

Oregon Coast Coho Business Plan



**Eel River Forum - Benbow, CA
July 9, 2015**

Topics

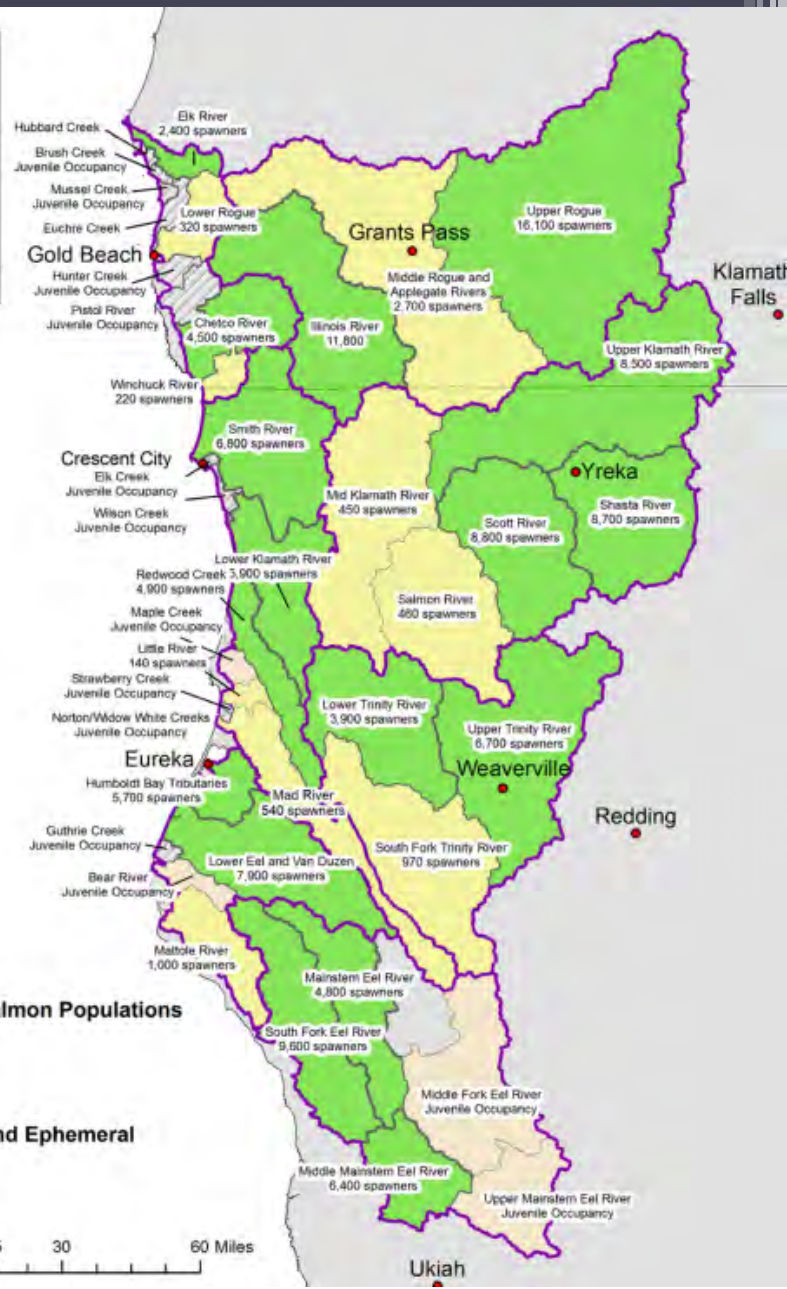
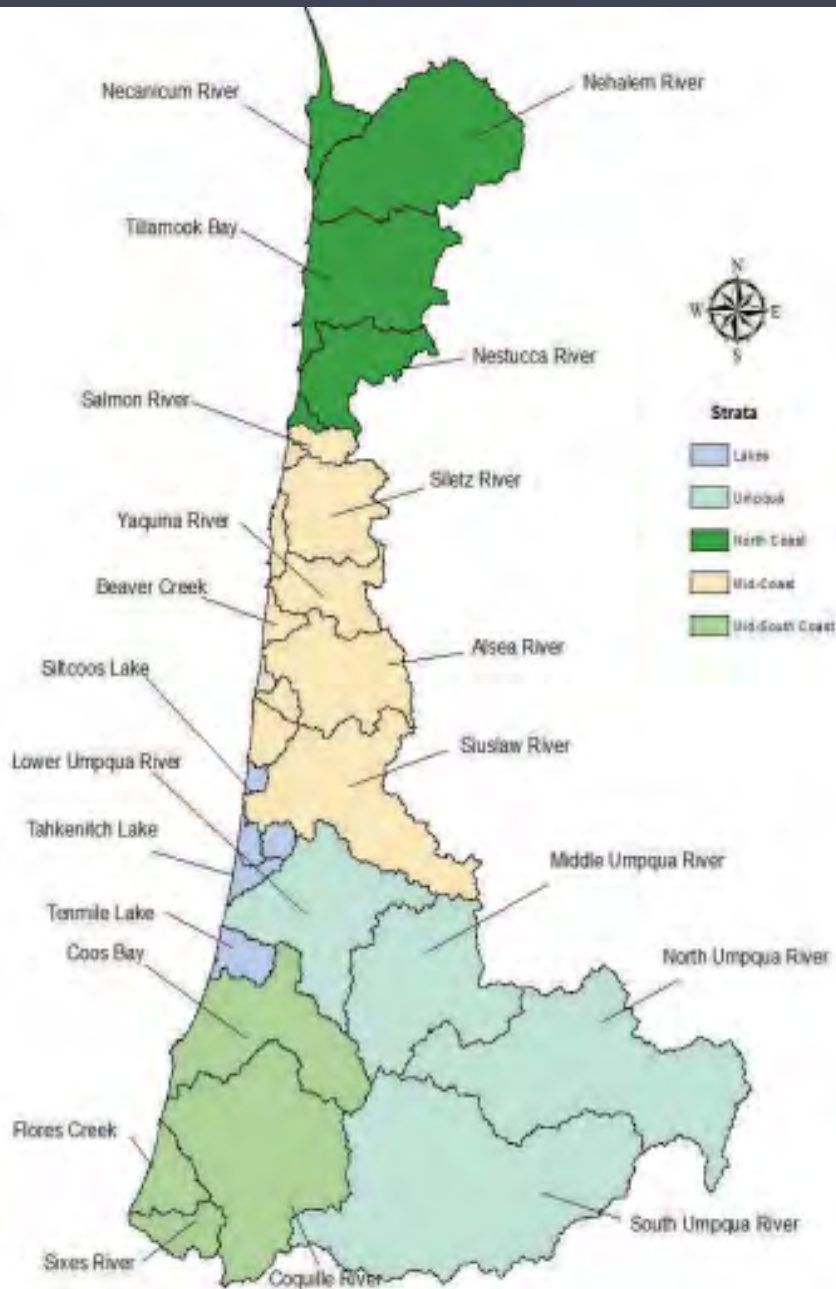
- Origin and Goals of this Project
- The Common Framework
- The Strategic Action Plan Process
- The Business Plan



Disclaimers

- These are pilots. Building while flying.
- Restoration is only a piece of the puzzle.
- The term “Business Plan” may be the least interesting way to brand a project in the history of conservation.





Challenges We Hope to Address

Local / Regional Groups

- Focus: Setting strategic priorities (what) and prioritizing place (where)
- Maintaining focus
- Gaining landowner buy-in
- Simplifying communications to public
- Building capacity



Challenges We Hope to Address

State and Federal Agencies

- Demonstrating a return on investment
- Ensuring local plans align with Recovery Plan priorities



Shared Goals



- Facilitate a process that ensures local ownership but fosters focus.
- Integrate regional plans and those developed at the population scale.
- Accelerate the pace and effectiveness of habitat protection and restoration efforts.



Goals (continued)

- Increase the funding available for coho conservation
- Tell the coho story and show progress
- “Move the needle”



Our Approach.

OWEB funds:

1. Create a common framework
2. Use the framework to guide local development of three SAPs
3. Roll SAPs into the “Coast Coho Business Plan”



Selection the Pilots

- Circulated an LOI to all coastal partnerships
- Provided \$25k to each group
- Considered technical capacity of partnership; flexibility; social readiness



The Common Framework

The goal of the common framework is to establish a template for partners working at regional and local scales to evaluate ecosystem function and consider threats using consistent terminology and metrics.



The Common Framework

- Describe the major elements of coho conservation, using Open Standards-light process.
- Paint the big picture of watershed processes and foster a candid discussion locally about the condition of the coho landscape.
- Local partnerships tailor it to capture unique local conditions.
- State and federal plans will also adopt and apply framework.



The Common Framework

Benefits:

- Systemic way to think about watershed health, challenges, and ways to measure (“the buffet”).
- Promote consistency across plans through use of “core elements.”
- Common indicators allow us to roll up results.



Developing the Common Framework

- Team and LLTK develop strawman
- Corvallis workshop: Tech Team reviews strawman (KEAs, stresses, threats, and indicators)
- Newport workshop:
 - Pilot watersheds review and approve
 - Begin to develop local framework



The Strategic Action Plan

- Three pilots selected to use common framework in SAP development
- OWEB guidance, ODFW process.
- Goal: Use these pilots as a model to complete all 29 independent populations.



OWEB Template

- Introduction
- Scope and Vision
- Context: Profile of the Focus Area
- Conservation Need
- Conservation/Restoration Targets
- Outcomes
- Goals and Objectives
- Funding Needs: Estimated Costs/Leverage Opportunities
- Evaluating Success
- Governance/Partnerships
- Adaptive Management
- Sustainability

The SAP Development Process

1. Develop the “Local Framework”
2. Rank sub-watersheds
3. Describe current and desired future conditions
4. Prioritize limiting factors and their human drivers
5. Prioritize strategies and actions
6. Complete the Strategic Action Plan



Rank HUC6 watersheds

Draft Criteria

- Intrinsic Potential
- Weighted scores based on alignment with local goals (winter-rearing, LHD, summer rearing)
- Unique conditions



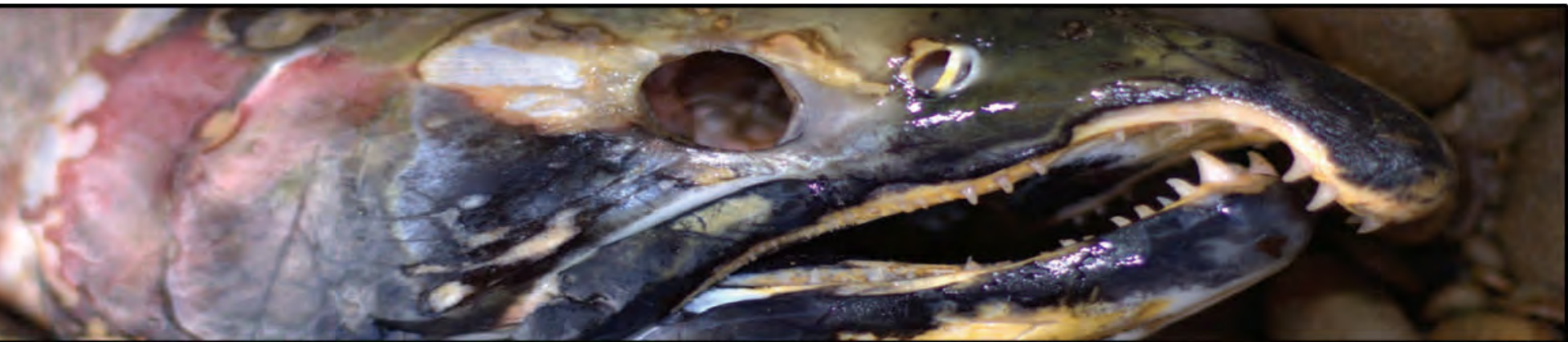
Describe the current status

- High priority HUC6 by indicator
- Existing Plans
- Data Synthesis



The Data Synthesis

- Organize all found data to assist in:
 - 1) testing rankings (previous slides)
 - 2) describing current conditions (next slides)
- Data synthesis will be guided by three questions.....



Questions for Data Synthesis

- In each HUC6, use the found data set to evaluate high priority KEAs according to the selected indicators.
- Where are the most productive coho habitat sites by life stage/season within each 6HUC?
- What information is needed to better characterize and track the ecosystem processes that drive the formation and maintenance of high value habitats?

Describe the desired status

- Every high priority HUC 6
- For each indicator, provide
 - near-term goals (1 – 10 years)
 - and
 - long-term desired future conditions (10-50 years)



Strategies and Actions - Steps

For each high ranked HUC6....

- Identify stress-threats linkages (test current strategies, if desired)
- Prioritize/rank stresses and threats
- Determine strategies
- Identify site specific actions



Strategies and actions - Considerations

- Local determinations....Focus on stress reduction? Eliminating threats? Protecting current function?
- Project opportunities that do not advance the highest priority strategies but have other values will be considered.



The Business Plan

- 1) Articulates shared and achievable conservation outcomes
- 2) Describes a scientifically-driven path for implementation priorities that can be tied to clear measures of progress
- 3) Leverages and focuses public and private investments



Four Core Elements

- 1) Conservation Goals
- 2) Priority Actions
- 3) Resource Needs
- 4) Performance Measures



The Plan's function is to market Coho Recovery and the opportunity on the Oregon Coast.

Business Plan Report Card

The Condensed “Roll Up”

- Describe common limiting factors and threats
- Aggregate goals
- Track common indicators
- Feature success stories



Take Homes

- Locally-led planning essential if Recovery Plans are to be implemented
- Local Plans must be driven by the science.....
- But able to incorporate local contexts and priorities
- Focus is critical
- Numerous models out there
- Recognize work to date



Questions



What Attributes Need to be Intact?

Tributaries

Riparian Function

Stream Complexity

Habitat Extent

Water Quality

What Indicators Describe the Attributes?

Tributaries

Riparian Function

Riparian Zone Width Riparian Stand Composition
Riparian Zone Connectivity Riparian Stand Age

Habitat Complexity

Habitat Diversity Large Wood Size Large Wood Frequency
Pool Frequency Pool Depth

Habitat Extent

Habitat Area Habitat Connectivity

Water Quality

Temperature DO Toxins X, Y, Z
Nutrient Loading

Freshwater Non-Tidal Wetlands

- **Stresses: (Core Stresses in Bold)**

- Increased water temperature
- Increased nutrients
- Reduced DO
- **Reduced quantity for access**
- **Reduced for habitat availability**
- Lack of natural storage
- Reduced frequency of wood
- Reduced size of wood
- Altered species complexity
- Altered age complexity
- Decreased connectivity
- Reduced extent of habitat

Examples of coho stresses

Reduced
wood count

Lack of
pools

Increased
turbidity

Reduced
beaver ponds

Output: Steelhead common framework

Large Channels

Description of Large Channels

Includes main channels >50 m bankfull width (BFW)

Includes the following habitat types at the reach scale:

Confined: Straight

Unconfined: Meandering, Island-braided, Braided

Includes the following habitat types at the habitat unit scale:

Mid-channel: Pools, Glides, Riffles (boulder/cobble or cobble/gravel)

Edge: Bars, Banks (natural or hardened), Backwaters (alcoves)

Current Status of Large Channels

Fair - Due to the fair status of sinuosity for the entire DIP and the fact that this is the only indicator with condition bins developed by the group for large channels, the overall rating is fair.

Goals for Large Channels – not yet developed.

Monitoring the health of Large Channels

This table shows the attributes used to assess the health of this component, along with the indicators that will be measured periodically to assess progress toward recovery goals.

KEY ECOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTE (KEA)	INDICATOR
Sediment transport and storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• % pools• % fines• Habitat types
High flow hydrological regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Change in interannual variability in highflows• Frequency of flood/scour events
Low flow hydrological regime	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Water withdrawals and consumption - Tahuya• Change in interannual variability in lowflows• Water withdrawals and consumption - Mission• Water withdrawals and consumption - Union• Water withdrawals and consumption - South Independents
Organic matter - inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition and seral stage• Number of LWD by channel width by size class