

Columbia Basin Fish Accords

CRITFC, Umatilla, Warm Springs and Yakama Tribes and Federal
Action Agencies MOA



Background

- No entity in Columbia Basin more interested in effective salmon recovery than tribes
 - Traditions and culture based on salmon.
 - Most affected/least benefited by human development.
 - ESA listings have restricted Tribal fishery.



MOA a breakthrough

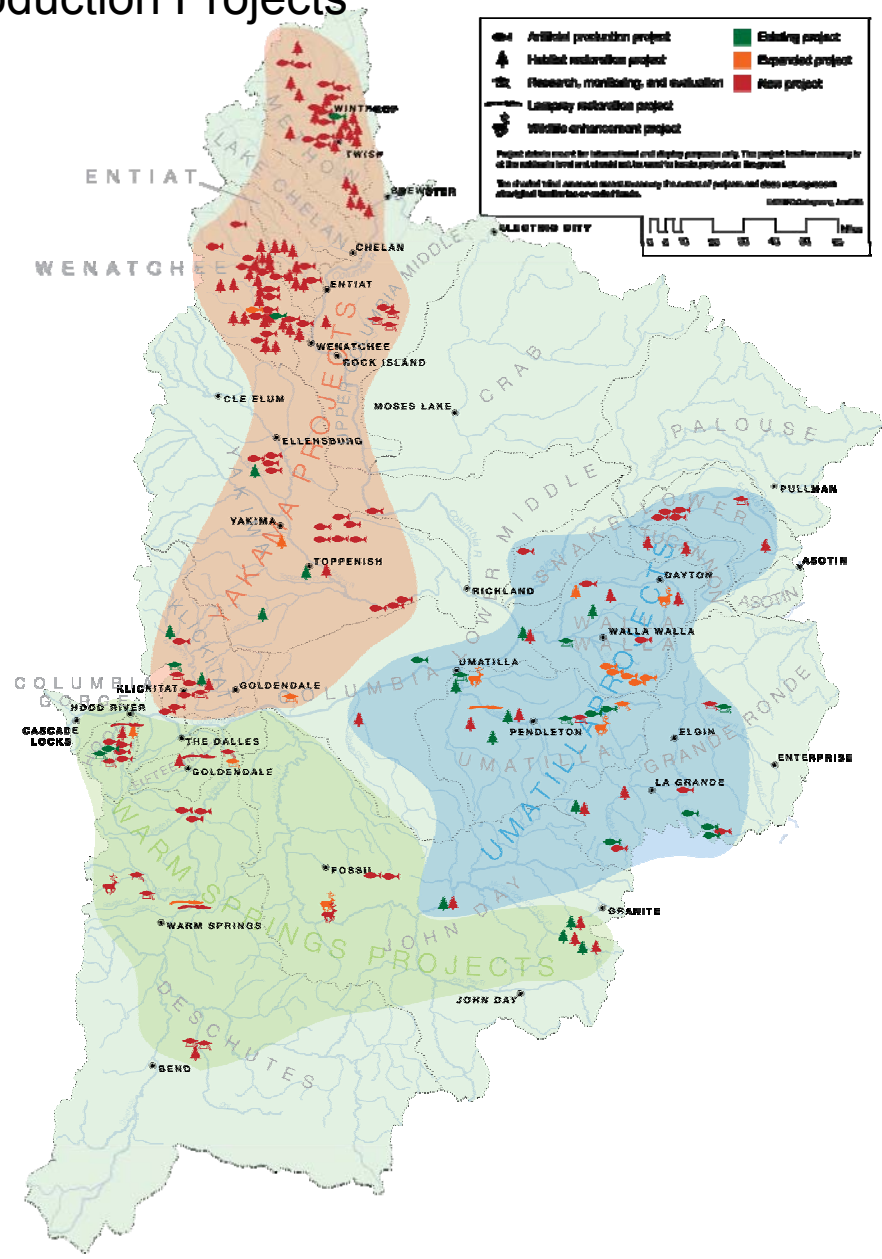
- Funding to implement tribal priorities
 - Habitat restoration projects will improve salmon survival.
 - Projects to rebuild lamprey.
 - Artificial production projects will help Tribal fishery.
- Collaboration, not litigation
 - Restore “gravel-to-gravel” rather than “gavel-to-gavel” management (Steve Wright)



Immediate Benefits

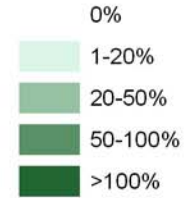
- ❑ Collaborative recovery efforts
- ❑ Certainty of recovery costs for next decade
- ❑ Certainty of hydro operations for 10 years
- ❑ Focus of recovery efforts off-site, not in hydrosystem

Tribal Habitat and Production Projects

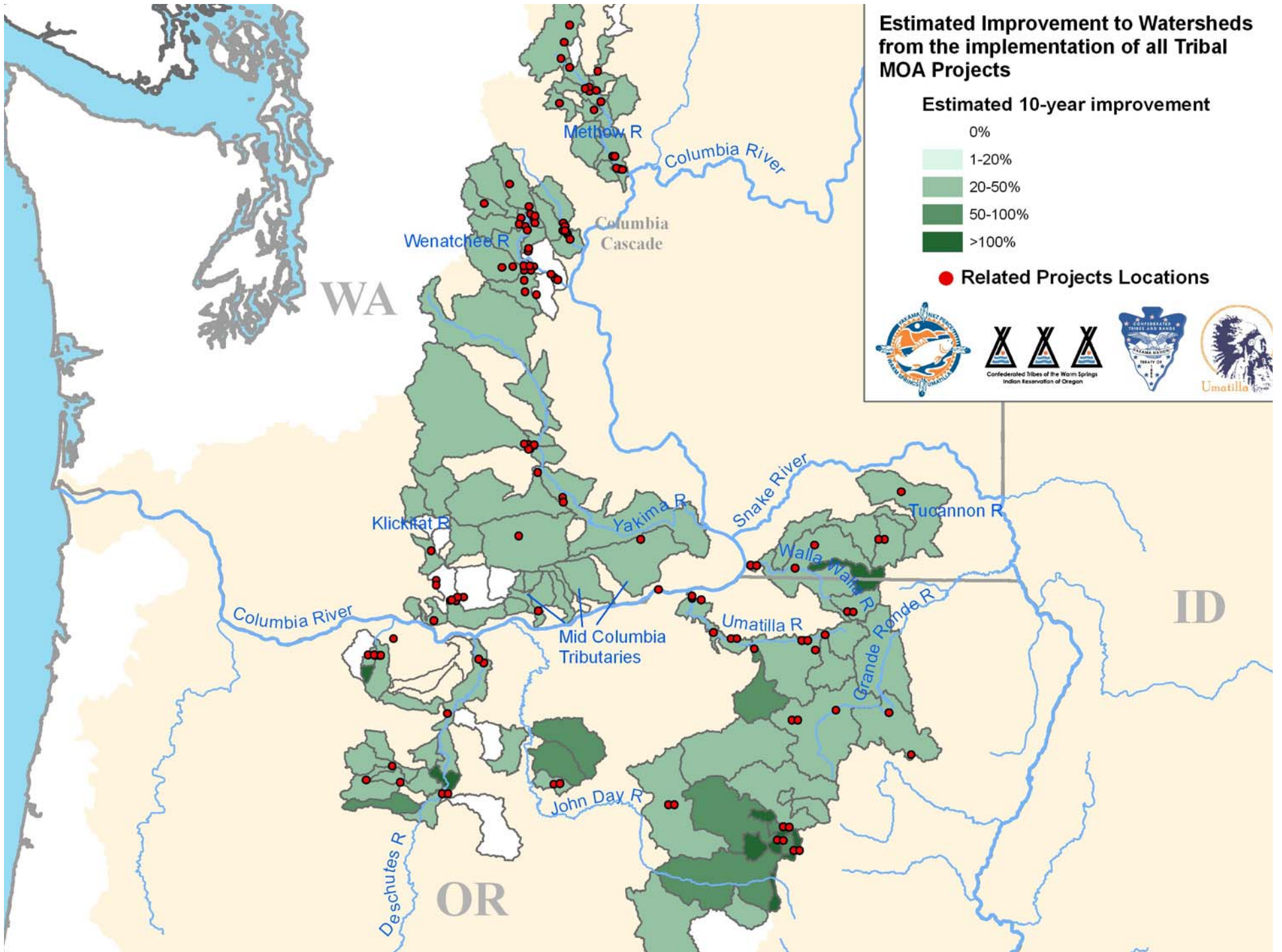


Estimated Improvement to Watersheds from the implementation of all Tribal MOA Projects

Estimated 10-year improvement



● Related Projects Locations



Estimated Improvement to Spring Chinook Populations from the implementation of all Tribal MOA Projects

Population Boundaries

Estimated 10-year improvement

Chin10yrlm

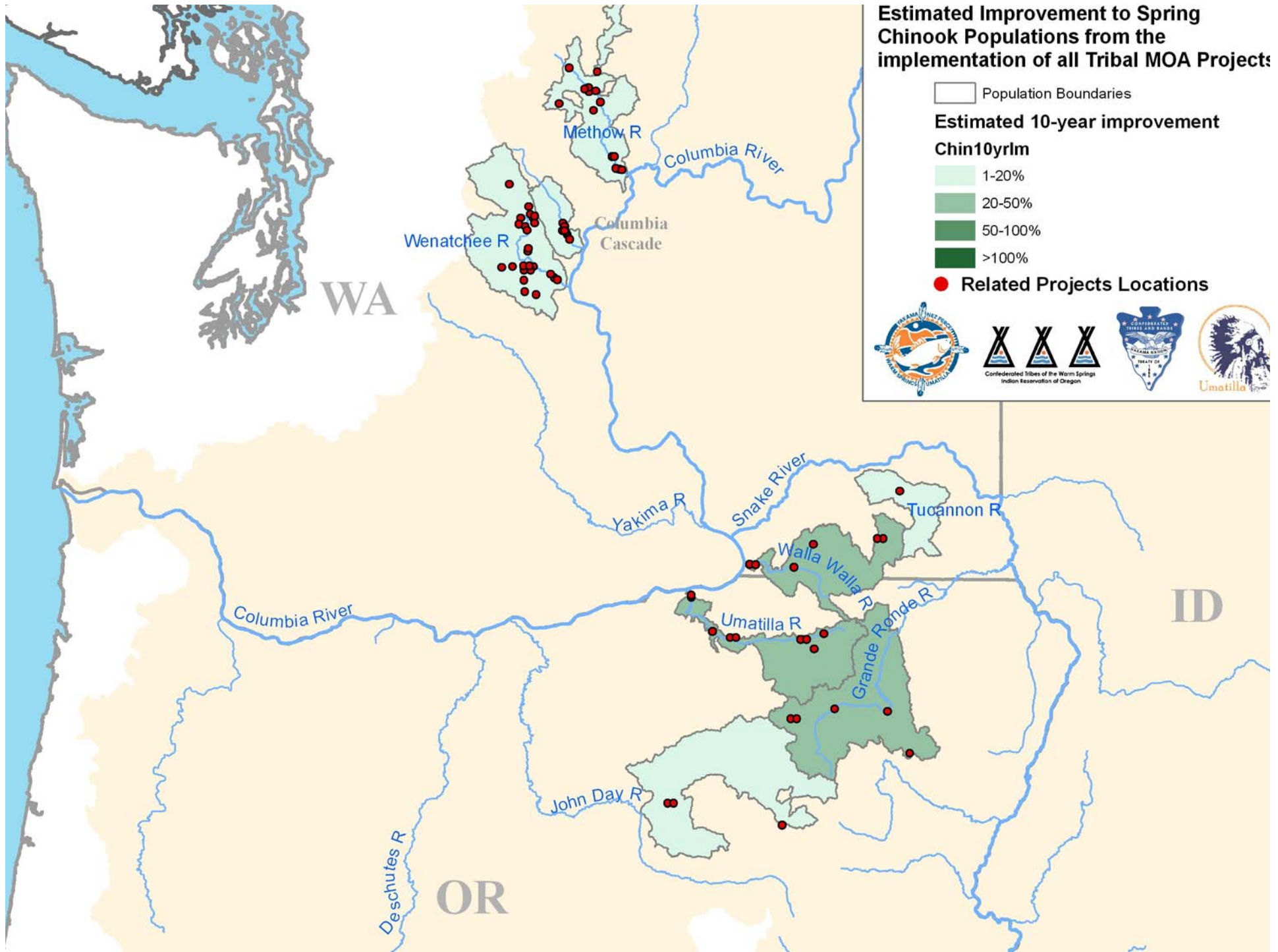
1-20%

20-50%

50-100%

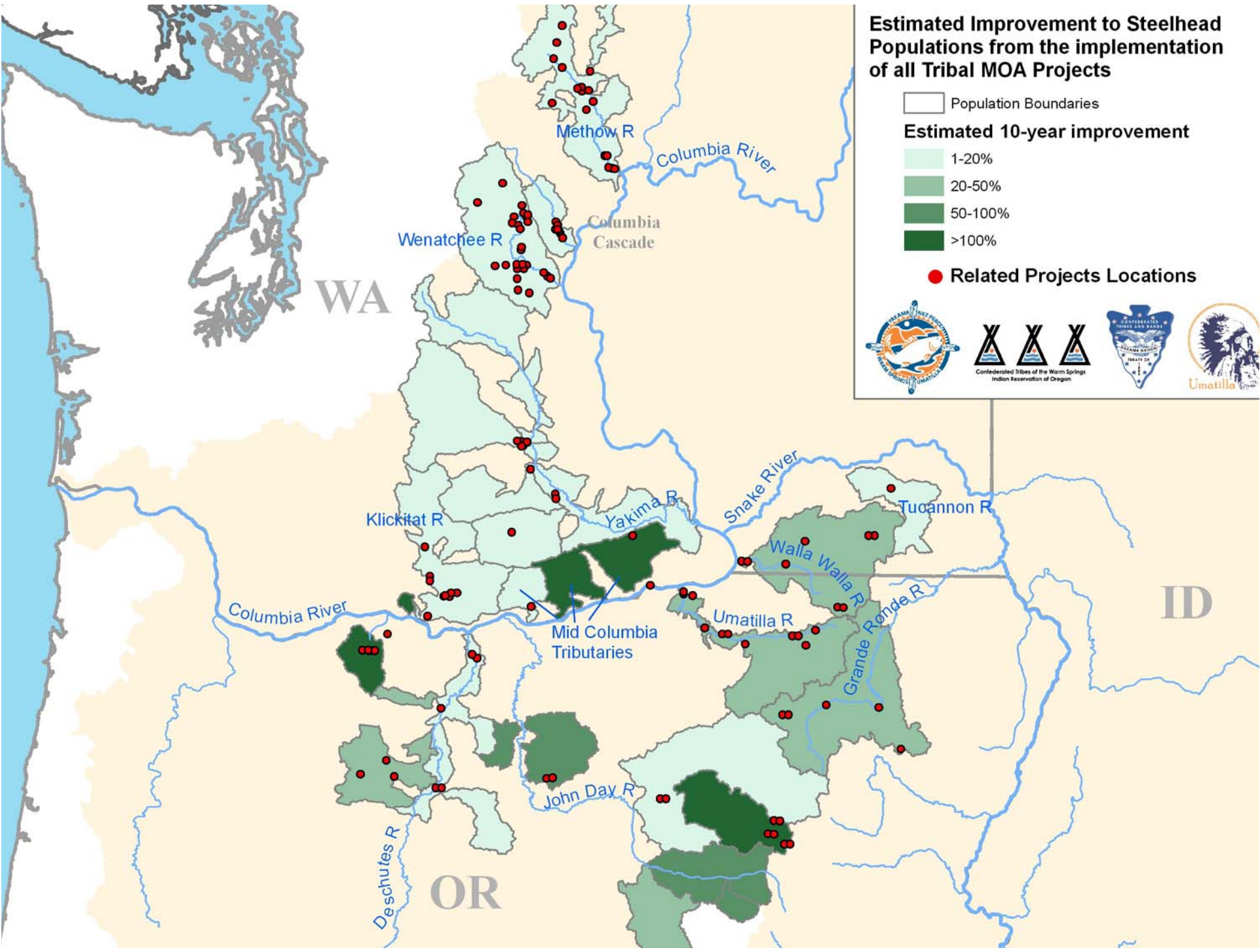
>100%

Related Projects Locations



Estimated Improvement to Steelhead Populations from the implementation of all Tribal MOA Projects

- Population Boundaries
- Estimated 10-year improvement
 - 1-20%
 - 20-50%
 - 50-100%
 - >100%
- Related Projects Locations





Long-term Benefits

- Estimated increase in productivity of ESA-listed populations
 - **Ten Years** Average fresh water survival improvement:
 - Steelhead 40%
 - Spring/summer chinook 12%.
 - **25 Years** Average fresh water survival improvement:
 - Steelhead 50%
 - Spring/summer chinook 21%.
 - Survival benefits continue to accrue over time

- Disclaimer! Results may vary. MOA has provisions for monitoring, evaluation, and adaptive management.



Collaborative Implementation

- Upper Columbia River collaborative effort to develop implementation plans:
 - Priority actions
 - Implementation schedule
 - Sources of matching funds
 - Implementing agency



Implementation Priorities

- Biological effectiveness – habitat actions in MOA address limiting factors identified in sub-basin plans and recovery plans
- Readiness to implement – pre-design assessments, project designs, permitting, landowner approval



Implementation Schedule

- Projects will be scheduled for implementation based on:
 - Biological effectiveness
 - Stage of development
 - Landowner acceptance/access
 - Adequacy of funding



Cooperators

- Cooperators and funding sources include:
 - Salmon Recovery Funding Board
 - Mid-Columbia PUD mitigation accounts
 - Counties
 - NGOs
 - Fishery co-managers
 - Action Agencies – BPA, USACE, BOR



Implementing Agencies

- ❑ Exploit diverse authorities and expertise to maximize efficiency
 - ❑ Develop regional consensus
 - ❑ Identify appropriate funding sources
 - ❑ Assign project to appropriate implementer
- ❑ Allows coordinated, comprehensive, and complementary efforts
- ❑ Assures that projects inconsistent with action priorities receive little support



Next steps

- Tribes, state, and federal co-managers are meeting regularly to refine implementation approach
- Soon will roll out a conceptual plan to Upper Columbia River to seek consensus
- Prioritize actions for implementation in FY09