irrigation withdrawals or return flow; cool-cold water common from springs, groundwater accretion, and/or natural runoff; perennial surface or subsurface flow. Re-charge in the watershed sustains flow, especially during years of extreme drought. Perennial surface water in some portion of watersheds maintain endemic taxa that serve as recolonization sources sustaining high biodiversity at select locations. These locations promote resiliency in stream reaches that are periodically de- watered.		
Disturbance regime and resilience	Natural seasonal range of high and low stream-flows present, which enhances and maintains channel and habitat complexity. Natural sediment transport based on local geology, soils and stream gradient. High resilience (ability to recover from disturbance) to natural and anthropogenic watershed stressors (Flotemersch et al. 2016). Watershed integrity maintains disturbance levels within ranges tolerable by endemic taxa and promotes connectivity for purpose of recolonization.		
Biodiversity	Benthic macroinvertebrate community typically with high taxa richness, including many micro- habitat specialist taxa and species sensitive to human disturbance. Habitat complexity results in diversity of both rheophilic and lotic-depositional taxa. Non-native, invasive species not present.		
Ecosystem function	Watershed supports full range of ecological processes and functions essential to maintaining high biodiversity provided by a minimally disturbed ecosystem. Food web, nutrient and energy flow linkages between aquatic and terrestrial environments fully supported		

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## **State and Local Government Applications**



#### Applications

- State
  - compare and corroborate with existing B-IBI, RIVPACS tools
  - consider including BCG in 305(b)/303(d) assessment toolbox
  - stressor ID, environmental tolerances, and TMDL studies
  - ID as reporting item in regional studies (e.g., stormwater action monitoring)
- Local
  - Restoration Project Placement
  - Coordination of Capital Improvement Projects within a drainage
  - Identification of local stressors with CADDIS model
  - Effectiveness Monitoring of Salmon Habitat Recovery Projects



## **Future BCG Work**



Probability of Good Condition (NRSA-Design NHD Streams)

## **Pilot projects**

- Addressing climate change by examining strategies for adapting to changing thermal & hydrologic conditions
  - Thermal Impact Checklist
  - Thermal Prediction Models and Taxa Tolerances
- BCG Refinements
  - Integration of ICI and IWI metric suites to populate disturbance gradient
  - Prediction of BCG for unmonitored sites
- Possible extension to other regions:
  - NW Pacific Maritime Region Model



## **BCG** applications







https://github.com/leppott/BCGcalc

#### How does the BCG model work? Like a cascade ...

Example: macroinvertebrate assemblages in high gradient streams (≥ 1% slope) in the Puget Lowlands & Willamette Valley

Samples with <450 total individuals are flagged for further evaluation



Assigned to BCG Level 6

## How does the quantitative model and R Tool work?

Like a cascade...

The BCG model evaluates metric membership values for all the metrics included in the rules for a given BCG level.

We automate the model in Excel.

## **Core Functions**

- metric.values()
  - Calculate MMI and BCG metrics.
- BCG.Metric.Membership()
  - Generate membership for each metric. Requires a table of values.
- BCG.Level.Membership()
  - Uses metric membership and table of values to classify each site's membership for Levels 1 to 6.
- BCG.Level.Assignment()
  - Assign 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Levels by Level membership

### Steps for running the BCG R tool

- 1. Prepare your data input file (save as .csv)
  - SampleID, TaxonID, Count, Excluded, and master taxa attributes (phylogenetic and autecological)
- 2. Use the BCG R tool to
  - Calculate suite of metrics
  - Calculate metric membership values for each BCG level
  - Calculate overall BCG membership values
- 3. Save output as .csv or Excel file

### **Calibrated BCG Level 4 Rules**

**BCG level 4:** Moderate changes in structure of the biotic community and minimal changes in ecosystem function - Moderate changes in structure due to replacement of some intermediate sensitive taxa by more tolerant taxa, but reproducing populations of some sensitive taxa are maintained; overall balanced distribution of all expected major groups; ecosystem functions largely maintained through redundant attributes.

Narrativa Descriptions	Motrio	Numeric Rules		
Narrative Descriptions		Low	High	
Moderate numbers of total taxa	Number of total taxa	≥ 20 (15-25)		
Sensitive taxa occur in reduced numbers but still comprise at least a tenth of the taxa	% Attribute li+II+III % taxa	≥ 10% (5-15)		
Tolerant and non-native taxa comprise up to a quarter of the	% Attribute V+VI taxa	≤ 20% (15- 25)	≤ 15% (10- 20)	
streams.	% Attribute V+VI individuals	≤ 25% (20- 30)	≤ 20% (15- 25)	
At least one sensitive EPT taxon is present	Number of Attribute li+II+III EPT taxa	> 1 (0-3)		
Tolerant non-insect taxa become more prevalent, and may comprise up to a third of the assemblage.	% Attribute IV+V+VI non-insect taxa	≤ 30% (25-35)		
Tolerant non-insect taxa comprise up to half the individuals in low gradient streams and up to a third of the individuals in high gradient streams. Juga and Rissoidea are excluded from consideration for reasons described above <sup>2</sup>	% Attribute IV+V+VI non-insect <sup>1</sup> , individuals, excluding Juga and Rissooidea <sup>2</sup>	≤ 50% (45- 55)	≤ 35% (30- 40)	

#### **Metric membership calculations – example**



Example – the BCG level 4 rule for total taxa richness is  $\geq$  20 (15-25) (the lower bound is 15 and the upper bound is 25).

- If there are 15 or fewer total taxa in the sample, the metric membership value is 0.
- If there are 25 or more total taxa in the sample, the metric membership value is 1.
- If the number of total taxa falls within the lower and upper bounds, the metric membership value will range from 0 to 1 (e.g., if there are 20 total taxa, the membership value will be 0.5; if there are 17 total taxa, the membership value will be 0.2; if there are 23 total taxa, the membership value will be 0.8).

### **Overall BCG level membership**

May include membership of a sample in

- A single level only
  - e.g., probability of membership in BCG level 3 = 1.0
- Two levels (tie)
  - e.g., probability of membership in BCG level 3 = 0.5 and BCG level 4
     = 0.5
- Varying memberships among two or more levels
  - e.g., probability of membership in BCG level 3= 0.8 and probability of membership in BCG level 4 = 0.2.

The level with the highest membership value is taken as the primary level.

## **Thank You!**

## **QUESTIONS**?

#### **Additional Slides**

### **Calibrated BCG Level 3 Rules**

**BCG level 3:** Evident changes in structure of the biotic community and minimal changes in ecosystem function - Some changes in structure due to loss of some rare native taxa; shifts in relative abundance of taxa but intermediate sensitive taxa are common and abundant; ecosystem functions are fully maintained through redundant attributes of the system.

		Metric       Numeric Rules         Low       High         er of total taxa       ≥ 25 (20-30)			
Narrative rules and comments	Metric	Low	High		
Moderate to high numbers of total taxa	Number of total taxa	≥ 25 (20-3	0)		
At least a quarter of the total taxa belong to one of the three sensitive groups	% Attribute li+II+III taxa	≥ 25% (20	-30)		
Sensitive taxa comprise at least a tenth of the individuals	% Attribute li+II+III individuals	≥ 10% (5-1	5)		
Telerant and non-native taxa make up a small fraction of the organisms	% Attribute V+VI taxa	≤ 10% (5-1	5)		
Tolerant and non-native taxa make up a small fraction of the organisms	% Attribute V+VI individuals	< 8% (5-10)			
Sensitive EPT species are present in moderate to high numbers	Number of Attribute Ii+II+III EPT taxa	≥ 9 (6-12)			
Tolerant non-insect taxa comprise a less than a quarter of the assemblage. Slightly higher proportions of non-insect individuals are expected in low versus high gradient streams. Juga and Rissoidea are excluded from consideration for reasons described above <sup>2</sup>	% Attribute IV+V+VI non-insect <sup>1</sup> , individuals, excluding Juga and Rissooidea <sup>2</sup>	≤ 30% (25	-35)		

#### **BIOLOGICAL CONDITION GRADIENT: Level I Puget Lowland Ecoregion**

Historical Accounting of Stream Condition in Puget Sound

# Habitat Characteristics Based on Modeling Results of Steelhead Parr Survival (1895 Conditions)

- Average tributary channel width available for maximum parr production = 3m
- Where tributary meets mainstem:  $\leq 0.5m$  depth &  $\leq 0.5m$ /sec water velocity
- Open canopy and primary productivity enhances BMI response 

  food for fingerlings/juv.
  - **1** parr survival = increased spawners
  - Increased spawners = increased redds
  - Buried eggs are the primary source of marine-derived nutrients benefiting BMI

#### Capacity of the Available Habitat and Loss from Historic Conditions

Direct Effects on Stream Biota

- loss of suitable habitat (Structural Attributes; e.g., <u>Density</u>, No. of Species)
   <u>Indirect Effects</u> on Stream Biota
- conditions that affect population productivity (e.g., Density, Spatial Distribution)



R. W. Plotnikoff

## **Historical Condition for BCG Level 1**

#### Work in Progress: Signal Checklist

- Identify
  - best quality sites that remain
  - provide measure of BCG 1 elements at a site
  - degree to which site conditions reflect Level 1
- Metrics (current exploration)

#### - <u>Ecologic</u>

# attribute li, II taxa, # sensitive EPT, #cold water taxa, # (Heptageniidae, Ephemerellidae, Nemouridae, Perlidae and Rhyacophilidae), habitat specialist (e.g., in low gradient valley streams, high dytiscid diversity)

#### - Physical Habitat, Watershed Condition

Index of Catchment Integrity, Index of Watershed Integrity

CHECKLIST	
?	
?	
2	
?	

#### Preliminary comparison of B-IBI with BCG for sites in Puget Lowlands





# Effects of macrophyte growth and senescence on sediment dynamics in a regulated, low-gradient river

Rob Van Kirk Melissa Muradian Zach Kuzniar Ben Ortman

Henry's Fork Foundation Ashton, Idaho



## **Study Motivation and Questions**



#### Harriman State Park Reach of Henry's Fork

- World-renowned wild Rainbow Trout fishery
- Famous for prolific aquatic insect hatches
- Wide, shallow channel
- Low-gradient: 0.10%
- Embedded gravel substrate
- Minimal riparian vegetation
- Seasonal growth and senescence of macrophytes
- 5 miles downstream of large irrigation reservoir

 How do macrophytes and irrigation management affect fine sediment transport and deposition?
 Can we relate invertebrate assemblage to sediment?





### Study Reach

- 15 miles of river downstream of Island Park Dam
- 4<sup>th</sup>-order reach; mean annual flow 650 cfs
- Drainage basin area: 500 mi<sup>2</sup>
- Unregulated hydrology dominated by groundwater
- Reservoir stores 1/3 of annual basin yield


## Monitoring Sites in Study Reach



Water-quality •YSI sondes, continuous Turbidity Temp., DO, etc. •Weekly samples Nutrients Turbidity Suspended sediment Macroinvertebrates

- •Sample in March
- Quantitative Hess
- •3-6 samples/location
- •Data back to 1992 at upstream site

#### **Previous Results from Study Reach**



#### Macrophytes:

- •Grow Jun-Sep
- •Slow water velocity
- Increase depth
- •Trap sediment
- •Senesce Dec-Mar
- Determine fish habitat

characteristics

Kuzniar et al. 2017. Ecology of Freshwater Fish Vol. 26



## **Sediment Analysis**

- Turbidity-SSC relationship from samples
- Daily SSC from sonde turbidity data
- Streamflow: Island Park Dam and Buffalo River
- Streamflow at reach bottom ≈ sum of these
- Load = SSC concentration × streamflow
- Net reach transport = load at bottom load at top
- Effect of reservoir operation on SSC and turbidity
- Effect of reservoir operation on invertebrates



Turbitity (NTU)



## **Results: Reservoir operations and SSC**





### Results: Reservoir operations and turbidity



#### Turbidity and SSC at dam:

- High when reservoir outflow is high and volume is low
- High in late summer of years when irrigation demand is high
- Low when outflow is low and reservoir is full
- Low in late winter





#### Results: Net reach sediment transport: 2016-2017



#### Sediment Transport: Context Matters



#### Yellowstone River near Livingston, MT



Henry's Fork in study reach



## Macrophytes and sediment dynamics

- Macrophytes trap fine sediment delivered during irrigation season
- Sediment transported out of reach highest when macrophyte biomass lowest







### Sediment dynamics and invertebrates

- Is net sediment deposition/scour between summer invertebrate reproduction and March sampling a function of streamflow?
- Ratio of winter (December-March) flow to irrigation-season flow (July-September): higher values should result in less deposition/more scour.



Some evidence that higher flow ratios lead to better invertebrate metrics.



#### Sediment dynamics over long term

- 50,000 100,000 tons released from reservoir in 1992 (complete drawdown)
- Since 2014, net transport out of reach  $\approx$  2,000 tons/year but not uniform!
- 1992 sediment moved out of reach in 25-50 years?





#### Possible explanation for invertebrate trend?





Year



#### Conclusions and management implications

- Sediment dynamics in Henry's Fork differ from usual model of mobilization on ascending limb of runoff and deposition on descending limb.
- Reservoir sediment transport highest in July-September (irrigation season), out of phase with natural runoff timing.
- Macrophytes trap fine sediment during irrigation season.
- Sediment transport out of reach highest in late winter/early spring.
- Trends in invertebrate assemblage show some correlation with short- and long-term sediment dynamics.
- High winter flows and low irrigation-season flows lead to net transport of sediment out of Harriman reach, among other benefits to fishery.



## **Questions?**



Growing Our Understanding Through Communication

Brian Reese Water Quality Standards Analyst.

Chase Cusack Watershed Manager

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality



Zhang et al. Environmental Health (2015) 14:41 DOI 10.1186/s12940-015-0026-7





Why do we care? Hypoxia Taste and odors Aesthetics







## **Cyanotoxins**





2

5

#### Idaho Cyanobacteria

- 1. Aphanizomenon sp.
- 2. Dolichospermum
- 3. Gloeotrichia
- 4. Lyngbya
- 5. Microcystis
- 6. Planktothrix
- 7. Woronichinia





# **Hepatotoxins**

Disrupt proteins that keep the liver functioning, may act slowly

- Microcystins (fast death factor): 240+ variants, known tumor promotor.
- Nodularin
- Cylindrospermopsin

- 1. Aphanizomenon
- 2. Dolichospermum
- 3. Gloeotrichia
- 4. Lyngbya
- 5. Microcystis
- 6. Oscillatoria
- 7. Woronichinia



#### Microcystin exposure: response

- Uptake by bile acid transporter
- Inhibit protein phosphatases 1 and 2A

Blatantly borrowed from **Barry Rosen, USGS** 

· Affects cytoskeleton, cell cycle, general metabolism, apoptosis

MICROFILAMENTS (red threads in micrographs), structural components of cells, are usually quite long, as in the rat hepatocyte at the left. But after exposure to microcystins (right), microfilaments collapse toward the nucleus (blue). (This cell, like many healthy hepatocytes, happens to have two nuclei.) Such collapse helps to shrink hepatocytes-which normally touch one another and touch sinusoidal capillaries (left drawing). Then the shrunken cells separate from one another and from the sinusoids (right drawing). The cells of the sinusoids separate as well, causing blood to spill into liver tissue. This bleeding can lead swiftly to death.



NORMAL LIVER

lepatotoxicit



# Neurotoxins

## Neurological toxicity loss of coordination, muscle spasms, convulsions and

rapid paralysis of skeletal and respiratory muscles (minutes)



- Anatoxin -a (Very Fast Death Factor)
- Anatoxin –a (s)
- Saxitoxin
- Neosaxitoxin



- 1. Aphanizomenon
- 2. Dolichospermum
- 3. Gloeotrichia
- 4. Lyngbya
- 5. Microcystis
- 6. Oscillatoria
- 7. Woronichinia



# **Dermatotoxins**

Produce rashes and other skin reactions, usually within a day (hours)



Lyngbyatoxin

- 1. Aphanizomenon
- 2. Dolichospermum
- 3. Gloeotrichia
- 4. Lyngbya
- 5. Microcystis
- 6. Oscillatoria
- 7. Woronichinia



## <u>b-N-methylamino-L-alanine</u> BMAA

#### Neurological, linked to ALS and AD



- 1. Aphanizomenon
- 2. Dolichospermum
- 3. Gloeotrichia
- 4. Lyngbya
- <u>5. Microcystis</u>
- 6. Oscillatoria
- 7. Woronichinia



#### Compounds & LD<sub>50</sub> (µg/kg)

- Saxitoxin 9 • Ricin 0.02 Microcystin 20 Cobra toxin 20 Anatoxin – a(s) 50 500 Curare
- 200 250Anatoxin – a
- Nodularin 50
- Cylindrospermopsins 200

2000 Strychnine

Blatantly borrowed from Barry Rosen, USGS



#### Compounds & $LD_{50}$ (µg/kg)

•	Saxitoxin	9	<ul> <li>Ricin</li> </ul>	0.02	2
•	Microcy	Savitovi	n	in 20	)
•	Anatoxi		<u>••</u>	50	00
•	Anatoxi	0.000000	)2g	e 20	000
•	Nodularin	50			
•	Cylindrospermopsins	200			











# Observed Cyanobacteria and known toxins

Cyanobacteria				xin Clas	s				
Genus	CYL	MC	NOD	ATX	SAX	NEO	LYN	BMAA	DAT
Aphanizomenon	1	1	1	1	1	1		1	
Cylindrospermum		1		1	1				
Dolichospermum	1	1		1	1	1		1	
Gloeotrichia		1							
Lyngbya	1			1	1	1	1	1	1
Microcystis		1						1	
Oscillatoria Planktothrix)	1	1		1	1		1	1	
Woronichinia		1		1					



# What are we missing?



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

## **Communication**



# Communication With the Public



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality





Idaho Department of Environmental Quality



- Avondale Lake 1.
- 2. Black Lake
- Fernan Lake 3.
- Hayden Lake 4.
- Cocolalla Lake 5.
- Chatcolet Res. 6.
- 7. Dworshak Res.
- Brownlee Res. 8.
- Hells Canyon Res. 9.
- 10. Oxbow Res.
- 11. Horsethief Res.
- 12. Cascade Res.
- 13. NF Payette River
- 14. Lake Lowell
- 15. Blacks Creek Res.
- 16. Little Camas Res.
- 17. Mountain Home Res.
- 18. Salmon Falls Creek Res.
- 19. Long Tom Res.
- 20. C.J. Strike Res.
- 21. Snake River (mult)



- 22. Private property (mult)
- 23. Murtaugh Lake
- 24. American Falls Res.
- 25. Island Park Res.
- 26. Henry's Lake
- 27. Henry's Fork
- 28. Magic Res.
- 29. Mormon Res.
- 30. Chesterfield Res.
- 31. Fish Creek Res.
- 32. Blackfoot Res.
- 33. Lost Valley Res.
- 34. Eagle Island State Park
- 35. Anderson Ranch



- Avondale Lake 1.
- Black Lake 2.
- Hayden Lake 4.
- Cocolalla Lake 5.
- Chatcolet Res. 6.
- Dworshak Res. 7.
- 9. Hells Canyon Res.
- 10. Oxbow Res.
- 11. Horsethief Res.
- 13. NF Payette River
- 15. Blacks Creek Res.
- 17. Mountain Home Res. 19. Long Tom Res.
- 21. Snake River (mult)



#### Public reports, observations, photos

22. Private

- property(mult)
- 23. Murtaugh Lake
- 24. American Falls Res.
- 25. Island Park Res.
- 26. Henry's Lake
- 27. Henry's Fork
- 28. Magic Res.
- 30. Chesterfield Res.
- 31. Fish Creek Res.
- 32. Blackfoot Res.
- 33. Lost Valley Res.
- 35. Anderson Ranch


### facebook



### Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

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osed due to the discovery of blue-green ins under the right conditions. Measures Ve'll update the public as we get new

Posts

ab Like A Share ---

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality October 29 at 8:51 AM

We presented our Pollution Prevention Champion award to Esterline/Advanced Input Systems for its successful efforts to retrofit its factory floor lighting in its Coeur d'Alene fabrication facility. This is the third time the company has been recognized as a pollution prevention champion. 6 6 6 6 https://go.usa.gov/sPmab

Learn more about our pollution prevention recognition here. https://go.usa.gov/xP2sq Government Organization in Boise, Idaho Open New

Q. Bearch for posts on this Page

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POND

KEEP OUT

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

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Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

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BOTSE

#### Boise Parks & Rec @boiseparks · Jul 20

Esther Simplot Park Pond No. 1 remains closed due to the discovery of blue-green algae. This type of algae \*may produce toxins under the right conditions. Measures have been taken to eliminate the bloom. We'll update the public as we get new info.





### Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Published by Sara Cassinelli 🖓 - July 23 - 🛇

What does a harmful algal bloom look like and how can you report one? We explain what to look for and how to contact DEQ if you suspect a bloom is in an Idaho water body. When in doubt, stay out! Check our map for current recreation water quality health advisories and learn how to report a harmful algal bloom here: https://go.usa.gov/xRnSj.



Boosted on Jul 30 Audience: United States: Idaho, 13 - 65+ By Sara Cassinelli - Completed

View Results

### Performance for Your Post

- 7,876 People Reached
- 3,508 Video Views

...

98 Reactions, Comments & Shares

63	31	32		
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2	2	0		
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😯 Wow	On Post	On Shares		
1	1	0		
😧 Sad	On Post	On Shares		
5	3	2		
Comments	On Post	On Shares		
26	25	1		
Shares	On Post	On Shares		
264 Post Clicks				
<b>69</b>	37	158		
Clicks to Play <sup>®</sup>	Link Clicks	Other Clicks		
NEGATIVE FEEDBACK				
1 Hide Post	0 Hide All Posts			
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlii	ke Page		

Insights activity is reported in the Pacific time zone. Ads activity is reported in the time zone of your ad account.



#### Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Published by Sara Cassinelli (?) - September 7 - 🛇

Central District Health Department has issued a health advisory for Lake Cascade due to the presence of a cyanobacteria harmful algal bloom. Check our map for current recreation water quality health advisories and learn how to report a harmful algal bloom here: https://go.usa.gov/xRnSj News release: http://www.cdhd.idaho.gov/.../09-07-18-lake-cascade-bgalgae....



#### 3,103 People Reached 84 Reactions, Comments & Shares 1 16 CLike 11 On Post 5 On Shares 1 0 1 😝 Haha On Post On Shares 14 9 5 Wow Vow On Post On Shares 19 7 On Post 12 On Shares 👥 Sad 2 5 7 On Post On Shares Comments 27 26 1 Shares On Post On Shares 290 Post Clicks 245 Other Clicks 18 27 Link Clicks Photo Views NEGATIVE FEEDBACK 1 Hide Post O Hide All Posts O Report as Spam O Unlike Page

Terror manue to rour rost

...

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts









# Communication

# **Between Agencies**



Idaho Department of Environmental Quality





IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & WELFARE DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH

## TATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

















Idaho Fish and Game Magic Valley September 27 · 🚱

Attention Anglers: A salvage order has been issued on Little Camas Reservoir. The Health Advisory on Little Camas related to bluegreen algae toxins was recently lifted, but that does not mean its "all clear". We encouraged folks visiting Little Camas Reservoir to still take precautions and avoid swimming, keep dogs away from the water, and prepare fish meals in the same manner recommended when advisories are in place. Please fillet the fish, remove the skin, trim fat, and only eat the meat of the fish.











Cascade Reservoir 9/2 / 8/30

Population Density Estimate (cells/mL)





**Technology & Citizen Science** 

## Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative



Three coordinated monitoring projects to locate and understand harmful cyanobacteria.



### **Technology & Citizen Science**

### Solutional CENTERS FOR COASTAL OCEAN SCIENCE Phytoplankton Monitoring Network

### Phytoplankton Monitoring Network

Promoting a better understanding of harmful algal blooms by way of volunteer monitoring



EXPLORE DATA

#### Volunteering and Training



Current and Prospective Volunteers: Access everything you need to monitor or to get started monitoring with the PMN. Schedule a Training Session. (more)

#### Phyto In the News



# Access Data PMN reported blooms 2001-2012 Submit current data collections and view historical data. If you have trouble submitting data, please contact Steve

Morton. (more)

#### Mobile Phyto App



Developed by a PNIN volunteer, Phyto helps you learn to identify phytoplankton and their proper pronunciation. Free app is available for both iPhone and Android devices. (more)

### BloomWatch App -Cyanobacteria Monitoring Collaborative





# What's ahead?

Questions to consider...



### Impacts of Cyanotoxins on Drinking Water Systems



Increasingly, water systems are monitoring for and addressing cyanotoxins and the algal growth that can cause their formation. Some cyanotoxins are on EPA's list of drinking water contaminants of concern. In 2016, EPA published "Health Advisories" for two cyanotoxins.









Sample	Date	Time	Taxa ID and Enumeration (cells/mL)	Microcystin (ppb)
Description				
NF Payette	9/11/2018		Dolichospermum sp.:14,200	<0.15







## Questions?



Brian.Reese@deq.idaho.gov Chase.Cusack@deq.idaho.gov Algae@deq.idaho.gov

# Harmful Algal Blooms

## A story of Cyanobacteria, Satellites, Source Water and the Senate

SFS - PNW Meeting Ketchum, ID 8 Nov, 2018



State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Matt Schult, Aaron Borisenko | Oregon Dept. Environmental Quality

## HABs SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM



## OHA : Advisories DEQ : Responsible to investigate causes - Identify source of pollution - Write pollution reduction plan

Sample
drinkin
Clean V



Meter status—Monitoring. Drinking water remains safe for all Salem residents and water customers. Based on current test results from sampling of water within Detroit Reservoir, cyanotoxins have been detected in Salem's drinking water source, but have **not** been detected within the drinking water distribution system.

# **CYANOBACTERIA 101**

- Prokaryotes
- Earliest : life forms on earth
  - fossils
  - photosynthesizers

## • Simple organisms?.....not that simple







# **CYANOBACTERIA 101**

- Gas vesicles buoyancy regulation
- Phycobilins low light photosynthesis
- Akinetes resting cell or "spore"
- Heterocysts dedicated to fix N
- Toxins defense, competition







## **IDENTIFY CAUSES**

- Waterbody specific and may involve any of these factors:
  - Increasing nutrient input
  - Warming water temperatures
  - Reduced mixing/circulation
  - Invasive species, particularly fish and filter feeders





Upper Klamath Lake, OR https://sentinel.esa.int

## **DEVELOP STRATEGIES**

"The success of water management strategies to combat harmful cyanobacteria hinges on a proper identification of the cyanobacterial species involved and the ecosystem processes that govern their population dynamics."





(Huisman et al., 2005)

## **DEVELOP STRATEGIES**

- Strategies are waterbody specific
  - Reduce nutrient inputs from:
    - Point sources of wastewater
    - Leaky septic systems
    - Agricultural runoff
    - Urban stormwater
    - Forest lands
  - Restore vegetation to provide cooling
  - Promote water movement
  - Invasive species control/prevention





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Animal/Source	Specimen	Specimen Typ	e			
1	(1) Rumen contents	Rumen Conten	ts			
Analyte		Result	Units	Rep. Limit	Units	
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# ADVISORY AREA

### St. John's Bridge

### HEALTH ADVISORY



Willamette River

### AVOID WATER CONTACT

Due to high levels of blue-green algae that can produce harmful toxins.

Do not use this water for drinking or cooking.

#### Children and pets are at greatest risk.

For more information about water quality and monitoring contact:

Department of Environmental Quality at 503-693-5723

Health

For information about harmful algae blooms, symptoms of exposure or to report a human or pet illness, contact the Oregon Health Authority at 971-673-0400 or visit www.healthoregon.org/HAB





Willamette

## Portland, OR

## Oaks Park

# **Ross Island Lagoon**

Advisory by cell count: Cumulative toxigenic species ≥100,000 cells/mL?

### Microcystis aeruginosa (cells/mL)

- 1) Inner Lagoon:
- 2) Lagoon Mouth:
- 3) Willamette R :
- 4) Ross Isl. Channel:

18,281 1,099,313 629,112 5,246



# Portla S REUTE Future of blue-green algae in Willamette River still uncertain; users frustrated

OREGONLIVE The Oregonian

er

By Courtney PORTLAND er that was e rowing comp weekend has presence of Willamette R

Toxic

"It was too ri there with co Row for the ( bers.



Volunteers for the Oregon Health Authority have put up warning signs in Willamette, Sellwood, Waterfront, and East Bank Esplanade parks. These signs caution river users against drinking or cooking with the water due to blue-green algae bloom scum that can produce harmful toxins. (Adrianna Rodriguez)

UTC: 2018-07-19 09:59:42.03 Speed: 2

eesa

The location of the European Space Agency Sentinel 3A at 9:59 am on **Thursday July** 18, 2018

Kirun

sentime a

Maspaloma

Matera

# Ocean and Land Color Instrument (OLCI)



- 1,270 km swath width
- 300m<sup>2</sup> spatial resolution
- Global coverage (2 days)


### **RESOURCES**

- SeaDAS Software
- ArcGIS Tool Box
- Android Mobile App (EPA's CyAN)

Clark et al. (2017) Ecological Indicators 80:94-95



# EPA's Cyanobacteria Assessment Network (CyAN)

Q

Geographic Coordinates

🕝 Google Earth

### Lake Billy Chinook algae health advisory expanded

Alert now covers all three arms of the lake

By: KTVZ.COM news sources Posted: July 11, 2018 05:11 PM PDT Updated: July 11, 2018 05:11 PM PDT

1 🔽 < 🖂



Green scum of blue-green algae evident in early summer in areas of Lake Billy Chinook (File photos: Oregon Health Authority)

SALEM, Ore. - The Oregon Health Authority said Wednesday it has updated a recreational use health advisory issued June 22 for part of Lake Billy Chinook to cover all three arms of the lake, based on the latest test results.

The original advisory extended from the cove at Dorny South Compareury

. 91% 🖬 11:25 AM \* Lake Billy Chinook @ Cove PalisadesL 06/30/18 Transparency Google Google Earth



### Health Advisory Issued For Upper Klamath Lake Due To Algae Bloom

Des land 17.2011 (Sign., Partiest, Dec.

Oregon's problems with blue-green algae have spread to another lake. Stat officials have issued a health advisory for Upper Klamath Lake. It's in southern Oregon, west of Klamath Falls.

Toxins from blue-green algae can be harmful to humans and animals.

In the affected areas of Klamath Lake, visitors should avoid swimming and activities such as water skiing or power boating. Toxins are not absorbed through the skin, but people with skin sensitivities may experience a puffy red rash at the affected area.

Drinking water that contains the algae is especially dangerous. The toxins cannot be removed by boiling, filtering or treating water with camping filte

Oregon health officials say that if you choose to eat fish from the affected water, you should remove all fat, skin and organs before cooking. Fillets should also be rinsed with clean water. You shouldn't eat freshwater clams mussels from Upper Klamath Lake.

More News



Upper Klamath-- 1 L 07/14/18 Transparency Google

Google Earth



## DETROIT RESERVOIR 26 MAY, 2018



cells/mL since previous data (Max: 812,830, Valid: 6)







## DETROIT RESERVOIR 26 MAY, 2018



## City of Salem issues drinking water advisory

### May 29, 2018

#### City of Salem issues drinking water advisory



Late this afternoon, the city of Salem issued the following press release regarding a "Do Not Drink" notice for tap water in the cities of Salem, Turner, Suburban East Salem Water District, and Orchard Heights Water Association. The city is recommending that vulnerable people including infants, children under six, people with compromised

immune systems, people receiving dialysis treatment, people with pre-existing liver conditions, pets, pregnant women or nursing mothers, or other sensitive populations should follow this advisory.

Everyone may use tap water for showering, bathing, washing hands, washing dishes, flushing toilets, cleaning and doing laundry.

Please see the full press release below for more information or visit cityofsalem.net.



### DRINKING WATER ADVISORY

#### City of Salem: MAY 29, 2018,

CYANOTOXINS PRESENT IN DRINKING WATER DO NOT DRINK THE TAP WATER --INFANTS, YOUNG CHILDREN AND OTHER VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS

Applies to City of Salem, City of Turner, Suburban East Salem Water District, and Orchard Heights Water Association

WHY IS THERE AN ADVISORY? Low levels of cylindrospermopsin and microcystin (cyanotoxins) have been found in treated drinking water. These toxins are created by algal blooms in the source of City of Salem drinking water, Detroit Reservoir.

To ensure the greatest quality of drinking water, City of Salem voluntarily samples for such toxins during algal events. Samples were collected on May 23, 2018, and May 25, 2018.



## "Do Not Drink" Advisory : May 29<sup>th</sup> - July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018



PETER COURTNEY President of the Senate

June 13, 2018

Director Richard Whitman Department of Environmental Quality 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600 Portland, OR 97232

#### Dear Director Whitman,

Over that last few weeks Oregonians have learned about the dangers of cyanotoxins in drinking water. Even low levels of exposure to these toxins can be harmful to children, older adults and those with specific pre-existing health conditions.

I have heard from the City of Salem and several other local water utilities that the lack of in-state testing is a problem. The process of shipping samples to out-of-state labs is cumbersome and slow for the water officials and the public.

It is my understanding that the department has the equipment and expertise to conduct the testing in-state, but lacks the needed personnel. I am requesting today that the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality move quickly to use existing staff to conduct testing for cyanotoxins in drinking water and if necessary submit a budgetary request to the Legislative Emergency Board to be considered when the board meets in September.

Throughout our history, Oregon has prided itself about its clean air and water. Algal blooms and the resulting toxins in our drinking water systems are now threatening public confidence in a resource we have long considered pure. This is exactly why the Emergency Board exists. Oregon is facing crisis and we have the means to aid in our response.

I believe that timely in-state testing can provide water systems with the information they need to react and help restore Oregonians faith in this essential element of our daily lives.

Thank you.

Peter Courtne

Peter Courtney President of the Oregon Senate

#### OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULES OREGON HEALTH AUTHORITY, PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION CHAPTER 333

#### DIVISION 61

#### DRINKING WATER

#### 333-061-0510

#### Applicability of Cyanotoxin Rules

- Water suppliers subject to OAR 333-061-0510 to 333-061-0580 are those water suppliers operating water systems subject to regulation under OAR 333-061-0010 that:
  - (a) Are supplied by a surface water source that is susceptible to harmful algae blooms or release of cyanotoxins; or
  - (b) Are supplied by a groundwater source determined by the Authority to be under the direct influence of a surface water source that is susceptible to harmful algae blooms or release of cyanotoxins; or
  - (c) Purchase water from another water system that is supplied by a surface water source or a groundwater source determined by the Authority under the direct influence of a surface water that is susceptible to harmful algae blooms or release of cyanotoxins.
- (2) A water source is susceptible to harmful algae blooms or release of cyanotoxins when:
  - (a) One or more harmful algae blooms have been documented or at least one cyanotoxin was previously detected in the water source or at any location in a public water system supplied by that water source;
  - (b) The point of diversion into the water system is downstream of or influenced by another surface water source susceptible to harmful algae blooms or release of cyanotoxins;
  - (c) The surface water source is susceptible to cyanotoxins based on a water quality limited listing in the Oregon DEQ Integrated Report and Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list for the limiting factors of algae and aquatic weeds, chlorophyll-a, nitrates, phosphorus, pH, or dissolved oxygen; or
  - (d) The Authority determines the source is susceptible to harmful algae blooms and cyanotoxins based on the characteristics of the source, including, but not limited to, slow moving or stagnant water, or available sources of nutrients.
- (3) The Authority may, in its discretion, exempt a water supplier that would otherwise be subject to OAR 333-061-0510 to 333-061-0580 if the water supplier submits sufficient evidence, including but not limited to, water quality data, watershed characteristics, and environmental conditions such that the Authority determines that the water source has a low susceptibility to cyanotoxins when considered with any other information available to the Authority.
- (4) A water supplier subject to OAR 333-061-0510 to 333-061-0580 under this rule must begin monitoring as described in OAR 333-061-0510 to 333-061-0580 beginning the week of July 15, 2018.

Stat. Auth.: ORS 448.123, 448.131 and 448.150 Stats. Implemented: ORS 448.123 and 448.150

OAR 333-061-0050

Page 1 of 6

## EPA Method 546: ELISA for *Mycrocystin* and *Nodularin* in drinking water & ambient water







Available at: www.oregon.gov/oha

# **DRINKING WATER TESTING**

- Approximately 100 facilities that provide drinking water
- Sampling period July November



# **DRINKING WATER TESTING**



### Results (µg/L)

			Week	Week						
FACILITY	SAMPLE DESCRIPTION	ANALYTE	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0.11	0	0	0	0	ek    Week      8    0.11      0    0
	NORTH SANTIAIVI RIVER	Microcystins ADDA, Total	1.57	2.36	0.55	0	0	0	/eekWeekWeek678000.1100-00-00	
Gates, City of	<b>EP for NORTH SANTIAM</b>	Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	0		
	RIVER	Microcystins ADDA. Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SANTIAM RIVER	Microcystins ADDA. Total	0.67	0.38	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jefferson, City of		Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 0 0 0	
	EP FOR SANTIAM RIVER	Microcystins ADDA, Total	0	0	0	0	0			
		Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 0 0 0 0 0
Lyons Mehama	NORTH SANTIANI RIVER	Microcystins ADDA. Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Water District	<b>EP for NORTH SANTIAM</b>	Cylindrospermopsin	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
	RIVER	Microcystins ADDA, Total	0	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
		Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NORTH SANTIAIVI RIVER	Microcystins ADDA, Total	2.72	1.66	0.55	0	0	0	0	0
Salem Public Works	<b>EP FOR GEREN ISLAND</b>	Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0      0    0
	(ALDERSGATE)	Microcystins ADDA, Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
<b>Stayton Water</b>		Microcystins ADDA, Total	1.63	1.73	0.4	0	0	-	0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Stayton Water Supply	<b>EP for NORTH SANTIAM</b>	Cylindrospermopsin	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0
	RIVER	Microcystins ADDA, Total	0	0	0	0	0	-	0	0

- Continue in-state testing
- Expand Lab capacity (ELISA, LC/MS) for advisory notices
- Vision for recreational posting with State-wide partnerships



## **THANKS!**



State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

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## **RESOURCES**

- CyAN (Sept-2017) : <u>https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B6EtCnMZbZ28dTRqUThSTkZP</u> X00
- CyAN Fact Sheet: <u>https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-</u> <u>10/documents/cyanfactsheet.pdf</u>
- OHA Current Advisories:

https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/HEALTHYENVIRONMENTS/RECREAT ION/HARMFULALGAEBLOOMS/Pages/Blue-GreenAlgaeAdvisories.aspx

## **CyAN** Limitations

- Ice can potentially register as high cyanobacteria concentrations
- The land mask may cover dry lakes, and may exclude other lakes
- Caution should be used where mixed pixels may occur at land/water interface
- Land mask does not have an accurate representation of Rhode Island's coastline
- Undetected thin clouds can potentially register as high cyanobacteria concentrations
- Retrievals are considered more robust for lakes ≥ 900 m, or 3 x 3-pixel array; smaller water bodies and rivers are not masked and may be erroneous
- Satellite data processing does not account for changes in water levels due to cycles, such as drought and flood



### ESTHER SIMPLOT POND HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS



Dorene MacCoy, Water Quality Environmental Coordinator, Public Works Department Paul Faulkner, Senior Water Quality Environmental Specialist, Public Works Department









# PARK USE

- Swimming
- Boating
- Picnic and recreation
- Fishing
- Greenbelt access
- Wildlife viewing wetland
- <u>https://vimeo.com/1908</u>
  <u>13627</u>



**CITY** of **BOISE** 

# PARK TOXIC TIMELINE

- Nov '16 ESP Grand opening
- June '17 ESP and Quinns closed high E. coli criteria (storm water and runoff)
- Aug '17 ESP HABs (Planktotherix, Dolichospermum, Microcystis), park closed
- April '18 park open
- June '18 ESP and Quinns high E. coli, several treatments
- July'18 ESP HABs (Oscillatoria) closed, treated, and reopened
- Sept '18 ESP HABs (Aphanizomenon, Dolichospermum) park closed

### Quinn's Pond (Quinns) 39 acres Esther Simplot Pond (ESP) 16.5 acres

![](_page_310_Picture_9.jpeg)

### CITY of BOISE

# **2018 MONITORING**

### **CITY** of **BOISE**

- E. Coli weekly e. coli
- Nutrients (TP, TN, ammonia, dissolved reactive phosphorus, nitrate/nitrite)
- Temperature and DO continuous profiles
- July 2018 cyanobacteria bloom
  - Oscillatoria microcystin **0.26 ppb (μg/L)**
- August 2 27 2018 ESP Pond experiment
  - Circulation pumps and wetland use
  - E.coli reduction and reduced stratification
- September 2018 cyanobacteria bloom
  - Aphanizomenon microcystin **0.42 ppb**
  - Dolichospermum microcystin **0.30 ppb**

![](_page_311_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_311_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_312_Picture_1.jpeg)

Office of Water EPA 820 R-17-001 June 2017

#### Recommendations for Cyanobacteria and Cyanotoxin Monitoring in Recreational Waters

#### Table 1. Draft EPA Recommended Values for Recreational Criteria and Swimming Advisories for Cyanotoxins

Microcystins	Cylindrospermopsin
4 µg/L <sup>a,b</sup>	8 μg/L <sup>a,b</sup>

a) Swimming Advisory: not to be exceeded on any day

b) Recreational Criteria for Waterbody Impairment: not exceeded more than 10 percent of days per recreational season up to one calendar year.

#### Table 2. WHO (2003) Recreational Guidance/Action Levels for Cyanobacteria, Chlorophyll a, and Microcystin

Relative Probability of Acute Health Effects	Cyanobacteria (cells/mL)	Chlorophyll a (µg/L)	Estimated Microcystin Levels (µg/L) <sup>a</sup>
Low	< 20,000	< 10	< 10
Moderate	20,000-100,000	10–50	10-20
High	>100,000-10,000,000	50-5,000	20-2,000
Very High	> 10,000,000	> 5,000	> 2,000

<sup>a</sup>WHO (2003) derived the microcystin concentrations from the cyanobacterial cell density levels.

TEST/ METHOD	Analytical Target	APPROX. LIMIT OF QUANTIFICATION	LOCATION OF TEST	TIME TO RESULT	SCREENING ONLY TOOL
EPA Method 546 Adda-ELISA	Intracellular and Extracellular Microcystins	0.10-5.0 µg/L	Lab	~ 1 day	No
ELISA-DM Laboratory Test	Total Microcystins	0.010 µg/L	Lab	3 hours or less	No
ELISA Laboratory Test SAES (Abraxis)	Total Microcystin in marine/brackish water	0.016 µg/L	Lab	3 hours or less	No
ELISA Laboratory Test (Abraxis)	Total Cylindrospermopsin	0.05 – 2.0 μg/L	Lab	3 hours or less	No
ELISA Laboratory Test	Total Cylindrospermopsin	0.1-2.0 µg/l.	Lab	~2 hours	No

![](_page_313_Picture_0.jpeg)

# TOXINS

### Cyanobacteria Found in Esther Simplot Ponds 2017 and 2018

Cyanobacteria	Cyanotoxin Class									
Genus	CYL	MC	NOD	ΑΤΧ	SAX	NEO	LYN	BMAA	APL	
Aphanizomenon	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$		
Dolichospermum	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$		$\checkmark$		
Microcystis		$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$		
Oscillatoria	/				/		/	/	/	
(Planktothrix)	$\checkmark$	V		V	~		V	V	V	
CYL = cylindrosperm	opsin <b>MC</b>	= microcys	stin <b>NOD</b> :	= nodularin	ATX = an	atoxin-a <b>S</b>	<b>AX</b> = saxito	oxin <b>NEO</b>	=	
neosaxitoxins <b>BMA</b>	neosaxitoxins <b>BMAA</b> = $\beta$ -N-methylamino-L-alanine <b>LYN</b> = lyngbyatoxin-a <b>DAT</b> = debromoaplysiatoxin <b>APL</b> =								APL =	
aplysiatoxin										
Adapted from IDEQ and SWAMP - HAB Field Guide										
Toxins found										

![](_page_314_Picture_0.jpeg)

# **NUTRIENTS AND BLOOMS**

Preliminary data – note low nutrient concentrations

Site	Date	E. Coli	HABs	cell/mL	Orthophosphate, as P (mg/L)	Total Phosphorus as P (µg/L)	Ammonia as N (µg/L)	Nitrite-Nitrate as N (mg/L)	TKN (mg/L)
ESP1	7/2/2018	50			0.00321	17.0	<35.0	< 0.02	0.405
ESP2	7/2/2018	4			0.002	16.5	<35.0	<0.020	0.358
ESP3	7/2/2018	17			0.002	17.9	<35.0	<0.020	0.37
ESP1	7/16/2018	<1	Oscillatoria	1,425,000	0.0091	27.2	127	0.053	0.446
ESP2	7/16/2018	1	Oscillatoria	1,292,000	0.00687	25.7	125	0.0448	0.582
ESP3	7/16/2018	1			0.00604	27.1	376	0.0236	0.667

# **TEST STRIPS?**

- Unsure where to take sample
- Issues with interpretation

![](_page_315_Picture_4.jpeg)

Anal	ysis Results		Reporting Date: 27 – July - 2018			
Sample ID	Date	Time	Taxa ID and Enumeration (cells/mL)	Toxins (Ppb)		
ESP1S	7/26/2018	0915	Oscillatoria sp.: 11,550	Microcystin: <0.15 Anatoxin-a: <0.15		
ESP1NW	7/26/2018	1105	Oscillatoria sp.: 23,100	Microcystin: <0.15 Anatoxin-a:<0.15		
ESP2E	7/26/2018	1205	Oscillatoria sp.: 56,100	Microcystin: <0.15 Anatoxin-a:<0.15		

![](_page_316_Picture_0.jpeg)

# TEST STRIP READER

Reader negative for Anatoxin-a and Mycrocystin Or there was an invalid control

Anal	ysis Results		Reporting Date: 29 –Sept -2018		
Sample ID	Date	Time	Taxa ID and Enumeration (cells/mL)	Toxins (Ppb)	
ESP1 A	9/25/2018	13:30	Aphanizomenon flos-aqua: 14,000,000	Microcystin: 0.18	
ESP2 B	9/25/2018	13:00	Aphanizomenon flos-aqua: 7,900,000	Microcystin: <0.15	
ESP3 C	9/24/2018	14:00	Aphanizomenon flos-aqua: >200,000,000	Microcystin: 0.42	

![](_page_316_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **TEST READER**

When strips are not read right away False positives or false negatives

ESPI Anatoxia A 1130 Negative Positive 1445	ESPI Microcystin 1133 negative 1455 Negative
	9-25-18

Analysis Results			Reporting Date: 29 –Sept -2018				
Sample ID	Date	Time	Taxa ID and Enumeration (cells/mL)	Toxins (Ppb)			
ESP1 A	9/25/2018	13:30	Aphanizomenon flos-aqua: 14,000,000	Microcystin: 0.18			
ESP2 B	9/25/2018	13:00	Aphanizomenon flos-aqua: 7,900,000	Microcystin: <0.15			
ESP3 C	9/24/2018	14:00	Aphanizomenon flos-aqua: >200,000,000	Microcystin: 0.42			

# NEXT STEPS

- Public education •
- Monitoring Plan •
- Aeration/circulation/ treatment
- Phytoremeation •

#### H.A.B. (Harmful Algal Bloom) Cheat Sheet

#### What is a HAB?

When certain conditions are present, such as high nutrient or light levels, these organisms can reproduce rapidly. This dense population of algae is called a bloom. Some of these contain toxics, other noxious chemicals, or pathogens it is known as a harmful algal bloom, or HAB. HABs can cause the death of fish and can produce harmful conditions to marine life as well as humans

#### What causes a HAB?

A combination of factors such as the presence of dissolved nutrients, warm temperatures and lots of light all encourage the natural increase in numbers of blue-green algae. Summer and warm temperatures amplify the odds. Also, increased presence of nutrients such as phosphorous and pesticides and a lack of flow development.

CITY of BOISE

What is a Cyanobacteria or blue-Blue-green algae is the common name for sev algae. They are actually bacteria that is able to grows in water and is photosynthetic which me create food and support life. Cyanobacteria o one of the most common algae groups that for

What does a HAB look like?

Some cyanobacterial blooms can look like toa surface of fresh water lakes and ponds. The b bright green, brown, or red and may look like paint floating on the water. Some blooms may not affect the appearance of the water. As algae in a cyanobacterial bloom die, the water may smell bad.

![](_page_318_Picture_16.jpeg)

![](_page_318_Picture_17.jpeg)

**Esther Simplot Pond Complex** 

![](_page_318_Picture_19.jpeg)

## **NEED YOUR FEEDBACK**

New to the City of Boise – Swim Beaches and HABs

Dorene MacCoy Water Quality Environmental Coordinator City of Boise Public Works Department dmaccoy@cityofboise.org 208-608-7515

Paul Faulkner Water Quality Environmental Specialist City of Boise Public Works Department pfaulkner@cityofboise.org 208-608-7507

![](_page_319_Picture_5.jpeg)

## A New Master Sample

Washington Statewide Stream Biological Monitoring

## Our talk

- What we've been using
  - Requirements for build
  - Features
  - Issues
- What we are making
  - Requirements for build
  - The process
  - Issues

![](_page_321_Picture_9.jpeg)

## Background

![](_page_322_Picture_1.jpeg)

https://tinyurl.com/WatershedHealth

Status and Trends Monitoring for Watershed Health and Salmon Recovery

**Quality Assurance Monitoring Plan** 

### Multi-scale

- Statewide (Dept. Ecology)
- Broad Regions (Depth Ecology)
- Watersheds, etc. (local interests)

![](_page_323_Figure_6.jpeg)

• Monitoring Forum (Exec order 04-03)

Stakeholder Workshops

![](_page_323_Picture_9.jpeg)
## Two federal mandates and state responses

#### CWA

...to restore and maintain the <u>chemical, physical, and biological</u> integrity of the Nation's waters.





#### 305(b): status of waters of the state

#### ESA

*...de-listing requires analysis of the physical & chemical conditions that affect the species' continued existence.* 



#### Reporting on salmon and habitat in Washington

#### WELCOME TO THE NINTH BIENNIAL STATE OF SALMON IN WATERSHEDS REPORT

This new Web site provides stories and data about salmon, habitat, and salmon recovery.

This report documents how Washingtonians have responded to the challenges of protecting and restoring salmon and steelhead. It is a tool to summarize achievements, track salmon recovery progress statewide and by recovery region. The Recreation and Conservation Office is required by **law** to produce this report every two years.

WA State of the Salmon Report-> PCSRF: Annual Reports to Congress

## Required features of 1<sup>st</sup> WA Master Sample

- 1:24,000 stakeholder request
- Statewide not necessarily beyond
- 1 km spacing stakeholder request
- Strahler\* represent all size rivers/streams (in EPA fashion)
- \* Not available at 1:24k in 2008

# Scale issues from National Surveys

- Coarse hydro 1:100k\*
- Skewed to Mountains
- Sparse: About 50 sites
- \* Largest issue for local adoption



=Federal or Tribal Land

#### **Washington Master Sample**

Metadata also available as

#### Metadata:

- Identification Information
- Spatial Data Organization Information
- Spatial Reference Information
- Entity and Attribute Information
- Distribution Information
- Metadata Reference Information

Identification\_Information:

Citation:

Citation\_Information:

Originator: USEPA NHEERL Western Ecology Division, Anthony (Tony) R. Olsen Publication\_Date: 20081124 Title: Washington Master Sample Geospatial\_Data\_Presentation\_Form: map

#### Description:

#### Abstract:

A geodatabase of 387,237 points statistically chosen from the February 2005 version of the Washington DNR Hydrography layer representing stream site locations. For details, see the Design Documentation created by 3/18/2006 by Tony Olsen (U.S. EPA) and Janelle Black (NW Indian Fisheries Commission). The design document is available from the Washington State Department of Ecology at https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/gispublic/DataDownload/documents/EPA\_ENV\_MasterSampleDesign.pdf.

#### Purpose:

To provide a common set of probabilistic sites for sharing efforts in monitoring rivers and streams.

#### https://ecology.wa.gov/Research-Data/Data-resources/Geographic-Information-Systems-GIS/Data#m

#### Washington DNR Hydrography (2005) 387,237 points (2008)





#### Map of Status and Trends Regions for the Watershed Health Monitoring program



# Technical issues with Frame for our first Washington Master Sample

- Non-standard hydrography
  - Variable density
  - Coverage gap
  - Requires confirming NHD membership for Db inclusion
  - Dated now 13 years old
- No Strahler attribute in frame
  - Required manual evaluation vs NHD+ (1:100k)
- "Perennial" attribute unknown, not in Master Sample
- Confined to Washington

# Variable Density of WA DNR (2005)



A timber management agency

- Extra lines near timber sales
- Lines inconsistently updated

# Counties (West)



## Gap

County

Skamania

# Watersheds (East)



## Must compare DNR frame with 2 other hydrographies...

## NHD (state standard)

## NHDPlus (has Strahler)



# Effects of using multiple hydro layers

- Inferences based on hundreds NOT tens of thousands
- Time & effort
- Lack of clarity when discussing
- Location errors (see the Puyallup River example)





# Master Sample Ends at Washington's Boundaries

#### Our interests do not

State of Washington





# Inferences based on spatially-balanced random sample

Obtain unbiased estimates of:

- Status
- Extent
- Stressor Identification
- Trends

## Status



## Status



# Extent



# Stressor Identification



# Trends



## The New Master Sample

Rebuilding from the stream up

- NHD 1:24000
- Stream/River & Artificial Path
- Points directly on the NHD flowline, so NHD attributes available



#### 73 HUC 8 regions



#### 21 HUC 8 regions



	FCODE	Feature Type
STREAM/RIVER	46000	No Attributes
STREAM/RIVER	46003	Intermittent
STREAM/RIVER	46006	Perennial
STREAM/RIVER	46007	Ephemeral
ARTIFICIAL PATH	55800	No Attributes



#### 4,808 stream kilometers = 4,808 points





#### 3,096 stream kilometers = 3,096 points



#### 21 HUC 8 regions 114,482 points

	Canada	WA
No Attributes	15,132	132
ntermittent	0	57,481
Perennial	9	35,768
Ephemeral	0	1
Artificial Path	952	5007
<b>Total</b>	16,093	98,389

# The New Master Sample

Points joined with additional information so as to be able to select/subset as needed:

- NHDplus information
- Ecoregions
- County
- HUC02-HUC12
- Stream order
- Urban Growth Boundaries
- StreamCat (ICI & IWI)
- Etc.





#### Other Monitoring groups using:

- Storm Water Action Monitoring (SAM)
- City of Bothell, WA
- We anticipate others will also be interested

# The New Master Sample

#### Benefits

- Less time with desktop site verification
- More efficient calculation of adjusted spatial weights
- Easier to explain
- More recent framework

#### Challenges/questions

- May sometimes be challenging to compare old *vs* new points
- Frame attributes not intuitively named (e.g. "Artificial path")



# Final thoughts

- Collaboration across borders? Just add HUCs as needed.
- WA Master Sample can contribute to CWA accounting
  - 1. A State 305(b) report to objectively describe status and trends of state waters, and
  - 2. The EPA's Report to Congress about national waters
- WA Master Sample contributes to ESA accounting
  - 1. The Governor's State-of-the-Salmon Report, to describe status and trends of salmon/steelhead and bull trout limiting factors.
  - 2. Hopefully to NOAA's Report to Congress about results from PCSRF (ESA accounting).

- Site-specific trends information reduced
  - 1. New master sample means sites from original surveys won't be re-sampled
  - 2. New study design means replacement rate will be lower than 50%

Glenn Merritt and Chad Larson Washington State Department of Ecology Environmental Assessment Program tinyurl.com/WHMHomePage

## LONG TERM TREND MONITORING OF NATIVE SALMONIDS USING SNORKELING - NORTH FORK BOISE RIVER

#### John Cassinelli

Regional Fish Biologist Idaho Department of Fish and Game

## WHY DO WE SNORKEL?





#### WHY DO WE SNORKEL?



#### Electrofishing

- Hands on
- More efficient for higher densities
- More labor intensive in larger rivers
- Requires a lot of gear
- Need conductive water

#### Snorkeling

- Observational only
- More efficient for lower densities
- Less labor/gear intensive in larger rivers
- Need good visibility
- Requires more training

## WHY DO WE SNORKEL?

- Granitic soils of Idaho **Batholith result in low** nutrients
  - Anadromous life history


# WHY DO WE SNORKEL?

- Granitic soils of Idaho Batholith result in low nutrients
  - Anadromous life history
- Undammed rivers in the Batholith have
  - very low conductivity
  - High visibility
  - Low fish densities

#### Kaniksu Lobe Idaho Batholith - Granite and granodiorite of the two-mica suite (Cretaceous)--Includes biotite granodiorite of the 2-mica suite (Kgd) and muscovitebiotite granite and granodiorite of the 2-mica suite (Kmg); also Kgd of Salmon Forest - Granite and granodiorite of the hornblende-biotite suite Codh (Cretaceous)--Includes hornblende-biotite granodiorite (Khbgd), homblende granodiorite (Khgd; check), biotite granodiorite (Kgbd), and potassium-rich granodiorite). Also includes megacrystic granodiorite and minor syenite. Bitterroot Kog - Orthogneiss, foliated granodiorite, and foliated granite Lobe (Cretaceous)--Includes Kpg of Salmon Forest Tonalite and guartz diorite (Cretaceous)-- Mylonitic plutonic rocks within the western Idaho suture zone (Cretaceous)-- Tonalite and trondhiemite (Cretaceous and Jurassic?)-Includes biotite- and homblende-biotite tonalite and biotite-muscovite trondhjemite. Primarily along suture zone. All dated bodies are Cretaceous, Atlanta Lobe

Idaho State University

# WHY DO WE SNORKEL?

- Granitic soils of Idaho Batholith result in low nutrients
  - Anadromous life history
- Undammed rivers in the Batholith have
  - very low conductivity
  - High visibility
  - Low fish densities
- Regional waters we routinely snorkel include the NF and MF Boise, and SF Payette rivers



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- The NFBR loses roughly 1,000 m in elevation (about 13 m/km)
- Classic Idaho Batholith River
- Shallow granitic soil susceptible to high rates of erosion, especially following wildfires
  - Rabbit Creek Fire 1994
  - McNutt Fire 2009

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- IDFG continues to monitor population trends within RBT distribution as part of the conservation strategy

- 15 historic trend sites
   Surveys started in 1980s
- Describe distribution, abundance, and species composition
- Compare current pop trends to historical estimates



# NORTH FORK BOISE RIVER



# LOWER GANYON SECTION



# MIDDLE ROADED SECTION



# **UPPER SECTION**



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- Lengths and widths of each site measured

# NORTH FORK BOISE RIVER



### NORTH FORK BOISE RIVER









#### Copeland and Meyer (2011)

Stream flow 3 & 4 years previous to sampling most important bioclimatic condition influencing Brook and Bull Trout densities in Idaho rivers

Fish densities fluctuate with river flow Redband density  $\uparrow$  with 3 years of higher flow and  $\downarrow$ with 3 years of lower flow





### **NORTH FORK BOISE RIVER**





### SF PAYETTE RIVER



### SF PAYETTE RIVER



- Rain on snow in 1999
  - Several thousand years of sediment in 1 d
- Poor growth and productivity
- Sediment from recent fires
- Reduced minimum summer flow
- Flow shifts (Clark 2010)
  - During last 40 years,
    - 25 percentile has shifted 23 d
    - Min daily has declined by 24%

### SF PAYETTE RIVER



# CONCLUSIONS

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- Long term fish density trend data is an important population monitoring tool
  - Snorkeling remains most effective way to survey low conductivity rivers of Idaho Batholith
- Fish densities are influenced by flow patterns
  - "snapshot" sampling infrequently over time may not tell the whole story
  - Sampling in blocks across successive years is more adequate
- Wild Redband populations in the NFBR appear stable
  - Will sample again in 2019

# **QUESTIONS?**